

Lesson 20 : Singleness



Rejoicing in God's Good Design

Illustration



Two Gifts: Marriage and Singleness



Singleness



Marriage

Marriage is not better than singleness,
and singleness is not better than marriage.
They are both good gifts. They are different gifts.

God's Word

1 Corinthians 7:6-9

God does not require anyone to get married, though most are led by God into marriage.

*“...it is good for them to remain single as I am.”
(1 Corinthians 7:8)*

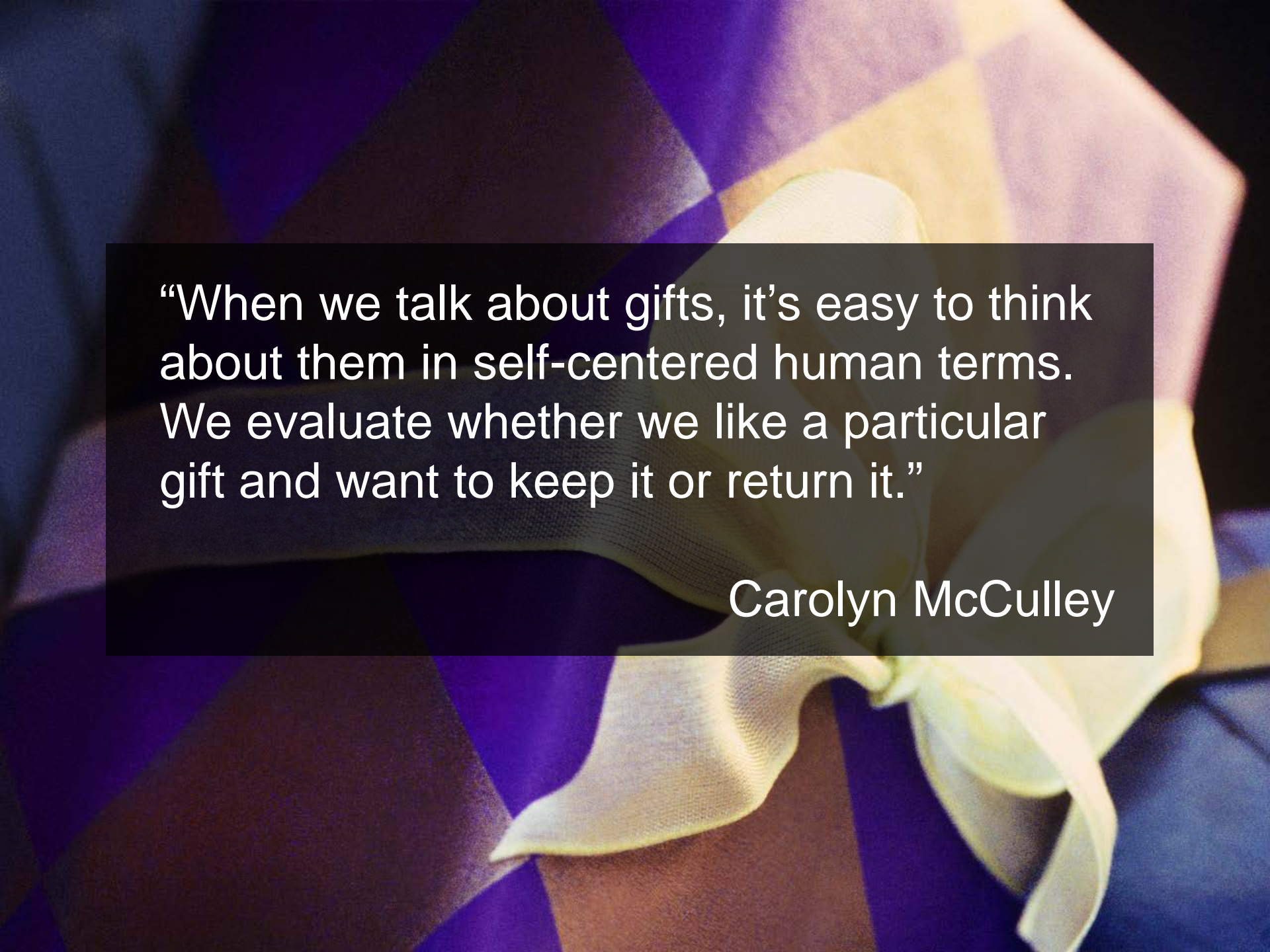
Some people are blessed by God with the gift of singleness; and some with the gift of marriage. Each has his own gift from God.

