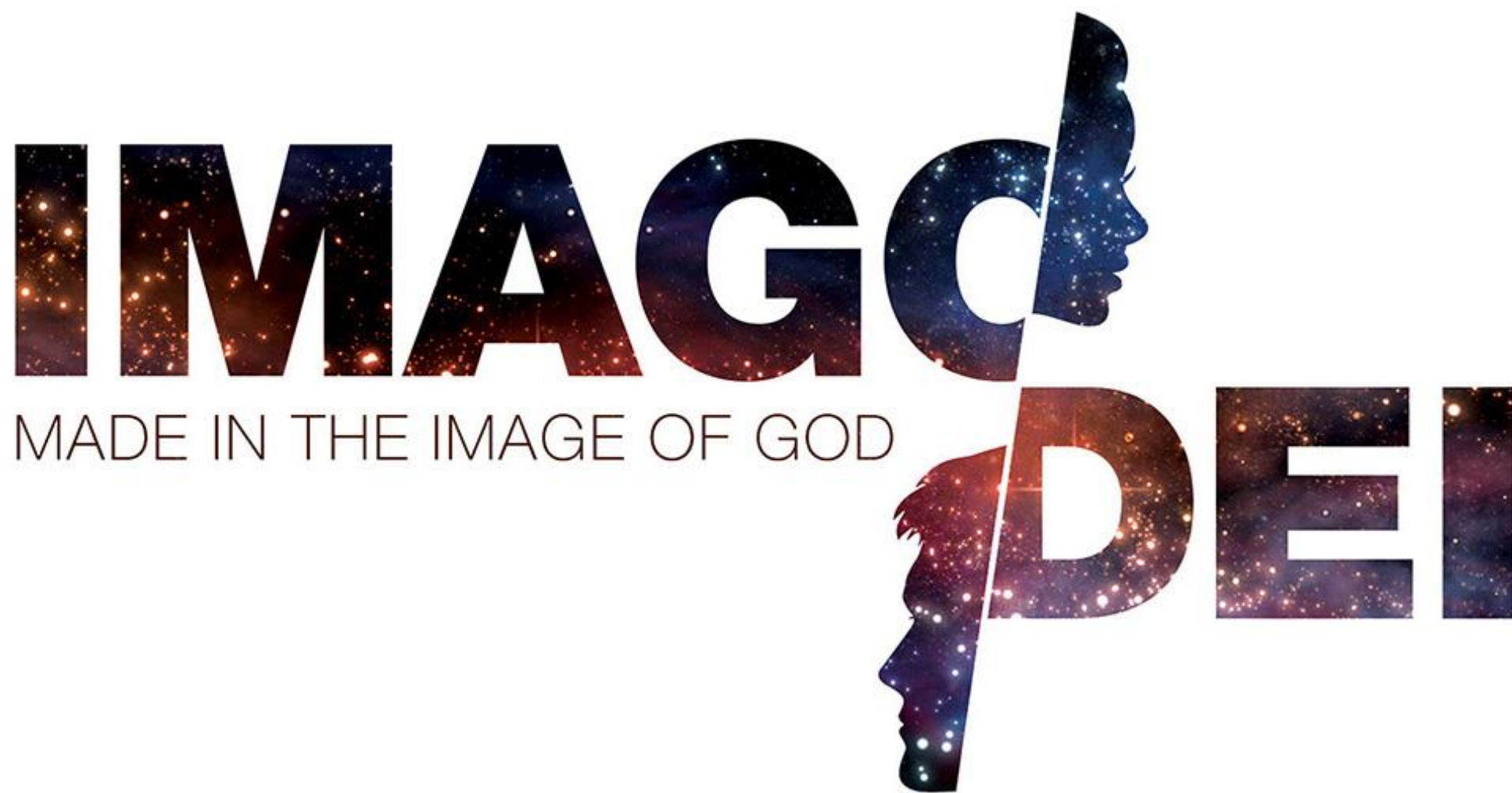


IMAGEd

MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

DEI

The image features the text 'IMAGEd DEI' in a large, bold, sans-serif font. The letters are filled with a vibrant, multi-colored cosmic pattern of stars and nebulae in shades of blue, purple, orange, and red. The word 'IMAGEd' is on the top line, and 'DEI' is on the bottom line. A thin white diagonal line runs from the top right of the 'd' in 'IMAGEd' down to the bottom left of the 'D' in 'DEI'. On either side of this line, there is a silhouette of a human head in profile, facing each other. The silhouettes are filled with the same cosmic pattern as the letters. Below the word 'IMAGEd', the phrase 'MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD' is written in a smaller, white, all-caps, sans-serif font.

SINGLENES

Genesis 2:18

In 2014, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that 124.6 million Americans 16 years and older were single, or 50.2 percent of the population, compared with 37.4 percent of the population in 1976.

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He'll bring someone special into your life.**



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- **As a single, you can commit yourself wholeheartedly to the Lord's work!**
- **Before you can marry someone wonderful, the Lord has to make you someone wonderful.**

"I am not single because I am too spiritually unstable to possibly deserve a husband, nor because I am too spiritually mature to possibly need one. I am single because God has been so abundantly good to me--because this is his best for me."

PAIGE BENTON BROWN
"Singled Out by God for Good"

In answering the question, “So, what motivated me to preach about marriage to the unmarried?” Keller says, “...single people cannot live their lives well as singles without a balanced, informed view of marriage. If they do not have that, they will either over-desire or under-desire marriage, and either of those ways of thinking will distort their lives.”

TIMOTHY KELLER
"The Meaning of Marriage"

“Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.'”

GENESIS 2:18

"This at last is 'bone of my bones' and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called woman, because she was taken out of man."

GENESIS 2:23

1) The love that you were created for is not the love of another human being, but Christ's love.

“We live in an age of **Apocalyptic Romance**. We've removed God and his design for marriage and replaced Him with **unbearable expectations for transcendent relationships.**”

ERNEST BECKER
“The Denial of Death”

"Therefore, a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church."

EPEHESIANS 5:31-32

2) Life goes wrong when we make marriage the measure of a significant life.

A life that does not make biological offspring is not a failed life. But a life that does not make disciples of Jesus is.

MATTHEW 28:18-20

LUKE 11:27-28

MARK 11:46-50

“Let not the eunuch say, ‘Behold, I am a dry tree.’ For thus says the Lord: ‘To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths, who choose the things that please me and hold fast my covenant, I will give in my house and within my walls a monument and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off.’”

ISAIAH 56:3-5

Singles: Could you be single your whole life and not feel devastated?

Married: Could you go through life without a happy marriage and still feel fulfilled?

3) Singleness is not an inferior life to that of marriage.

4) The goodness of singleness and marriage are best appreciated in the context of a healthy church body.

"Now as a concession, not a command, I say this. I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has his own gift from God, one of one kind and one of another."

1 CORINTHIANS 7:7

"This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing...for the present form of this world is passing away."

1 CORINTHIANS 7:32-33

