



"HACKING SINGLENESS" 05/15/16

THE POINT:

TRY THIS RELATIONSHIP HACK: STAY SINGLE AND SERVE GOD

Discussion Generators

PLEASE share the announcements (on FB thread) with your group!

- → God is ALWAYS working! Sometimes we just need to keep our "antennae up", to be looking for it. Go around your group and share your God Moments of how you have seen God working, either in your life or in the life of another, over the past few weeks.
- •What has stood out to you so far from the Family Hacks Point series?
- •Do you remember a funny time when <u>you</u> "Had One Job" and failed at it miserably?
- →How do you think American culture sees singleness these days? If you grew up in church, how did church culture see singleness?
- → Read 1 Corinthians 7:32-34. What does Paul teach the church in Corinth about the advantages of "Having One Job"*? How does Paul's teaching support or deny culture's perspective on singleness?
- → Read 1 Corinthians 7:35. According to this verse, how does Paul see singleness? What is at the heart of his point?

*someone who was in the Point may need to explain this

- •As we think about how culture views singleness, read 1 Corinthians 7:7. What words does Paul use to describe singleness? How should this change our view toward those who are single?
- →Think back to when you were/are single. Did you see singleness as an opportunity...or a burden? How does Titus 3:8 apply to this?
- → How can we redeem our own singleness* [if you're single] and/or encourage others to redeem their singleness* [if you're married]?
- →In the Point on Sunday, we learned that we should <u>discourage</u> singleness at times. Read 1 Corinthians 7:8-9. Is Paul talking out of both sides of his mouth? Why would he say this?
- •While keeping your answers rated PG ©, what do you think it means to "burn with lust"? Why could this be a problem for Christ-followers? How does **Hebrews 13:4** shed some light on the issue?
- →Last week we took some time to pray for the <u>families</u> in our group. To-day we are going to pray for the <u>singles</u> in our group. There's no need to be awkward about this—we want to use this time to honor and encourage those in our group who are single. Go around your group and have everyone who is <u>not</u> single (i.e., married) take turns praying for the singles in your Pr'me. [singles don't pray]

[NOTE: If there are no singles present in your group, pray for those that may not be there and/or for other singles that your group knows—don't forget about your kids!]

[mc3Student: adapt this time to pray for each other to redeem their singleness and to use it to devote themselves to God]

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Bible Verses

1 Corinthians 7:32-35 (NLT)

I 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. But a married man has to think about his earthly responsibilities and how to please his wife. His 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. I 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.

1 Corinthians 7:7 (NLT)

But I wish everyone were single, just as I am. Yet <u>each person has a special gift from God, of one kind or another</u>.

<u>Titus 3:8 (NIV)</u>

This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.

1 Corinthians 7:8-9 (NLT)

So I say to those who aren't married and to widows—it's better to stay unmarried, just as I am. But if they can't control themselves, they should go ahead and marry. It's better to marry than to burn with lust.

Hebrews 13:4 (NIV)

Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.