

Single & Single-Again TUES NITES Meal, Message & Mixer

#5 of 5 – New Beginnings: God's Plan for Fellowship, Friendship & Dating by Brian Kluth

1. **Brian's Testimony, 10 Common Operating Systems of Singles, The World's Low Road(s) for Singles**
2. **10 Keys to Real Life & Real Relationships**
3. **Friends with Boundaries & Blessings (NOT Benefits!): 9 Phases of Healthy Christ-Centered Male-Female Relationships** – Fellowship, Friendships, 1-to-1 Friends, DTR, Social Dating, DTR, Courtship, Engagement, Marriage.
4. **Good Things to Know: 15 God-Given Differences Between (Most) Women and Men**
5. **God's Ancient Wisdom for Our Modern World** Subtitle: **God's Sanity for Singles in an Insane World!**

Teaching videos, handouts, and audio Mp3 are online for all of these messages at www.ChristianSinglesInDenver.com

B.I.B.L.E. Definition = BASIC INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE LEAVING EARTH

Ps 119:67, 71, 75, 92 Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey your word. -- It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees. -- I know, LORD, that your laws are righteous, and that in faithfulness you have afflicted me. -- If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.

God's Ancient Wisdom for Single & Single-Again Christians in a Modern World

1 Thess 4:1-6 ^{GWT} Brothers and sisters, because of the Lord Jesus we ask and encourage you to excel in living a God-pleasing life...It is God's will that you keep away from sexual sin as a mark of your devotion to him. Each of you should know that finding a husband or wife for yourself is to be done in a holy and honorable way, not in the passionate, lustful way of people who don't know God. No one should take advantage of or exploit other believers that way.

Tip #1 – Be part of Christ-centered, God-pleasing, and Word-based church/groups/people.

1 Thess 4:1 We ask and encourage you to excel (*overflow, abound*) in living a God-pleasing life (*following God, finding approval from God, delighting God's heart*).

Tip #2 – Become the best you that you can be with God's help. looking-for-list to be your look-in-the-mirror-list. Ask yourself, are you becoming the person you are looking for is looking for? Work on becoming Mr. Right or Miss Right.

Tip #3 - Keep away from sexual sin as a mark of your devotion to him.

It is God's will that you keep away from sexual sin (*abstain distance yourself, "keep the car in park with the parking brake on sexually" -- instead focus on being pure, clean, sanctified, and consecrated to God in body/mind/heart/spirit*) as a mark of your devotion to him.

1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. **Song of Solomon 2:7** Don't excite love (=sexual intimacy), don't stir it up (=arouse/awaken), until the time is ripe (=right, proper time). **Be friends with boundaries & blessings (NOT benefits!):** Keep everything zipped, on, buttoned, and in. Avoid the horizontal. Hands kept away from private areas. Open and close the date in prayer.

2 Cor 6:14 Stop forming inappropriate relationships with unbelievers. Can right and wrong be partners?

Tip #4 – Find a spouse in a holy and honorable way.

Take an interest in others **Phil 2:4** Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

The 6 F's of conversation: First Name? From? Family? Favorities? Faith? Future Plans?

Serve and honor others **Gal 5:13** Don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love. **1 Thess 4:1:6** No one should take advantage of or exploit (=overstep proper limits, trespass, do wrong) other believers that way.

Make yourself as attractive as you can be – inside and outside

1 Sam 16:6-7 Samuel saw Jesse's son Eliab and said to himself, "This man standing here in the Lord's presence is surely the one he has chosen." But the Lord said to him, "Pay no attention to how tall and handsome he is. I have rejected him, because I do not judge as people judge. They look at the outward appearance, but I look at the heart."

Ruth 3:1-4 One day Naomi said to Ruth, "My daughter, it's time that I found a permanent home for you, so that you will be provided for...Now do as I tell you—take a bath and put on perfume and dress in your nicest clothes. Then go..."

Ephesians 4:29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

Tip 5: If needed -- get a new heart, new mind, new desires, and a new life in Christ.

Ezek 36:25-27 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. Your filth will be washed away, and you will no longer worship idols. And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart. And I will put my Spirit in you so that you will follow my decrees and be careful to obey my regulations. **2 Cor 5:17** If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

Table Discussion Questions:

1. Have everyone at the table share: Your name, where you “mainly grew up”, your work/profession, and an activity you enjoy doing.

Group questions about the message (have 2-4 people answer each question).

2. What did you find helpful about this teaching?
3. What idea, statement, or concept did Brian share that was most “surprising” to you?
4. Did you find anything confusing?
5. What does this teaching show you about men, women, and relationships?
6. What does this teaching show you about God?
7. How might this teaching cause you to live differently in the future?
8. Is there someone you will tell about this teaching in the next week? What will you tell them? Why? (Note: This handout, audio, and video will be online to share with others).

For further personal study: I Corinthians 6:9-7:19, I Thessalonians 4:1-8, Proverbs 6:20-7:27, James 1:13-15, Romans 13:8-14, Romans 14:1-15:7, I Timothy 5:1-2, Titus 2:1-8, John 14:15

Helpful Tips for

Great Table Discussions

Each table should have designated discussion leader/facilitator. Note: If no one has been chosen by Jane to do this, we would ask someone in the group that has had experience leading Bible studies or small groups to volunteer to lead.

1. **Use God’s ear-to-mouth ratio:**
Listen two times more than you speak. 1 or 2 people should not dominate the time, and EVERYONE should contribute during the discussion.
2. **Smile and be friendly.** Avoid excessive complaining about people or personal problems.
3. **God’s grace rules the day.**
Recognize that everyone will not always agree – be gracious and give grace to one another. People are at different places in their spiritual walk and in their life journey.
4. **Moving the discussion along.**
Table hosts/facilitators are to move the discussion along. They have permission to limit any negative comments, to invite people to answer a question, to ask someone for their perspective, to limit the amount of time some people speak, and to move on to the next question.
5. **Help for the hurting:** This is a supportive group, but it is not a support group or a therapy session. But if someone is really hurting, take a moment and have someone in the group specifically pray for them.