

IV. **MAXIMIZE** OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

- A. One of the benefits of being single is the **freedom** to serve without the responsibility of a spouse.

“32 But I want you to be without care. He who is unmarried cares for the things of the Lord—how he may please the Lord.

33 But he who is married cares about the things of the world—how he may please his wife.

34 There is a difference between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman cares about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit. But she who is married cares about the things of the world—how she may please her husband.

35 And this I say for your own profit, not that I may put a leash on you, but for what is proper, and that you may serve the Lord without distraction.” I Corinthians 7:32-35

- B. The greatest happiness comes from **giving**, not getting.

“...And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” Acts 20:35b

“26 Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.

27 And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—“ Matthew 20:26-27

What do you need to do to better serve God in your family?

“And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.” Joshua 24:15

FAMILY MATTERS **Secrets To Being Single And Happy** **Pastor Steve Reynolds**

INTRODUCTION

- A. Will your family survive in today’s culture? Many people say that the traditional idea of the family is finished. The family institution today may be fragmented, but it is definitely not finished. Your family can survive and thrive!

“And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

Joshua 24:15

- B. In this series you will discover the Biblical secrets for a successful family. This eight part series features the following messages:

Feb 8	Secrets To A God-Honoring Family
TODAY	Secrets To Being Single And Happy
Feb 22	Secrets To A Satisfying Marriage
Mar 1	Secrets For Great Communication
Mar 8	Secrets For Debt Free Living
Mar 15	Secrets For Successful Parenting
Mar 22	Secrets For Fruitful Grandparenting
Mar 29	Secrets For A Lasting Family

This series is for everyone!

- C. **TEXT:** Philippians 4:11-13 (Pew Bible/Pg. 204/New Test.)

SECRETS TO BEING SINGLE AND HAPPY

I. TRUST GOD WITH YOUR SITUATION

A. Three kinds of single adults:

- Single by **creation** – God made them to live single (I Corinthians 7:7).
- Single by **choice** – Could pursue marriage, but choose to remain single for some reason.
- Single by **circumstance** – Would like to be married, but haven't found the right person.

B. God has a **wonderful** and **individual** marital plan for you.

“5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;

6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.” Proverbs 3:5-6

“So then he who gives her in marriage does well, but he who does not give her in marriage does better.”

I Corinthians 7:38

II. DEVELOP GODLY RELATIONSHIPS

A. Develop a relationship with **God**.

“...Happy are the people whose God is the LORD!”

Psalm 144:15b

“9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; 10 and you are complete in Him,....” Colossians 2:9-10a

B. Develop a relationship with God's **people**.

“1 Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father, younger men as brothers,

2 older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, with all purity.” I Timothy 5:1-2

“A man who has friends must himself be friendly,....”

Proverbs 18:24a

III. ADOPT GOD'S STANDARD FOR SEX

A. God's standard for sex is between a **man** and a **woman** who are a **husband** and a **wife**.

“26 For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.

27 Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.” Romans 1:26-27

“Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.”

Hebrews 13:4

B. Sexual sin is not worse than other sin, but it is very **different** and more **complex**.

15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not!

16 Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.”

17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

18 Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.”

I Corinthians 6:15-20

“3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality;

4 that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,” I Thessalonians 4:3-4