



Group Discussion Guide



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last update = Jan 26, 2018

Choices (Relationships) Discussion Guide

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Series Overview

Choices explores how to be a follower of Jesus when you are single, dating, or married.

Purpose of This Guide

The primary purpose of this group guide is to reinforce and deepen the lessons of the Grace Church message series: **Choices**.

You may choose to use this guide:

- with your Grace Group.
- with any group of people interested in knowing what the Bible says about these topics.

1-Singleness and Dating

God's Design for Singleness:

[1Cor 7:25-40](#), [2Cor 6:11-18](#), [Pro 7:6-21](#)

Icebreaker: Godly love

What is your reaction to the statement in the box?

Godly love is that which enables another person to live for Christ and His commands.

Discussion Questions: Singleness

- In what way is singleness a gift from God ([1Cor 7:7](#) and [Mat 19:11](#))?
- In what ways does singleness enable you to focus more on serving the Lord ([1Cor 7:32-25](#))?
- What can a single person do to battle loneliness?
- Regardless of marital status, where should we focus ([Mark 12:25](#) and [Rev 19:7](#))?
- How can you know that you are loving others in a relationally appropriate way ([1John 5:1-2](#))?

Dig a Little Deeper: When You Struggle as a Single

When you struggle as a single in Christ, here are some things to remember.

You belong to Christ.	John 14:18 and John 14:23
He is your Rescuer.	1Cor 10:13
Your identity is in Christ.	Eph 5:1-2 and 1The 1:9-10
He provides all you need.	Col 1:27 and Col 2:3
He made you for a purpose.	Eph 2:10 and 1Pet 2:9-10

Application Exercise: Singleness Plan

Create a plan to be all God wants you to be. Here are some possible things to put on your plan.

- Schedule prayer, Bible reading, and fellowship with others who love Him ([Mat 22:36-37](#)).
- Examine your life for people or things that pull you away from Christ ([Gal 6:7-8](#)). Make changes.
- Renew your mind to resist worldly thinking ([Rom 8:5-8](#) and [Rom 12:1-2](#)).
- Each day, assess whether you are turning toward the world ([Jer 2:13](#)) or toward Christ ([1The 1:9-10](#)).

2-Marriage

God's Design for Marriage: [Eph 5:22-23](#)

Icebreaker: Little Things

What are some of the little things you notice about good marriages?

Discussion Questions: Purpose of Marriage

- What does [Genesis 2:18-24](#) suggest as the purpose of marriage?
- Discuss the significance of God creating people in His image [[Gen 1:26-28](#)].
- What logical flaw is there in thinking that there is a person on earth who is your soul mate [[Psa 63:3](#), [Psa 73:25-26](#), [John 6:35](#)]?
- How does a marital union with Christ before marriage enhance a marriage [[1Cor 3:11](#)]?
- How can you apply [Philippians 2:3-8](#) to a marital relationship?

Dig a Little Deeper: Sacrificial and Sanctifying

- What happens when a husband makes Christ's love for the church his pattern for loving his wife ([Eph 5:25](#) and [1Cor 13:4-7](#))?
- In what way can a husband's love for his wife cleanse her ([Eph 5:26-27](#))?

Application: Pray for Your Marriage

Pray for your marriage every day. Here are some ideas to include in your prayers.

- Tell God that you want to do things His way.
- Thank God for giving you the opportunity to reflect Him in your marriage. Tell Him you take this as a serious responsibility and great honor.
- Ask God to help you see your spouse through His eyes.
- Ask God to guide you in becoming a more godly spouse.

3-Sex

God's Design for Sex:

[1Cor 6:12-20](#), [Mark 10:6-9](#), [1The 4:1-8](#)

Icebreaker: Flawed Philosophies

<i>Ascetic</i>	<i>Hedonist</i>
Use self-discipline to stem the body's desires.	Only the soul survives so enjoy your body on earth.

Discuss the flaws in these two philosophies.

Discussion Questions: Sexuality as a Gift

- What is the first statement God made to Adam and Eve after their creation ([Gen 1:26-28](#))?
- When you don't follow the Giver's directions, the best gift becomes the worst misery. Discuss how this relates to God's gift of sexuality ([1Cor 6:12-20](#)).
- As your friends and children observe your life, what do they learn about sexuality?
 - ▶ How do they get a Christian picture of sexuality?
 - ▶ How do they see you seek to please God?
- What is the reward for sexual purity ([Rom 12:1](#) and [1The 4:3-5](#))?

Dig a Little Deeper: Does Your Sex Life Reflect the Trinity?

As a community of loving persons, the persons of the Trinity:

- are **relationally active**, giving to and receiving from one another ([John 3:35](#), [John 5:37](#), [John 10:30](#)).
- are in **permanent** community ([1John 5:7](#)).
- are **committed** to one another, not to what They can get out of the relationship ([John 4:34](#)).
- are in an **exclusive** relationship ([Acts 5:31-32](#)).
- are **self-giving**. They seek to serve and give to one another ([Mat 3:16-17](#)).

Is your sex life relationally active, permanent, committed, exclusive, and self-giving?

Application Exercise: Am I Pure?

How true are the following statements for you?

	not true <—>completely true
Physically , I am pure in the fullness of the person God created me to be.	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
Emotionally , I am pure in the fullness of the person God created me to be.	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
Intellectually , I am pure in the fullness of the person God created me to be.	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
Spiritually , I am pure in the fullness of the person God created me to be.	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5

4-Divorce

God's Heart in Divorce: [Gen 2](#), [Deu 24](#), [Mat 19](#), [1Cor 7](#)

Icebreaker: Reasons or Excuses

Make a list of reasons or excuses that people give to justify divorce.

Discussion Questions: Divorce

- How did Jesus answer the Pharisees' question about divorce [[Mark 10:2-9](#)]?
- What higher standard about divorce did Jesus set for believers [[Mat 5:31-32](#)]?
- For what reason did God divorce Israel [[Jer 3:6-8](#)]?
- According to the following verses, what are the biblical grounds for divorce?

[Mat 19:9](#)

[1Cor 7:12-15](#)

- What advice did Paul give about remarriage [[1Cor 7:27-28](#)]?

Dig a Little Deeper: Pick Up the Pieces

If you've divorced and remarried, what can you do? How can you pick up the pieces in your relationship with God? Consider the following:

- Agree with God that what you did was sin (**1John 1:9**). Let Him cleanse you.
- Forgive your former spouse and seek forgiveness from your former spouse (**Jas 5:16**).
- Don't repeat your mistakes with your current marriage. Be the spouse God wants you to be.

Application Exercise: Pray for Focus

Pray, asking God to help you focus on what is important to Him, regardless of your marital status. Ask Him to help you be the person He wants you to be.



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