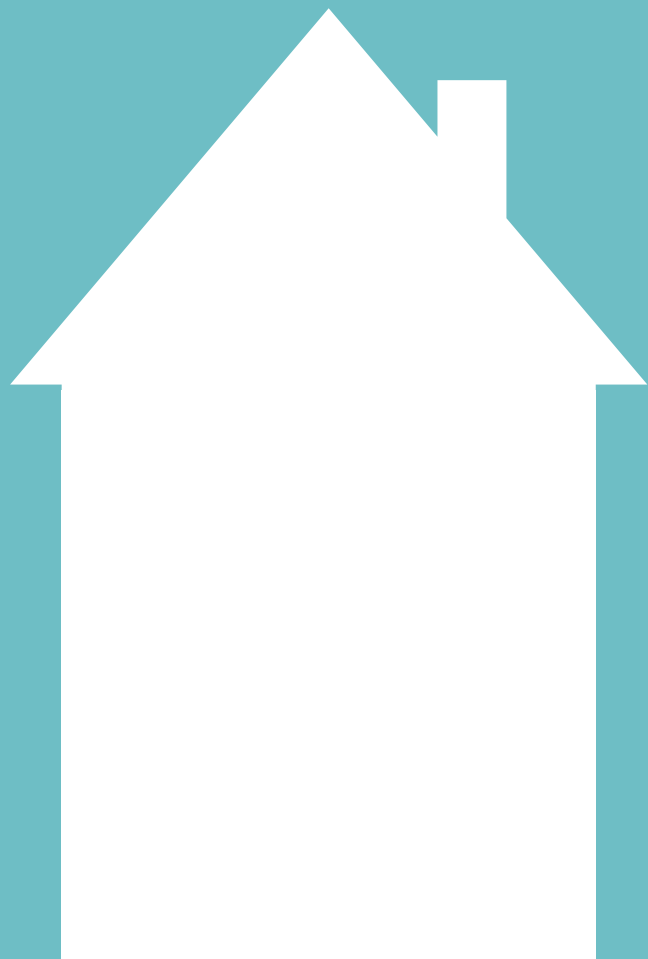


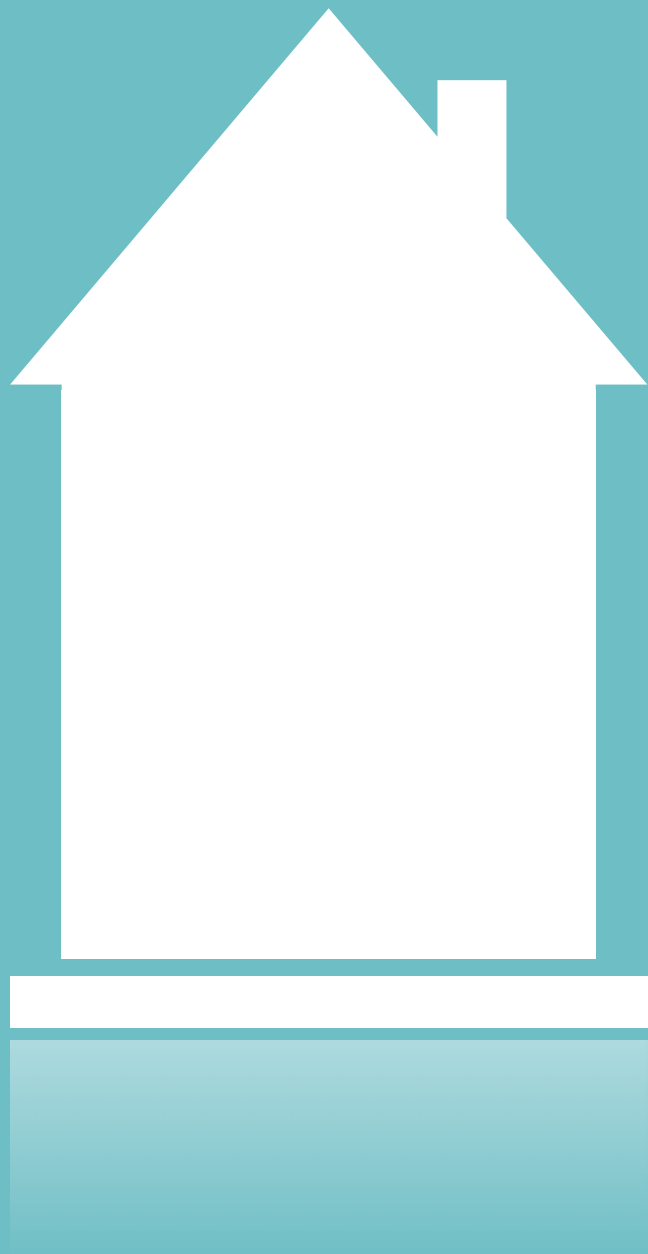
Welcome

Hnightsville church of Christ

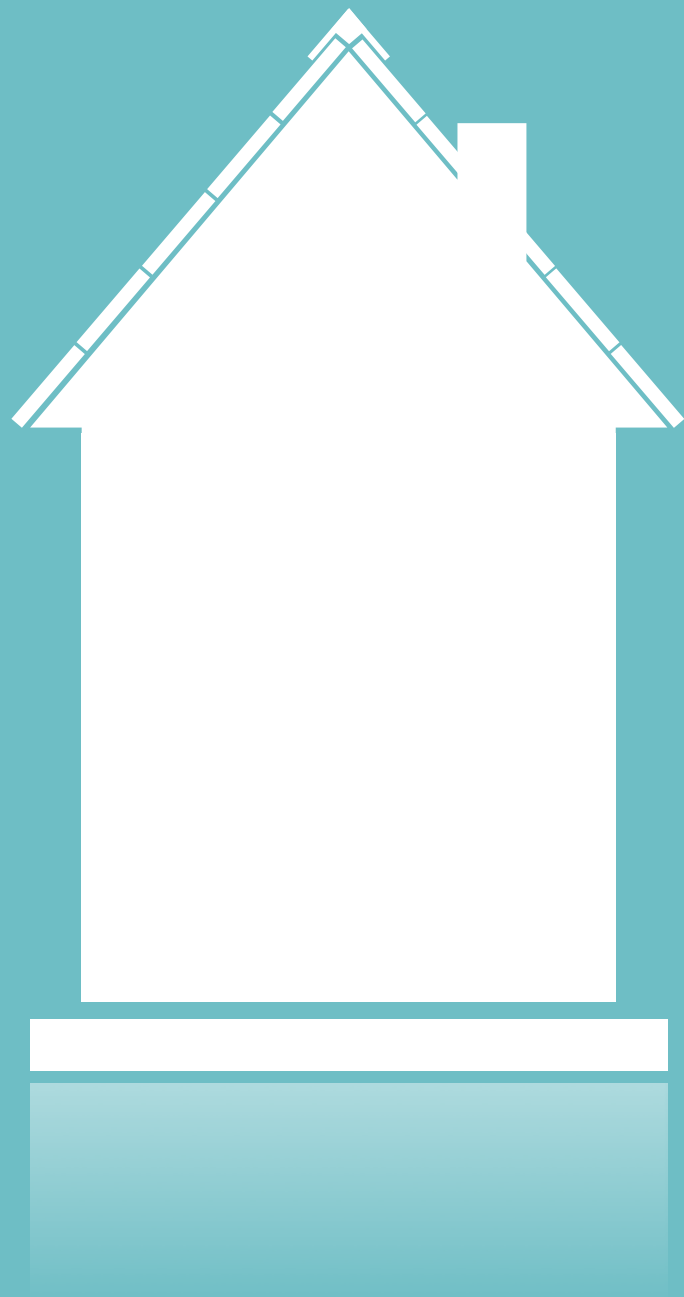
April 2023



When the
Lord builds
the house.



When the
Lord builds
the house.



When the
Lord builds
the house.



When the
Lord builds
the house.



When the
Lord builds
the house.

