

February 28th 2021

Tighten The Knot The Gift of Singleness Speaker - Billy Holden

Big Idea: As much as we know that partnership and marriage is a good thing to be desired, it doesn't need to be desired above all. The Lord has a purpose for everyone in every season of life, including singleness. In 1 Corinthians 7:32-35, Paul associates the married life with a life full of necessary worries and obligations. But the unmarried person has fewer complications, and so they can more freely do the work of the Lord.

Intro: When the sermon is NOT for you

Isaiah 55:11 It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it.

1. God uses both single and married people for his glory.

Marriage doesn't need to be **desired** above all else.

2. Singleness is a GIFT

1 Corinthians 7:32–35

32I want you to be free from the concerns of this life. An unmarried man can spend his time doing the Lord's work and thinking how to please him. 33But a married man has to think about his earthly responsibilities and how to please his wife. 34His interests are divided. In the same way, a woman who is no longer married or has never been married can be devoted to the Lord and holy in body and in spirit. But a married woman has to think about her earthly responsibilities and how to please her husband. 35I am saying this for your benefit, not to place restrictions on you. I want you to do whatever will help you serve the Lord best, with as few distractions as possible.

Marriage is a created good NOT a created essential

Marriage isn't Mandatory

1 Corinthians 7But I wish everyone were single, just as I am. Yet each person has a special gift from God, of one kind or another.

Closing - Singleness is a gift, and we must honor it the same as marriage.