Singleness

To see singleness as inferior is not biblical.
Singleness is God-given and good.



Singleness



“When we talk about gifts, it’s easy to think about them in self-centered human terms. We evaluate whether we like a particular gift and want to keep it or return it.”

Carolyn McCulley

Singleness

Self-centered

Perspective



Reject singleness



God's Eternal

Perspective



Accept singleness as a gift



The Challenge

We exist to bring glory to Christ in whatever state He has called us to, for whatever purposes He has for us.

TRUST GOD'S WISDOM AND GOODNESS.

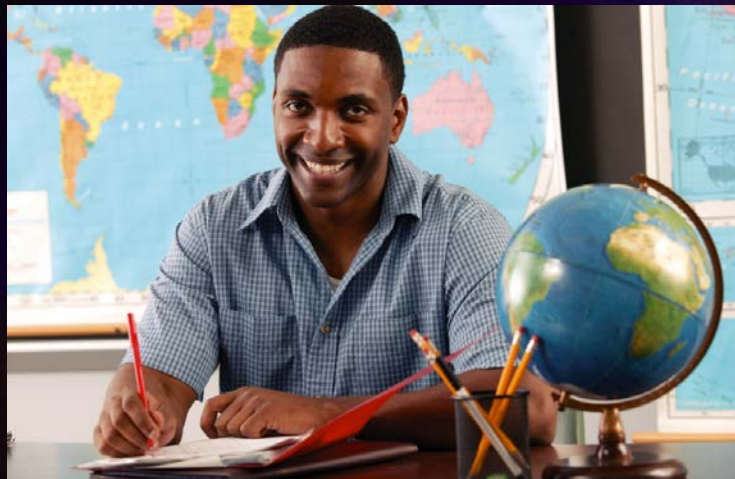
No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.

Psalms 84:11

The Grace of Singleness

All seasons of singleness are good and they all have their purpose in God's design.

The gift of singleness requires a special grace from God.



God's Grace and Singleness



Isaiah 54:5



See their dependency
on Christ

1 Corinthians 7:36 → Those prone to being sexually impure should seek marriage

Grace for Every Situation

Each one should pursue contentment, purity, and thankfulness in whatever situation they are placed.

