



# RCCG OCEANIA

Relationships

## BIBLICAL INSIGHTS ON MARRIAGE AND SINGLENESS

### AT A GLANCE

#### BIG IDEA

Explore the biblical perspective on marriage and singleness, emphasizing the importance of being a whole individual before entering into marriage. Understand the misconceptions about love and the divine purpose of marriage as taught by Jesus and the prophets.

#### PRIMARY PASSAGES

Matthew 19

Malachi 2

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

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- Marriage is a union of two whole individuals, not halves seeking completion.
- Singleness is about being separate, unique, and whole.
- Love alone does not ensure a successful marriage.
- Marriage is about fulfilling God's purpose, not just personal feelings.
- Developing your singleness is crucial before marriage.

## INTRODUCTION

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Marriage and singleness are significant aspects of life that the Bible addresses with profound wisdom. Understanding these states through a biblical lens helps individuals prepare for marriage and appreciate singleness. This study explores the importance of being whole before marriage, the misconceptions about love, and the divine purpose of marriage.

## SCRIPTURE READING

- **Matthew 19** — Jesus addresses the comprehensive aspects of singleness, marriage, and divorce.
- **Malachi 2** — God speaks against the destruction of marriages and emphasizes faithfulness.

## KEY POINTS

1. **WHOLE INDIVIDUALS IN MARRIAGE** — Marriage should be a union of two whole individuals, not a 50-50 arrangement. Each person must be complete and unique before joining in marriage. This completeness allows for a healthier relationship where both partners contribute fully. The biblical view encourages individuals to find their identity and purpose in God before seeking a partner.
  - Reflect on your personal growth and areas where you need to become more whole.
  - Seek God's guidance in understanding your identity and purpose.
  - Engage in activities that foster personal development and spiritual maturity.

Scripture: Matthew 19

## KEY POINTS (CONT.)

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**2. UNDERSTANDING SINGLENESS** — Singleness is about being separate, unique, and whole. It's a time to develop one's character and deepen one's relationship with God. The Bible views singleness not as a deficiency but as an opportunity for growth and service. Embracing singleness can lead to a more fulfilling life, whether or not marriage is in the future.

- Embrace your singleness as a time for personal and spiritual growth.
- Identify ways you can serve others and contribute to your community.
- Cultivate a deeper relationship with God through prayer and study.

## KEY POINTS (CONT.)

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3. MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT LOVE — While love is important, it alone does not guarantee a successful marriage. Other factors, such as personal wholeness, communication, and shared values, play vital roles. The Bible teaches that love should be accompanied by commitment, understanding, and mutual respect.
- Evaluate your understanding of love and its role in relationships.
  - Develop skills in communication and conflict resolution.
  - Ensure that your values align with those of your potential partner.

## KEY POINTS (CONT.)

**4. GOD'S PURPOSE IN MARRIAGE** — Marriage is about fulfilling God's future plans and producing godly offspring, rather than just personal satisfaction. The Bible emphasizes that marriage should reflect God's love and faithfulness. Couples are called to support each other's spiritual growth and work together to fulfill God's purposes.

- Discuss with your partner how you can fulfill God's purpose together.
- Pray for guidance in aligning your marriage with God's plans.
- Focus on building a relationship that reflects God's love and faithfulness.

Scripture: **Malachi 2**

## GROUP DISCUSSION

Tip: Use these questions to guide the group from seeing → understanding → applying.

## OBSERVATION

- What does Matthew 19 say about the nature of marriage?
- How does Malachi 2 describe God's view on marriage and faithfulness?
- What are some common misconceptions about love in relationships?

## INTERPRETATION

- Why is it important to be a whole individual before entering marriage?
- How can singleness be seen as a time for growth and service?
- What role does love play in a successful marriage according to the Bible?

## APPLICATION

- In what ways can you work on becoming a whole individual?
- How can you embrace your singleness as a positive phase of life?

## APPLICATION (CONT.)

- What steps can you take to ensure your marriage aligns with God's purpose?

## PRAYER FOCUS

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- Pray for personal growth and wholeness before marriage.
- Seek God's guidance in understanding your identity and purpose.
- Ask for wisdom in aligning relationships with God's plans.

## NEXT STEP

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Reflect on your personal growth and seek ways to become a whole individual in preparation for future relationships.

## **CONCLUSION**

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Understanding marriage and singleness from a biblical perspective provides a foundation for healthy relationships. By focusing on personal wholeness, embracing singleness, and aligning marriage with God's purpose, individuals can experience fulfilling and meaningful relationships that honor God.