



**RELIGIOUS AWARENESS  
12TH GRADE**

**The Single Life** *continued.*

2. Will being single be different at each time of your life? Why? Why not?
3. Who do you know who you feel is a role model for the single life? Why?

(Referring back to the **PRO** column under **SINGLE** in Part I, *Freedom* will most likely be listed.) Read the following aloud to the students or have a student read:

**Galatians 5:13-26** *Liberty and Love*

After all, brothers, you were called to be free; do not use your freedom as an opening for self-indulgence, but be servants to one another in love, since the whole of the Law is summarized in the one commandment: *You must love your neighbor as yourself.* If you go snapping at one another and tearing one another to pieces, take care: you will be eaten up by one another.

Instead, I tell you, be guided by the Spirit and you will no longer yield to self-indulgence. The desires of Self-indulgence are always in opposition to the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are in opposition to self-indulgence: they are opposites, one against the other; that is how you are prevented from doing the things that you want to. But when you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law. When self-indulgence is at work the results are obvious: sexual vice, impurity, and sensuality, the worship of false gods and sorcery; antagonisms and rivalry, jealousy, bad temper and quarrels, disagreements, factions and malice, drunkenness, orgies and all such things. And about these, I tell you now as I have told you in the past, that people who behave in these ways will not inherit the kingdom of God. On the other hand the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control; no law can touch such things as these. All who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified self with all its passions and its desires.

Since we are living by the Spirit, let our behaviors be guided by the Spirit and let us not be conceited or provocative and envious of one another.

**SUGGESTED DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. Since you are all single now, which of the self-indulgences listed in the reading apply to today? Why? Why not?
2. Is it easier or harder to practice self-control when you do not have another person to think about? Why? Why not?
3. Married people have a strong identity in our society (husband, wife), what are some of the titles society uses to identify a single person? (bachelor, old maid)
4. Are these negative, positive, or neutral?
5. Do you think differently about single women than you do single men? Why? Why not?

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**The Single Life** *continued*

6. What are some positive identities for single people?
7. Is it possible to be a sexual person in the single life and still live by the Church's teachings? How? How not?
8. What do you think are sexual vice, impurity and sensuality which are listed in the reading?
9. Does a single person have to be celibate to live a life by the Spirit? Why? Why not?
10. Marriage is a sacrament, do you think there should be some sacramental rite for single people? Why? Why not?
11. What would it be?
12. What are some positive things that a single person living by the Spirit can contribute to our Church and civil communities that married people might not be able to do?

**TEACHER OPTION:** Have a follow-up class were you invite single people from all stages of life (young/unmarried, middleage/divorced, older/widowed) to act as a panel to discuss the problems and joys of Christian single life.