







### 1 Corinthians 7:7-9

<sup>7</sup>I wish that all of you were as I am. <u>But each of you has your own gift from God</u>; one has this gift, another has that. <sup>8</sup> Now to the unmarried and the widows I say: It is good for them to stay unmarried, as I do. <sup>9</sup> But if they cannot control themselves, they should marry, for it is better to marry than to burn with passion.



# Singleness is a Gift!



#### 1 Corinthians 7:17

<sup>17</sup> Nevertheless, each person should live as a believer in whatever situation the Lord has assigned to them, just as God has called them. This is the rule I lay down in all the churches.



### **1 Corinthians 7:32-35**

<sup>32</sup> I would like you to be <u>free from concern</u>. An unmarried man is concerned about the Lord's affairs how he can please the Lord. 33 But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world—how he can please his wife— 34 and his interests are divided. An unmarried woman or virgin is concerned about the Lord's affairs: Her aim is to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit. But a married woman is concerned about the affairs of this world—how she can please her husband.



### **1 Corinthians 7:32-35**

<sup>35</sup> I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord.





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- 2. Allowing for focus on the Lord and his calling for you.



### **1 Corinthians 7:36-38**

<sup>36</sup> If anyone is worried that he might not be acting honorably toward the virgin he is engaged to, and if his passions are too strong and he feels he ought to marry, he should do as he wants. He is not sinning. They should get married. 37 But the man who has settled the matter in his own mind, who is under no compulsion but has control over his own will, and who has made up his mind not to marry the virgin—this man also does the right thing. <sup>38</sup> So then, he who marries the virgin does right, but he who does not marry her does better.





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- 3. Walking in the BEST God has for you.



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- 2. Allowing for focus on the Lord and his calling for you.
- 3. Walking in the BEST God has for you.
- 4. Living the Future Now.

#### **Top 10 Relational Needs for marriages**

**Acceptance** – Loving one another willingly and unconditionally; not rejecting or withdrawing because of imperfect behaviors; accepting each others differences without trying to change or control the other. *Romans* 15:7 <sup>7</sup>Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

**Affection** - Expressing care and closeness through physical touch, loving and caring words and gestures, and warm facial expression. Mark 10:16

**Appreciation** – Expressing gratefulness, praise or commendation, for specific actions or efforts. Not being critical or taking the other for granted; 1 Cor.1:4 I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus.

**Approval** (Blessing) - Building up or affirming another, particularly for who they are (as opposed to what they do) affirming their character and the importance of your relationship together. *Ephesians 4:29, Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.* 

**Attention** – Showing interest, concern and care; entering into the other's world; listening to learn about the others needs, hopes etc. Luke 10:34 He (the Samaritan) went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took **care** of him.

**Comfort** – Coming alongside and responding to a hurting or grieving person with compassion, care; and appropriate physical touch; expressing feelings and empathy not logic; or attempting to fix the other. *Romans* 12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

**Encouragement** - Urging the other to persist and persevere towards their goals; helping them discover their gifts; validating their abilities. Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another

**Respect** - Valuing one another highly; communicating the worth of the other; respecting the others ideas, opinions, property and feelings. Not demeaning or putting down the other. *Romans 12:10, Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.* 

**Security** (Peace/Harmony) - Establishing and maintaining harmony and safety in our relationship by providing freedom from fear, or threat of harm; learning to resolve conflict and to cultivate trust with kindness and gentleness. Romans 12: 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. James 1:19-20 Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, <sup>20</sup> because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

**Support** - Coming alongside the other with kindness and appropriate help with a problem or struggle; getting under the burden to help carry the load. *Galatians 6:2 Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.* 

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Here is the link to the online Relational Needs tool. It will only take a few minutes to fill out and you will know your top needs! (If you download it and fill it out on a computer it will automatically do the calculations for you. You can then save your results for reference later as these can change depending on the season of your life and your life experiences.)

https://storage.snappages.site/dkyym24ydo/assets/files/GCN-Relational-Needs-Assessment-Auto-Sco-2.pdf