

GOING FURTHER RESOURCES

Boundless.org

Website that offers adults encouragement to live abundantly as singles while seeking God's best in either celibacy or marriage.

Single, Dating, Engaged, Marry: Navigating Life and Love in the Modern Age by Ben Stuart

Navigates the four critical seasons of relationships to help readers aim powerful desires toward divine purposes.

"Single but Not Lonely" Article by John Lee,
<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/single-but-not-lonely>

GOING FURTHER

PARKWAY BIBLE CHURCH SUPPORT

Life Groups

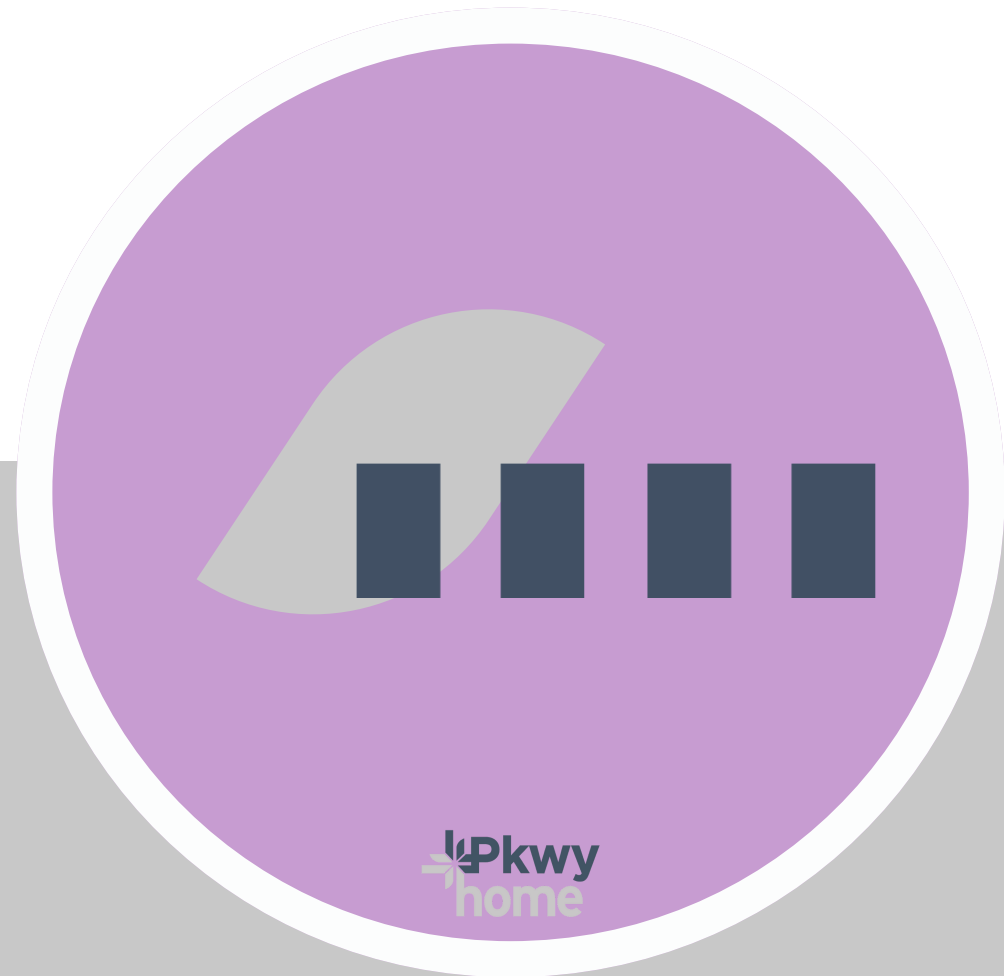
Parkway Bible Church offers a variety of Adult Life Groups for every season of life. Find a group that fits your schedule and family life-stage at parkway.church/groups/

Divorce Care and Divorce Recovery

A support organization for those experiencing separation and in the process of divorce and those divorced, and a recovery process for those rebuilding their lives after a divorce. For more information visit <https://www.divorcecare.org/>



Single Adult



Life Season

SINGLE ADULTS

Single Christians can have happy, fulfilled and flourishing lives. Being on your own means being independent, having more freedom to make your own choices and increased spiritual growth.

Everyone experiences singleness at some point. Some may experience singleness again later in life due to divorce or death of a spouse.

***In 1 Corinthians, Paul describes singleness as a gift:
"I wish that all were as I myself am.
But each has his own gift from God,
one of one kind and one of another." (1 Cor 7:7)***

WHAT CAN THAT GIFT LOOK LIKE

- **Singleness can bring freedom and focus.**

1 Corinthians 7:32–35 says

"I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, and his interests are divided. And the unmarried or betrothed woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband. I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord."

A single adult is available to live and serve others, without the pressure of maintaining a marriage. They can be free to serve others, pursue areas of growth and focus on things without marital commitments.

- **Singleness can bring spiritual growth.**

Ephesians 5:22-25 says "Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her"

A single man or women is free to pursue Christ wholeheartedly, without the competing desires of marriage. Singleness allows for undivided focus.

DESIRE, BUT STILL BE CONTENT

Philippians 4:10-13 says "I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned, in whatever situation I am, to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

IF YOU DO WANT TO BE MARRIED, BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF!

- **Admit:** Admit to yourself that you don't want to be single. Don't try to pretend that you don't care because you might be able to fool others but you can't fool God. He made you. He created those desires within you and you're no less holy because you would rather be married than single for the rest of your life. It doesn't make you less spiritual, it just shows you're human. So, admit it.
- **Surrender:** Surrender your desires to God. He knows what they are, but He also wants to hear you voice them out to Him.
- **Choose:** Then, make a constant, even daily choice to trust Him with your singleness. Draw nearer to God. Whenever loneliness hits you hard, give it over to Him. But, choose to trust that He has your best interests at heart. Choose to trust that Someone that gave His own life for you would not withhold marriage from you if that was what was best for you. Choose to trust in God's love for you, despite yourself and your feelings.
- **Live:** Don't just exist, going through the motions. Actually live. Enjoy your friendships, family, job and church. Pour yourself into whatever God has called you to do. Find hobbies. Meet people. Step out of your comfort zone. Try something new. Don't put your life on hold. Don't wait to get married to do that special something.
- **Commit:** Devote yourself to your church family. Find friendships and companionships there with married and other singles.