Singlehood

Unmarried Life in Christ

Singlehood

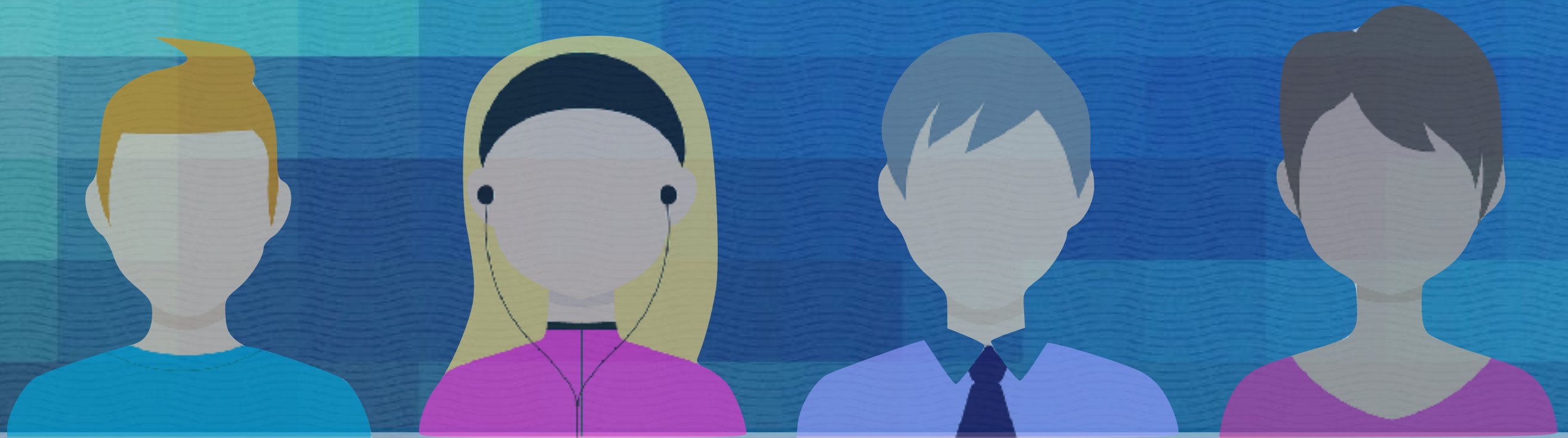
Unmarried Life in Christ

Part 1 of 2



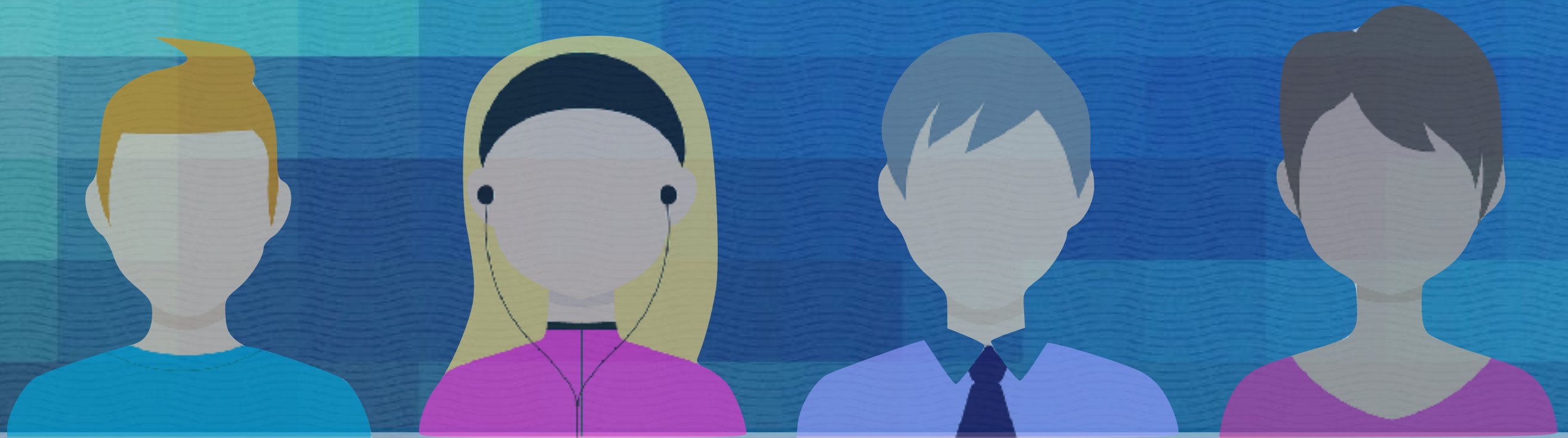
31% of Adults*

**Not married, living with a partner,
or in a relationship (Pew Research)*



A diverse group

- *Those who will someday marry & those who won't.*
- *Young singles, middle-aged singles, mature, senior singles.*
- *The widowed, the never-married, and the divorced.*
- *Those who have been married before or those who haven't.*



Goals

- *Every member is valued, honored, and served, receiving teaching that applies to our real lives.*
 - ➔ *Single life has its own difficulties & opportunities.*
- *All of us understand what Scripture teaches about living unmarried in Christ.*

Singlehood

1 The Myth

Singlehood

- 1 The Myth
- 2 The Gift

Singlehood

- ① The Myth
- ② The Gift
- ③ The Challenge

Singlehood

1 The Myth

Myths

1 Incomplete



“Seems like people think Christian life doesn’t start until you’re married, like it’s just an in-between period where we’re perpetually waiting for completion.”

