

**Life Group Notes**

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**Speaker:** Sean Green

**Title:** Singleness

**Passage:** Various

**Is singleness good?** Or is it Mario Kart 'banana skin' in the Christian life?

**Singleness in the Bible:**

**GARDEN:** Not good for a man to be alone. Aloneness, is not the same singleness, this is an important distinction to make.

**EVE:** (Gen 3:15): At this point, to fully participate in the purposes of God you have to be married and have many kids because in the future, a special descendant of Eve is expected.

**ABRAHAM:** (Gen 12:2,12:7,15:5) The favour and blessing of God was seen in having riches, land, victory, a long life, because all that enables you to have many children. Singleness does not help this unfold.

**ISAIAH:** (Is 54:1) He glimpses a radical future where single women will sing for joy. A change is coming when singleness and celibacy is no longer a hindrance to being fully included in Gods plans.

**JESUS:** Show us what it really means to be blessed by God, and to multiply and fill the earth. He is the 'Single Saviour', through Him, we can serve God and make a lasting, profound as a single person.

**PAUL:** (1Cor7:32-35) the 'Single Apostle' is focused primarily on the how to serve the Lord best and he sees that being single presents less distractions.

**Reflections**

**Myths:** It would be helpful if many more in our church read the book '7 myths about singleness'.

**Idols:** Marriage can be an idol for both married and single people. Marriage can be a blessing and comes with complexity.

**Drawbridges:** when people get married, have children, they tend to pull the Drawbridge of their life up, keeping singles out. This has the unintended consequences:

- Distances singles from being spiritual parents to children of RFC
- Distances singles as stakeholders in healthy marriages in our church.

**Devotion:** Singleness, is not a problem to be solved but an opportunity to be maximised for glory of Jesus. Undivided devotion is not automatic, you don't drift into it, but singleness offers this path. Married life can be dangerous, carries the risk of having a divided heart. We all know married people who have grown cold.