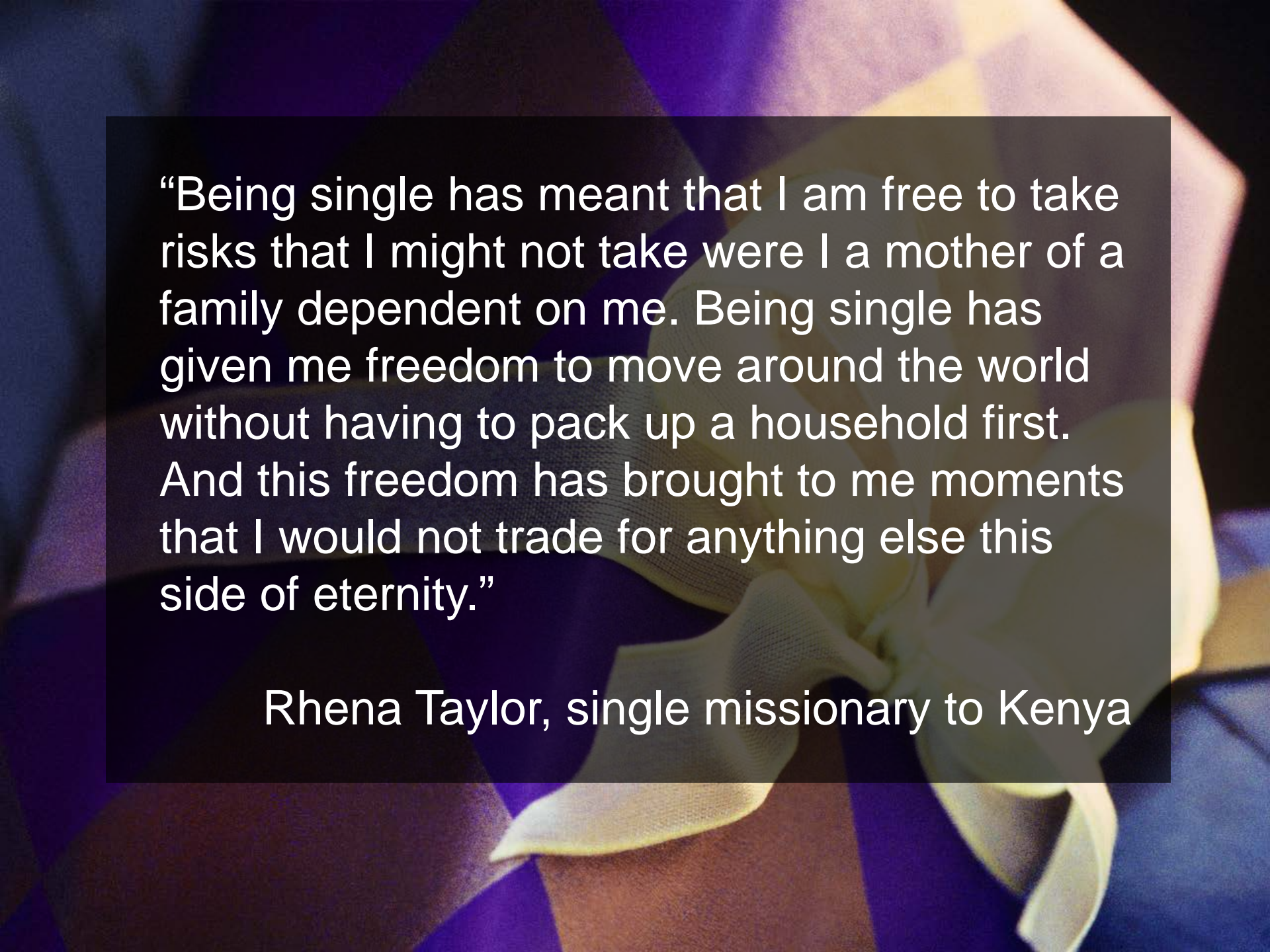


The Gift of Singleness

Masculinity and femininity do not depend on being married.

1 Corinthians 7:27-35

1. Increased personal freedom
2. Less worldly troubles
3. Better suited to live a zealous life for a short time or our remaining days
4. Less anxieties
5. No divided interests and devotion



“Being single has meant that I am free to take risks that I might not take were I a mother of a family dependent on me. Being single has given me freedom to move around the world without having to pack up a household first. And this freedom has brought to me moments that I would not trade for anything else this side of eternity.”

Rhena Taylor, single missionary to Kenya

Don't Waste Your Singleness! Don't Waste Your Youth!

Attempt great things for God.

(William Carey)

Temptation: to live irresponsibly

Temptation: to live for self

Embrace responsibility
and use youthful singleness
wisely.

