



MARINERS CHURCH

Series: On the Table
Title: Why does God say about same-sex attraction, marriage and singleness?
Speaker: Eric Geiger
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When Jesus had finished saying these things, he departed from Galilee and went to the region of Judea across the Jordan. Large crowds followed him, and he healed them there. Some Pharisees approached him to test him. They asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife on any grounds?” “Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that he who created them in the beginning made them male and female, and he also said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate.” “Why then,” they asked him, “did Moses command us to give divorce papers and to send her away?” He told them, “Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because of the hardness of your hearts, but it was not like that from the beginning. I tell you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another commits adultery.” (Matthew 19:1-9)

His disciples said to him, “If the relationship of a man with his wife is like this, it’s better not to marry.” He responded, “Not everyone can accept this saying, but only those to whom it has been given. For there are eunuchs who were born that way from their mother’s womb, there are eunuchs who were made by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves that way because of the kingdom of heaven. The one who is able to accept it should accept it.” (Matthew 19:10-12)

The unmarried man is concerned about the things of the Lord—how he may please the Lord. But the married man is concerned about the things of the world—how he may please his wife—and his interests are divided. (1 Corinthians 7:32-34)

Self-denial, not self-expression, leads to true fulfillment.

"If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life because of me and the gospel will save it." (Mark 8:34-35)

Sources:

David Bennett, *A War of Loves*
Rebecca McLaughlin, *Confronting Christianity*
Becket Cook, *A Change of Affection*
Jackie Hill Perry, *Gay Girl, Good God*
Sam Allberry, *Is God anti-gay?*
Rachel Gibson, *Born Again This Way*

Reflection Question:

How does this message encourage or challenge your understanding of marriage and singleness?