Singlehood | The Myth



Game of Life

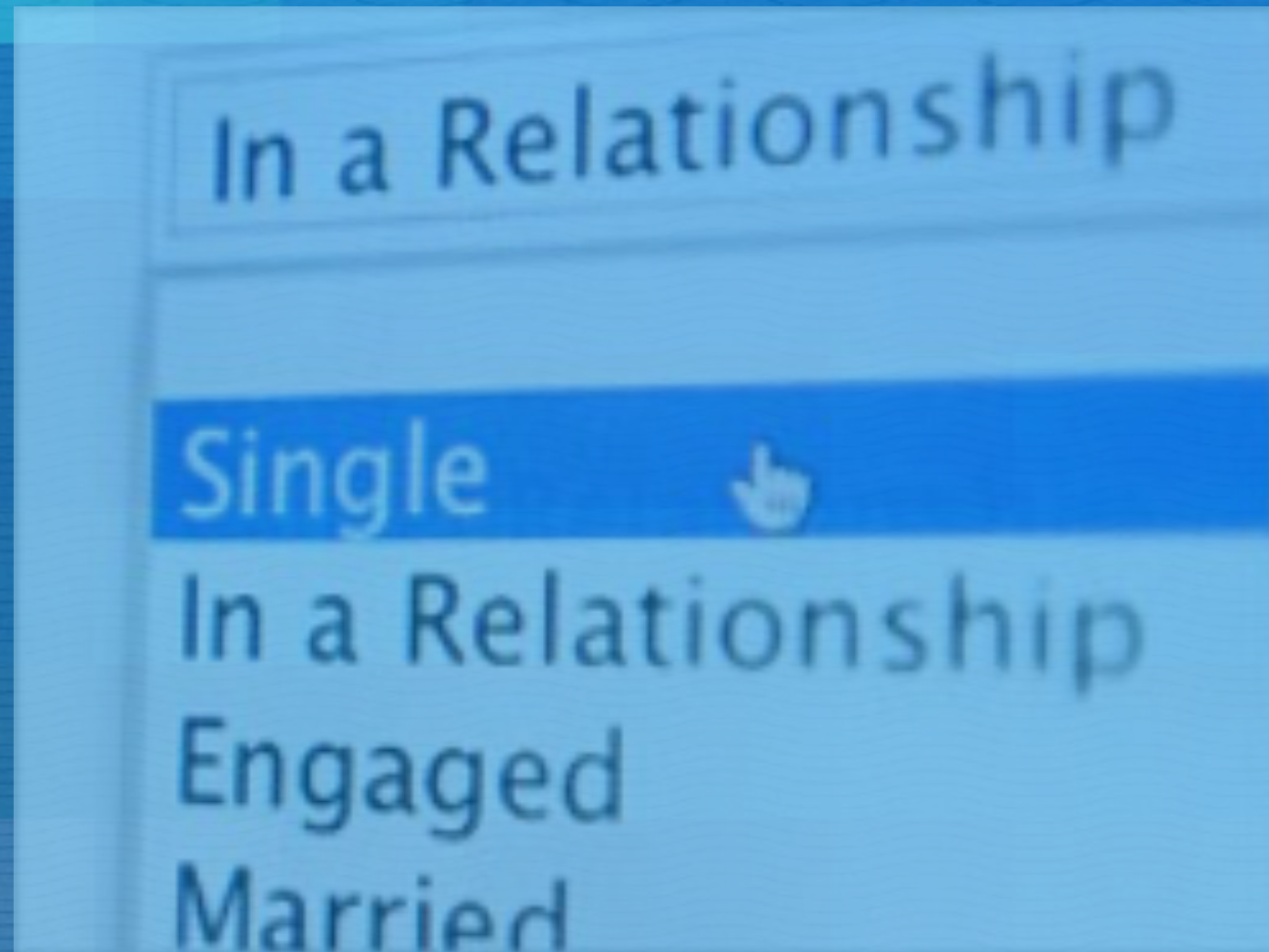
*Marriage isn't a step towards
winning life for everyone.*

Myths

1 Incomplete

Myths

- 1 Incomplete
- 2 Sinful



Status Symbol

*Your relationship status — single or married
doesn't signal your righteousness or value in the kingdom.*

Myths

- 1 Incomplete
- 2 Sinful

A large, stylized teal silhouette of a man in a suit, positioned on the left side of the image. The man is wearing a suit jacket, a white shirt, and a tie. The background is a solid teal color with a subtle grid pattern.

The *Perfect* Single Man

Point #1

*Single life is as good,
honorable, and virtuous
as married life.*

Myths

- 1 Incomplete
- 2 Sinful
- 3 Required

Marriage is good
gift from God!
(Gen. 2)

Singleness is a gift too!
(1 Cor. 7:7)

Singlehood

- ① The Myth
- ② The 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. To the **unmarried** and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain **single**, as I am.