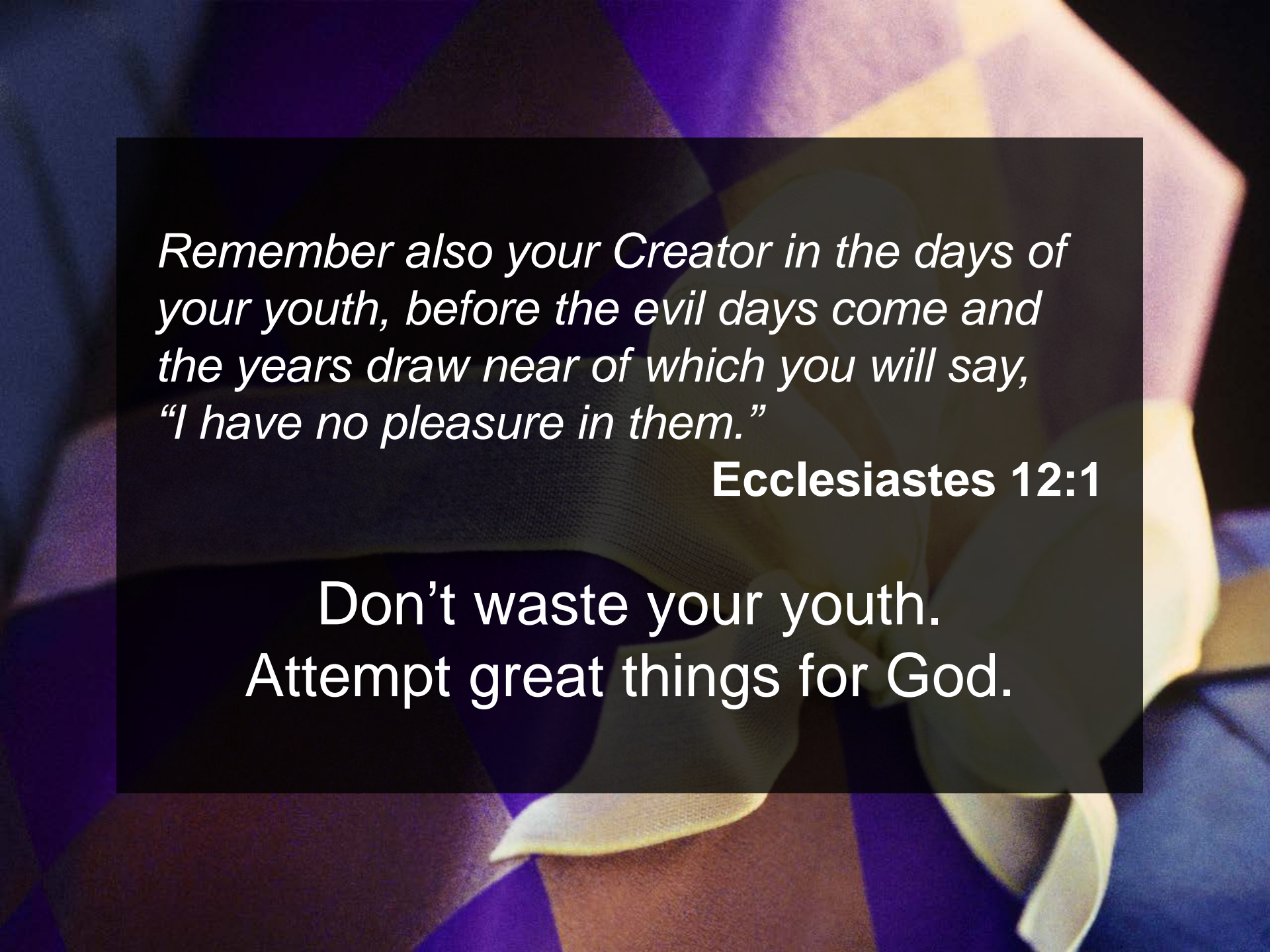


Singleness

- Freedom
- Flexibility
- Time

Bar-Mitzvah





Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near of which you will say, "I have no pleasure in them."

Ecclesiastes 12:1

**Don't waste your youth.
Attempt great things for God.**



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