

## SINGLE OR SINGLE-AGAIN? HAVE YOU WRITTEN A “LOOKING LIST & LOOK-IN-THE-MIRROR LIST”?

Brian Kluth & Jane Stolz, Co-Organizers of [www.ChristianSinglesInDenver.com](http://www.ChristianSinglesInDenver.com) Tues Nites Meal, Message, and Mixer. Jane shared her “list” as part of her “Keys to Healthy Relationships” teaching in December. Brian share his “(partial) list” as part of his “New Beginnings: God’s Plan for Fellowship, Friends, and Dating” series that he did in January. Videos and handout are available at [www.ChristianSinglesInDenver.com](http://www.ChristianSinglesInDenver.com).

The idea of having “some type of list” is to help you realize what is important to you in a possible future relationship. God doesn’t want us to be “available” to just anyone and everyone who comes along in our life, regardless of how “attracted” we might first be to them. Ultimately we need to realize and recognize what is pleasing to God and important to us in friendship and any possible future relationship. And while it is possible “no one” may meet ALL the items you may write on a “list”, having a list will give you REALLY CLARITY, freedom, protection, direction, and will help you navigate male-female friendships and possible dating relationships and a potential marriage partner.

### Jane’s “LIST”

Must be a Christian – maintaining a vibrant, growing relationship with God  
Someone who has good character – Possesses good insight into themselves & how others see them  
Someone with quality integrity – demonstrates it in day to day living  
Someone who will lead me/come along side of me – spiritually and day to day living  
Someone who brings out the best in me – and I in him  
Someone willing to serve others  
Someone who is supportive of me in ministry  
Someone who is stable financially as well as emotionally – maintains good emotional controls  
Someone willing to build the strong foundation – **emotional, intellectual, spiritual, physical**  
Someone Romantic  
Someone who will allow me to be me – and appreciate me  
Someone who enjoys the outdoors  
Someone who can enjoy the little things in life  
Someone who can sit and enjoy a cup of coffee/tea with me – good conversation  
Someone who can just hang out and watch a movie - relax  
Someone who likes to get away/travel – weekends away – vacation once in a while....  
Someone who doesn’t mind the country girl in me – it tends to come out every once in a while  
Someone who can make me laugh – someone to laugh with  
Someone who enjoys entertaining friends/family – effective relationship skills  
Someone who is supportive when we have to take care of aging parents/help children  
Someone who will “do the right things” honest with self and others  
Someone I can talk to about important things and stuff that doesn’t even matter  
Someone who is emotionally available – gives and takes – even balance  
Someone who sees the good in people  
Someone who knows how to do conflict – talk it through – work through the tough times  
Someone who will date me – even when we are married  
Someone who will love and appreciate my children – someone who has an accurate picture of challenges that come with blended families etc.

The person I choose will **inspire, encourage, have passion, and choose to love.**

Someone who can handle my Starbucks addiction!  
Someone who can handle a good water fight on a hot day  
Someone who can roll in the dirt and yet cleans up nice

## Brian's "(Partial) Looking & Look-in-the-Mirror List"

"Excerpts" from a journal email entry Brian wrote in October 2011: After Sandi had gone home to be with the LORD, someone encouraged me to write a list of the type of qualities and attributes I would like in a woman if the LORD ever led me and allowed me remarry. I resisted this idea for over a year, but as I began to meet and form friendships with some quality Christian women, I realized I really needed to sit down and write out, "IF/when I was ever going to remarry, what type of person would I be looking for?" I became aware of the idea that "you can't find what you're not looking for". So, while I would not expect anyone to ever "match" my entire list perfectly, having a list is my "jello on the wall" to see what God allows to "stick". And while this is "my" looking list of things I hope to find in another person, this list is also a reminder that I need to actively "be-this-type-of-person" (my "look-in-the-mirror-list"). I need to be developing many of these qualities and attributes in my own personal life. I also need to learn to be content "in the LORD" if I never marry again.

- Loves the LORD. Loves serving the LORD and others.
- Joyful, likes to smile and laugh easily, outgoing, social, friendly. Actively expresses and shows love and care for those she meets or comes in contact with.
- Her beauty radiates from the inside out - - takes care of herself spiritually. Intentionally wants to and chooses to look nice each day (whether she is at home or out in public).
- Wanting and willing to have devotions together every day (read a short passage of Scripture and pray).
- Can have meaningful give-and-take heart-to-heart discussions, even when it's hard sometimes.
- Doesn't keep secrets/hide things – honest, transparent.
- Accepting/encouraging/positive/helpful to my children (but does NOT have to replace Sandi or her role, but instead will be comfortable being herself and building her own healthy relationship/influence with my kids).
- Generous – has a joy in giving financially and of herself. Would be excited to give away more than we keep.
- Not so "married" to a career, job, or business (that is leaves her little time or no flexibility in her life, schedule, and marriage for trips, personal time, family plans, USA/Intl ministry travels together, trips, etc.).
- Likes hosting people in the home (meals, overnights, social gatherings).
- Knows herself – skills, strengths, weaknesses, desires/dreams for the future, hot spots, hurts, hurdles.
- Has become a woman of the Word - - looks to God in Scripture and prayer.
- Connected to a local church – i.e. church involvement is not one of the options for the weekend, but a normal part of the weekend or week's activities.
- Shows godly wisdom in the area of shopping, purchases, finances, spending, giving, etc.
- Does not handle conflict by being mean-spirited, hateful, hurtful, getting historical (always bringing up old/past hurts and issues), unforgiving, cold, distant/withdrawing, attacking, crude/vulgar, name-calling.
- Grateful vs. grumbling/complaining/nagging.
- Flexible vs. rigid (in her time, schedules, activities) so we can mesh/merge our lives/schedules as needed.
- Has significantly thought through and worked through any life issues, hurts, broken relationships, wounds, etc. so she is in a healthier place in her life now (and in the future).
- Enjoys travel and meeting new people. Would be able, desirous, and comfortable traveling with me for some (or many) of my future ministry trips/travels in the US and overseas.
- "Not-the-right-person-for-my-future" items: Not God's choice, doesn't want to live in the Denver metro area, addictive behaviors (smoking, drinking alcohol regularly or to the point of drunkenness, illegal drug use, dependent on prescriptions or unending therapy sessions, out of control spending, \*\*\* other items), major anger or depression issues, no or low spiritual pulse or vitality, self-centered vs. God-centered and other-centered, doesn't like travel, uncomfortable or aloof in social gatherings, and \*\*\* (several items left off).
- This was added on 12/21/11 after my trip to Seattle to see my good friends, Ed & Karen Moy We would both need to be convinced that our becoming married would allow us to both serve the LORD better (i.e. God's "X" multiplication factor). She would need to be someone who wants and is actively seeking to be a "10" for God. So, my 10 and her 10 doesn't become 10 + 10, but it becomes 10 x 10. So, our marriage doesn't become a 20 pt impact for God, but a 100 pt impact for God and His kingdom. I especially would not be interested in a person who is a 5 for God and drains my 10, negating my/our ability to serve God and bless others.

**Note: There were quite a few very important items intentionally "left off" this public viewable list. Hopefully many women can say, "I match all of these!" – but this does not at all mean they are the person God has in mind for my future. Ideally, this list challenges people to think through what is important to God and to them in a possible future relationship.**