

LOVE — AND — MARRIAGE

October 14

Finding Fulfillment in Singleness

Community Group Discussion Guide

Video Link: <https://vimeo.com/283061950/35e7d75e75>

WELCOME

Please welcome everyone back to the group. Please take a moment to mention that this week we will be talking about singleness and that while we are focusing on that there is a great deal here for those that are married as well.

STARTER

Everyone in your group was single at one point. Get the conversation started by asking, "What is the most memorable thing anyone has ever said to you about being single? Was it helpful at the time?"

INTRODUCING THE VIDEO

As we begin to use the videos for discussion at our groups, please take a few moments to introduce them. If it helps, encourage people to take notes during the video discussion and to "answer" the questions that are being asked in the video.

VIDEO DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (from The Meaning of Marriage Study Guide)

Please feel free to use these as necessary as the flow of the conversation unfolds.

How would you summarize the perspective on singleness presented in the video?

Both Katherine and Tina talked about how different their lives were as single people before and after coming to faith. Did anything they said resonate with your own experience as a single adult?

If the church is to be a beautiful community including married men and women and single men and women, what are healthy ways men and women in the church can be friends?

Churches often unintentionally segregate married and single people in unhelpful ways. What are some practical things your group can do to promote in a non-patronizing way the life-giving interaction of married and single people in your church?

On Sunday, we read Jesus' conversations from Matthew 22 that in the resurrection people will neither be married nor given in marriage. (If need be, please read Matthew 22:22-33.) How might this understanding of closeness with God and others change our perspective on marriage and singleness?

Paul speaks on marriage and singleness in 1 Corinthians 7:26-35. Please some time to read it in smaller groups and have each group discuss what this passage says to married people and single people.

Kathy said in the video conclusion, "Jesus is our true spouse and being single in this life actually puts an emphasis on that which can be missed [if you are married]." What kinds of activities and pursuits is she talking about? How can a local church help empower a single person to this end?

TAKING WHAT YOU ARE LEARNING WITH YOU

Wrap up your discussion by asking your married people to share what they would want to share with single people about being single and what any single people wanted married people to know about being single. Then take the moment to pray for one another.