



## When Love Is Lost: Good News for Lonely Hearts – part 2

Matthew 19:3-12, 1 Corinthians 7:10-15

The bad news: You don't have full control of your relationships.  
The good news: No matter what, you have light and you are loved!

- You have LIGHT!  
*Matthew 19:3-12, 1 Corinthians 7:10-15*
- Marriage is designed to be a permanent covenant between a man and a woman that glorifies God, testifies to Christ, and reproduces godliness in our world. Believers should prioritize, protect, and persevere in marriage. *Gen 2:18-25, Mal 2:13-16, Mat 19:3-6, Eph 5:22-33*
- Due to the hardness of our hearts, divorce and remarriage is graciously provided for in cases of adultery or abandonment by an unbeliever. *Mat 19:7-9, 1 Cor 7:10-15*
- Singleness is a special gift or enablement of God to uniquely advance the kingdom of God. *Mat 19:12, 1 Cor 7:7, 32-40*
- You are LOVED!  
*Isaiah 54:4-5, Hosea 2:19-20, John 4:1-26*
- There are no scarlet letters or lonely corners in the kingdom of God!
- Your value is not determined by your relational status but by the divine image on you and the divine investment in you.

## FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

- Meditate on Isaiah 54:4-5, Hosea 2:19-20, John 3:16
- Read “Four things God says to singles” - [www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/four-things-god-says-singles/](http://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/four-things-god-says-singles/)
- Read “Single Truths for Single Christians” - <https://www.lifeway.com/en/articles/single-truths>
- Read our own Dr. Edgar's contribution to the book *Divorce and Remarriage* edited by H. Wayne House.
- Read *Divorce and Remarriage* by Tony Evans.
- “Three ways to nurture the marriage you want” - [www.focusonthefamily.com/marriage/three-ways-to-nurture-the-marriage-you-want/](http://www.focusonthefamily.com/marriage/three-ways-to-nurture-the-marriage-you-want/)
- Read “Love needs nurturing” - <https://marriagemissions.com/love-needs-nurturing/>
- Learn more about God's love displayed in the book of Hosea - [www.youtube.com/watch?v=kE6SZ1ogOVU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kE6SZ1ogOVU)
- Listen to “You Hold it all Together” - [www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSMJa5tlmRU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSMJa5tlmRU)

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. Where have you seen Christians lower (liberalism) or raise (legalism) the standards of Scripture in ways that have caused damage?
3. Where have you seen Christians apply God's word to difficult situations in ways that have been faithful and that have led to great blessing?
4. What are some Bible verses you can think of that encourage us when we feel lonely? (Other than verses we mentioned today)
5. Can you share an example of a person who is single who has made a great difference for Christ in the lives of others? Consider examples from the Bible and your own life.
6. If you are single, share how you have grown in intimacy with Christ? Also, in what ways can your brothers or sisters in Christ further encourage you?
7. Read Isaiah 54:4-5. In your own words, what does it mean that your “Maker is your husband”?
8. Read the account of Jesus' grace to a woman caught in adultery in John 7:53-8:11. What lessons do we learn from this account about grace?
9. How might our church grow to be even more of a place where people can serve and be served well regardless of relationship status?
10. Take some time and pray for one another to know deeper intimacy with God.