1 Corinthians 7:7-8

English Standard Version

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. To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single, as I am.

1 Corinthians 7:7-8

English Standard Version

Gifts

1 Differ!

— 1 Cor. 12:12-26 —

Gifts

- 1 Differ!
- 2 Serve!

— *1 Cor. 12:12-26* —

Gifts

Specifically, as Singles:

1 Freedom

— 1 Cor. 7:6-9; 32-35 —







Gifts

Specifically, as Singles:

1 Freedom

— 1 Cor. 7:6-9; 32-35 —

Gifts

Specifically, as Singles:

- 1 Freedom
- 2 Focus

— *1 Cor. 7:6-9; 32-35* —

Point #2

*Singleness is a gift from
God meant to bless you
and others to his glory.*

Singlehood

- ① The Myth
- ② The Gift
- ③ The Challenge



Challenges





Challenges

1 Loneliness



*“One is the loneliest number
that you'll ever do
Two can be as bad as one
It's the loneliest number
since the number one”*



— Three Dog Night —

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

English Standard Version

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

English Standard Version

Marriage isn't the only
true unit of partnership
and closeness in life.

**A friend loves at all times,
and a brother is born for adversity.**

Proverbs 17:17

English Standard Version

the soul of Jonathan was **knit to the soul**
of David, and Jonathan loved him **as his**
own soul ... and strengthened his hand
in God

1 Samuel 18:1; 23:16

English Standard Version

**the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul
of David, and Jonathan loved him as his
own soul ... and strengthened his hand
in God**

1 Samuel 18:1; 23:16

English Standard Version

*“The only way to have
a friend is to be one.”*

— Ralph Waldo Emerson —

Love one another with **brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor ... Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.**

Romans 12:10,12

English Standard Version

Love one another with brotherly affection. **Outdo one another in **showing honor** ... Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.**

Romans 12:10,12

English Standard Version

Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor ... Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Romans 12:10,12

English Standard Version

Challenges

- 1 Loneliness
- 2 Lust

**But if they cannot exercise self-control,
they should marry. For it is better to
marry than to burn with passion.**

1 Corinthians 7:9

English Standard Version

**But if they cannot exercise self-control,
they should marry. For it is better to
marry than to burn with passion.**

1 Corinthians 7:9

English Standard Version

everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell.

Matthew 5:28-29

English Standard Version

Cut off even things you want to keep,
when they provide a path for the flesh.
And don't stop at demolition; build
something noble & helpful in its place.

— *Eph. 4:27; 2 Cor. 10:4; Rom. 13:4; Phil. 4:8* —

Cut off even things you want to keep,
when they provide a path for the flesh.
And don't stop at demolition; build
something noble & helpful in its place.

— *Eph. 4:27; 2 Cor. 10:4; Rom. 13:4; Phil. 4:8* —

Challenges

- 1 Loneliness
- 2 Lust
- 3 Limitations

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

English Standard Version

We all need a “ride to the airport” friend; or an “I need help moving this dresser” friend; someone you can call on for help.

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a **helper fit for him."**

Genesis 2:18

English Standard Version

"Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life."

Mark 10:29-31

English Standard Version

Point #3

*There's a world of difference
between being single in Christ
and being alone!*

Challenges

- 1 Loneliness
- 2 Lust
- 3 Limitations
- 4 Longing

**Not that I am speaking of being in need,
for I have **learned** in **whatever situation** I
am to be content ... I can do all things
through him who strengthens me.**

Philippians 4:10,13
English Standard Version

**Not that I am speaking of being in need,
for I have learned in whatever situation I
am to be **content** ... I can do all things
through him who strengthens me.**

Philippians 4:10,13
English Standard Version

**Not that I am speaking of being in need,
for I have learned in whatever situation I
am to be content ... I can do all things
through him who strengthens me.**

Philippians 4:10,13
English Standard Version

Point #1

*Single life is as good,
honorable, and virtuous
as married life.*

Point #2

*Singleness is a gift from
God meant to bless you
and others to his glory.*

Point #3

*There's a world of difference
between being single in Christ
and being alone!*



“God sets the solitary in homes”

Psalms 68:6

“a hundredfold . . . houses and brothers
and sisters and mothers and children”

Mark 10:30



“God sets the solitary in homes”

Psalms 68:6

“a hundredfold . . . houses and brothers
and sisters and mothers and children . . .

and in the age to come, eternal life”

Mark 10:30–31

