

SUGGESTED READING

'The Single Issue' by Al Hsu

Inter-varsity Press ISBN 0-85111-194-7 1997

“Nearly half of today’s adult population is unmarried. Most churches however, emphasize marriage and family in a way that leaves many Christian singles feeling like second-class citizens. Although Jesus himself was single, the single state is often regarded as a problem in itself (rather than *having* problems, as marriage does).

By contrast, *'The Single Issue'* sets out a positive, biblical view that honours singleness as a status equal to marriage. Avoiding the trite advice on how to suffer through the single life, it offers practical insights on key concerns such as sex, celibacy, and the constructive use of solitude – and points the way to a Christian community in which all members are equally valued.”

Includes an interview with John Stott on singleness.

Very well written. An objective and thorough look at the issues, often academic in its approach. Positive, with biblical references and challenges. To gain an intelligent and informative grounding in the issues, I would highly recommend reading this book.
(Of US origin but adapted to the UK)

'No Sex Please We're Single' by Ian Gregory

Kingsway Publications ISBN 1-84291-038-8 1997

“More Christians are staying single for longer despite not wanting to. Ian Gregory examines why involuntary singleness is on the rise. He offers ideas on how to improve your chances of meeting someone right for you. And he challenges the churches to rethink the way they treat singles. For singleness is not just a personal issue, but affects the growth and wellbeing of the church as a whole.”

A more emotional and personal account of singleness, which will give a very good insight into how singles may be feeling in your church. Looks at the full range of challenges a single Christian faces and gives some suggested solutions. A challenging and practical read, in an easy written style. Well worth the read. (UK author.)

'Why Men Hate Going to Church' by David Murrow

Nelson Books ISBN 0-7852-6038-2 2005

“*Golfing? Playing softball? Watching the tube? Mowing the lawn? Sleeping?* One place you won't find them is in church. Less than 40 percent of adults in most churches are men, and 20 to 25 percent of married churchgoing women attend without their husbands. And why are the men who do go to church so bored? Why won't they let God change their hearts?”

David Murrow’s groundbreaking new book reveals why men are the world’s largest unreached people group. With eye-opening research and a persuasive grasp of the facts, Murrow explains the problem and offers hope and encouragement to women, pastors, and men. *'Why Men Hate Going to Church'* does not call men back to church – it calls the church back to men.”

The latest *'must read'* Christian book for church leaders. A very honest and challenging exploration of why men find the church environment under stimulating. It also looks at the lack of 'Alpha' males in the church, which has consequences for single women and the forming of successful relationships. Statistics and facts included. An honest, practical and easy written style. (Of US origin but directly applicable to the UK)