

1/18/2026

Our Text: **Proverbs 13:12**

“Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life.”



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I was thinking back when I was single.

- How was it?
- It was ok. It was fine.
- I was many times alone,
- But I didn't mind it.
- I did resent...
- I tried to do right, get involved in my church.

One thing I learned, needed to learn:

- **Philippians 4:11** – “I have learned in whatsoever state (whatever circumstances) I am in, to be content.”
- To be content where God has put me, and live life to the fullest as I chose to obey...
- Did I have hope deferred?

Let's talk about Hope Deferred in singles:

We need to understand their hope deferred. Their expectations are really no different than married people. The difference comes as to how they view their singleness, and how they're treated by people – especially married people!

Hope deferred in single adults is possible.

Let's talk about singles and give 3 descriptions of them:

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HOPE DEFERRED, 3 DESCRIPTIONS OF SINGLES:

I. Their position in life

A. Accepting it – *People can be single several ways:*

1. *never married*
2. *widowed*
3. *divorced*

In God's eyes: there is no difference between married & single! God views the married couple as one, but the same as a single person!

B. Learning to be content with who they are.

II. Their role in society

A. It has become easier to be single –

B. Because of discrimination

Many a wise, single, cautious person has said: “I would rather be single, and wish I was married; than to be married and wish I was still single.”

III. Married people & Singles are equal before God.

A. We're all one in Christ.

B. Married person, reach out to singles.

CONCLUSION:

- There is a very important principle I want us all to understand!
- Every person in our church ought to be able to say:
- This is my church, my family, my support, my love, my friends.
- And we're *all* meeting the needs of families –
- Large families and
- Smaller families – which *are* singles.
- We are all equal before Almighty God!