



Unmarried Christians

Day Twenty-Nine: To the Single Woman

1 Corinthians 7:8, 25-27, 32-34, 37-38, 40

We have spent the last month studying many different women from Scripture.

Combine 31 Days of Women from Scripture Volume 1 and 2 and it covers 80 different women.

Of those 80 women, how many are single women? By my count, twenty-seven. That is one-third of the women in the studies!

That is a significant number of women who served God while being single or widowed. Does that encourage you to know that God understands the single woman as well as the married woman?

One of the things I struggled with in my teens and twenties was being confident in myself, just me alone. I had the mistaken view that my value was less if I was not being a girlfriend. My dream was to be a wife and mother, a good thing. But I couldn't separate that dream from who I was at the time – neither a wife nor a mother.

When God saw fit to give me five daughters to raise I realized that maybe I had something to teach them from my own experiences. One of them was that my value to God was not increased by getting married. Am I the only one who had that struggle?

While I had been taught much about godly women from scripture by my mother, I had not picked up on so many godly women not being married.

I missed the fact that nowhere in scripture does it say that the goal of every woman should be to get married.

I want to encourage every single woman who is seeking to serve God. I want to encourage you to serve God with confidence. To bring your whole self to Him now. You need not feel as though your real service begins when, or if, you become married.

Paul deals with a great deal in 1 Corinthians 7.

Paul says that being unmarried allows you to focus on the things of the Lord (1 Cor. 7:32).

As a single woman, your only concern is being holy in body and spirit (1 Cor. 7:34) without the concern of pleasing a husband.

When the Corinthians were asking about leaving unbelieving spouses or getting married as a means of protection, Paul said – stop. Remain in the condition in which you were called (1 Cor. 7:20). Being a Christian won't be easier by taking on a husband if that's not what you were going to do anyway. Being a Christian does not require that you divorce yourself from someone who hasn't followed you into the faith (1 Cor. 7:13).

Marriage is the one place where sexual desires can be fulfilled (1 Cor. 7:1-6). Jesus understood that maintaining purity was not something every person was cut out to do (Mt. 19:10-12). Therefore, marriage is encouraged to remove the temptation of fornication.

There is nothing wrong with being someone who does not feel the need for marriage. After all, Paul did not, and he saw the benefit of it (1 Cor. 7:7-8).

There is nothing wrong with desiring to be married either (1 Cor. 7:28).

In the time before marriage though, work on growing in the Lord so that when you do marry, you bring a complete Christian to the relationship. While we complete one another and help one another, we are not completed as Christians by our mate. We all stand as individuals before God (1 Pet. 3:15; Rom. 14:11; Phil. 2:10).

Being single you have the opportunity to find your gifts of service as an individual.

As a quick reminder, here some of the single women God offers to us as examples:

- [The Poor Widow](#) in 2 Kings 4:1-7
- [Mary Magdalene](#) (Lk. 8:2)
- [Mary](#) and [Martha](#) the sisters of Lazarus
- [Dorcas \(Tabitha\)](#) (Acts 9:36-43)
- [Lydia](#) (Acts 16:13-15, 40)
- [Tamar, David's Daughter](#) (2 Samuel 13)
- [Anna](#) (Luke 2:36-38)
- [Miriam](#)
- [Esther](#) (before she was married to the King)
- [Jephthah's Daughter](#)
- [Phoebe](#) (Rom. 16:1-2)

All these women gave of themselves, sometimes from their lack and sometimes from their wealth. Their sacrifice and godly attitudes were given for us to imitate.

They each found a way to serve the Lord from where they were, right then. As can you!

Unmarried Christians are not of less value than married Christians. God values ALL of us the same (Gal. 3:28-29; Rom. 8:17).

See yourself that way, grow in the grace and knowledge of the truth (2 Pet. 3:18), and grow in the characteristics of a Christian WOMAN (2 Pet. 1:5-11; 1 Tim. 2:9-12).

Enjoy!