

The Image of God

In Singleness and Marriage

1 CORINTHIANS 7:7, 32-35

EPHESIANS 5:22-27

ROMANS 8:28-29

Overview

The image of God is not only our starting place in creation, but it's also our destination in glory as we are being conformed to the image of his Son.

While our sin nature is a focus on self, Jesus' image points in a different direction. Singleness and Marriage offer roles with unique opportunities to grow in and reflect this self-less image, and while different, each of those roles finds Jesus as the perfect role model.

Notes

The Image of Jesus reflected in Singleness (1 Corinthians 7)

Singleness is a gift, not a problem to be fixed (v 7)

Singleness is a gift of freedom (vv 32-35)

Singleness is a gift of intimacy (v 35)

The Image of Jesus reflected in Marriage (Gen 1:26-27; Eph 5:22-27)

Together: Unique Unity (Gen 1:26-27)

Wives: Jesus and submission

Husbands: Jesus and headship

Reflection Questions

1. God is conforming us from self-focus to the image of Jesus, and we uniquely reflect that image in our role as a single person, wife, or husband. What are ways the role itself is being used as a tool to do this conforming in your life?
2. If you're a single person, what are particular challenges as you grow in **UNDISTRACTED DEVOTION** to reflect the image of Jesus?
3. If you're a wife, what are particular challenges as you grow in **PARTNERING SUBMISSION** to reflect the image of Jesus?
4. If you're a husband, what are particular challenges as you grow in **SACRIFICIAL INITIATIVE** to reflect the image of Jesus?
5. Whatever your role, how does it encourage you to see your role as a way to reflect the image of Jesus?