



FAIRHAVEN BOOK REVIEW

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"THE ABUNDANT SINGLE LIFE"

BY JOANNA JACKSON

INTRODUCTION

The Abundant Single Life is a practical, Bible-based reminder to single ladies (and the rest of us) that true joy and contentment come from God. Joanna Jackson served the Lord at the Timberline Baptist Church in Manitou Springs, CO, until her death at the age of 42 in 2013. If you are a 20-, 30-, 40-, or 50-year-old single, this book will be a help and a blessing to you. If you, like me, minister to singles specifically, the problems and solutions that the people you are trying to help will be made more clear as you read it. If you know anyone who is "still single," this book will help you be a blessing to them.

OVERVIEW

Over the course of 32 simple, short chapters, **The Abundant Single Life** reiterates that glorifying God and having a relationship with Christ gives victory and contentment throughout life. Everyone has emotional, social, physical, and spiritual challenges to overcome throughout their lives, but single adults are often misunderstood and get very little specific, Biblical help for these difficult situations. Jackson lived as a single lady for over twenty years all while serving the Lord on staff at Timberline Baptist Church. She addresses single ladies' questions, difficulties, and problems with a refreshingly practical and thoroughly Biblical viewpoint. Throughout the book, scores of verses from Scripture are reviewed with their specific application to single ladies highlighted. The clarity of the principles and Scripture make it easy to extend the application to all single adults and to all Christians.

SUMMARY & ASSESSMENT

Jackson covers the desire for relationships, the need for security, the importance of a proper focus, independence and dependence, self-worth, life's purpose, surrender, unfortunate conversations, danger zones, and many others with tremendous frankness and clarity all while bringing the reader back to the Bible for guidance and answers. In her chapter, "What's My Purpose Now," she reminds us that being a godly wife meet for her husband and rearing a family for God are not the primary purposes for any ladies. This reminder helps those who have not married yet. From Isaiah 43:7 she learned that her purpose was to glorify God. Over and over again, she brings the reader back to the Scriptures to gain a proper perspective of each situation described.

CONCLUSION

When I first received this book, I was hesitant to even read it. God Himself said that it is not good for man to be alone. Singles (especially men) should be looking for a help meet and should pursue her. So a book that ignores that truth and tries to help singles just get along happily was not something I was interested in. BUT, **The Abundant Single Life** is not that kind of book. It is an excellent book. While directly focused toward single ladies, it focuses them on Jesus Christ and glorifying God. While some of the material might be more helpful to single ladies in their mid-twenties and beyond, all single girls past their teen years would benefit from reading this book. With the exception of one or two chapters, unmarried men can benefit from the Biblical principles in this book. And anyone in churches that works with or interacts with single adults would be helped by better understanding what battles singles go through, and how they can get victory over them.

RESOURCES

You can purchase the book at the following link:
<https://bookstore.fairhavenbaptist.org/product/the-abundant-single-life/>