



**sin•gle•ness**

('sɪŋ gəl nɪs) **noun**

the state or quality of being single

# singleness

## **the state of being single**

never married, divorced or widowed  
by choice or by circumstances

## **the quality of being single**

excellence, superiority, value or worth

being single has its advantages **(1 Cor. 7:32-35)**

being single allows one to have “singleness”

**“singleness” is the key to being content “in” being single...**

... even if one is not content “with” being single



# singleness

**in a King James kind of way**

*“The light of the body is the eye: therefore when thine eye is **single**, thy whole body also is full of light; but when thine eye is evil, thy body also is full of darkness..” (Luke 11:34)*

**single** – *lit.* sincere, simple; **figuratively** “**focused**”

“What one chooses to look at or watch and admire begins with the desires of his intellect and spirit. If one **trains his eye** on what is good, Christ and His teaching, he will be properly enlightened and his whole being will be blessed.” – C. Caldwell

**“singleness of heart” – focus, purpose... true devotion**

# singleness

**Definition:** "singleness, without folds, like a piece of cloth unfolded" i.e. not compounded or over-complicated (needlessly complex); "single-threaded" (versus "multi-threaded"); "without folds, simple" (J. Thayer)

used of "unworldly simplicity"

**Usage:** simplicity, sincerity, purity, graciousness.

**when your life is not overly complicated:**

*"As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the **cares of the world** and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful." (Mt. 13:22)*



# singleness

**Definition:** without rocks (the opposite of phelleus, "rocky land"), i.e. smoothness (a level plain)

(figuratively) what is uncomplicated and unencumbered, i.e. without hindrances or stumbling blocks (J. Thayer).

**Usage:** simplicity, sincerity.

**while you are relatively unencumbered:**

*“No soldier gets **entangled in civilian pursuits**, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him.” (2 Tim. 3:4)*

# singleness

## **in your behavior**

*“For our boast is this, the testimony of our conscience, that we behaved in the world with **simplicity** and godly sincerity, not by earthly wisdom but by the grace of God, and supremely so toward you.” (2 Cor. 1:12)*

## **act with single-minded purpose**

to maintain a good conscience toward God  
out of sincere concern for others

## **not guided by worldly standards**

as trained by the grace of God (**Titus 2:11-12**)



# singleness

## at work

*“Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in **singleness** of your heart, as unto Christ” (Eph. 6:5)*

*“Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in **singleness** of heart, fearing God.” (Col. 3:22)*

## remember who your real Boss is...

*“knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.” (Col. 3:24)*



# singleness

## in your generosity

*“the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in **generosity...**” (Rom. 12:8)*

*“their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of **generosity...**” (2 Cor. 8:2)*

*“You will be enriched in every way to be **generous** in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God... they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the **generosity** of your contribution...” (2 Cor. 9:11-13)*

# singleness

**in your devotion to Christ**

*“But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the **simplicity** and purity of devotion to Christ...” (2 Cor. 11:3)*

**don't stray from “the simplicity that is in Christ” (KJV)**

*“simplicity” (NKJV, ASV, NASB, AMP, LSV, YLT...)*

the world will influence you toward its ideals of Christ, church, *etc.*

“this worldly”-minded brethren will try to lead you astray

**your devotion to the simplicity that is in Christ is a measure of your “sincere and pure devotion to Christ”**



# singleness

## **toward your brethren**

*“And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and **singleness** of heart” (Acts 2:46)*

## **continue**

regularly, habitually, reliably

## **pursue and maintain unity**

*“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”*

**(Acts 2:42)**

## **build relationships**

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while you are relatively unencumbered  
be single with singleness of heart



