

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

### Friendship, Romance, and Relationships That Work

Jane Stolz's video teaching, handout, and audio Mp3 file of this message will be online to share with others at [www.christiansinglesindenver.com](http://www.christiansinglesindenver.com)

Our relationships are profoundly affected not only by our gender differences but also by our personalities. Many helpful studies have been done in the past century focusing on two primary personality traits. The first trait is extroverts versus introverts. The other trait is task-orientation versus people-orientation.

The introverted versus extroverted discussion has often been misunderstood. It has been assumed that all extroverts are loud and boisterous. It has likewise been assumed that all introverts are quiet and shy. However; the real distinction is that extrovert's process life from the outside in, while introvert's process life from the inside out.

When you put these traits together, you get four personality profiles. Looking at these profiles is helpful because it gives you insight into the natural motivation that is inherent in each personality. Each of us must mature and learn to operate in each personality style.

#### **Personality Type 1: Knight in Shining Armor, Queen of Hearts**

People who have this personality: James Bond, Robin Hood, Crocodile Dundee, Joan of Ark, Lois Lane, the Apostle Paul.

**Personality Type:** Dominant Lion

**Characteristics:** Task-Oriented, extroverted, dominant, and focused. They love new experiences, co-operative environments, and being active. They prefer to be the leader who is focused, in control. They're skilled in making decisions and want to get on with it once the decision has been made. These people are natural leaders.

**Preferences in Romance:** They like adventurous activity (If they're in charge), Club Med, Hiking, anything they decide is a good idea, making lists, and checking off the goals. Never take them on guided, directed tours because they will want to take it over.

**Motivated by:** Control of the decisions that affect his or her life. If this person is not in charge, he or she needs to always have options to choose from.

#### **Personality Type 2: The Hopeless Romantic**

People who have this personality: Cupid, the Apostle Peter

**Personality Type:** Inspirational Otter

**Characteristics:** They're people oriented and extroverted. They love to be the center of attention. They like to meet lots of people, and they prefer new experiences that are fun, unique, exotic, daring, active and adventurous. They're fascinated with personal, once in a lifetime experiences. The more public their life is, the better they like it. They make great sales people and help others enjoy life more.

**Preferences in Romance:** They like anything new, entertainment that is personal and touches the heart, human drama (plays, musicals, concerts, sporting events), adventurous outing, exotic getaways, and any times they get surprised with their own idea.

**Motivated by:** Attention (the more public, the better)

#### **Personality Type 3: Wind Beneath My Wings**

People who have this personality: Superman, Robert and Elizabeth Browning, Barnabus

**Personality Type:** Steady Retriever

**Characteristics:** They're people oriented and introverted. They're naturally relaxed, easygoing and stress free. They take life as it comes. They do not like aggressive problem solving, busy schedules, or high expectations. They mostly prefer time with people to talk.

**Preferences in Romance:** A light schedule, simple activities, time to relax, escape from reality, flexible options, and entertainment when there is plenty of time to enjoy it. For them, the most valuable thing is an atmosphere of acceptance because the best event is good company.

**Motivated by:** Acceptance for who they are rather than for what they do. Respect!

#### **Personality Type 4: True Blue Lover**

People who have this personality: Romeo and Juliet, Apostle Thomas

Personality Type: Cautious Beaver

**Characteristics:** They're task oriented and introverted. They like what is predictable, scheduled, significant, and controlled. They love to learn and handle details very well. The key to working with them is to do what we said we would do.

**Preferences in Romance:** Do what you said you would do. Events that are discussed ahead of time, guided tours, meaningful entertainment, educational outings, museums, historical tours, constant encouragement with flowers, notes, and sincere feedback, honest and complete discussions, and exploration of the emotional complexity of life. The key is to remember significant dates and details – anniversary, birthday, first kiss, favorite color etc.

**Motivated by:** Structure and order

**Let's put the Fun back in  
Dysfunction!**

### **Are You Ready for a Relationship**

How do you know if you are really ready to date? How do you know your heart is ready? Or repaired? How do you know if you have what it takes to navigate the adventurous seas of relationship? How do you develop the discernment to effectively tell the difference between healthy and unhealthy people? Modern History is painfully decorated with individuals who set out to have fulfilling relationships, only to find themselves trapped in heavy responsibility and

**Triggers:**

**Flashbacks:**

**Perfectionism:**

**Step one is to STOP the Reaction**

**Step two is to DECIDE the reaction you would rather have.**

**Step three is to MOVE your reaction from the one you have to the one you want.**

### **Forgive Everything!**

Forgiving is not Forgetting

Forgiveness is NOT saying “It’s okay.”

Forgiveness is NOT Denial

Forgiveness and Reconciliation

### **Single Parents:**

1. Are you completely finished with ALL court hearings of any kind? In other words, is your divorce really final?
2. Have you completed some type of Divorce Recovery Counseling or Workshop?
3. Have you and the children settled into a new routine?
4. Do you have at least one group of single friends, or are you a part of at least one organization where single parents can socialize as a group?
5. Have you forgiven you former spouse?
6. Are you attending a church that has programs for single parents, divorce recovery, counseling that helps single parents heal so they can integrate back into their singleness?
7. Do you have a childcare system in place so that your children are encouraged and ministered to when you socialize?
8. Have you talked with the children about their feelings of you dating again?
9. Have you determined what you might have done to contribute to the end of the last relationship?
10. Have you created a list of qualities you are looking for in the next person you marry?

### **Loving After Loss:**

“ Am I ready to move into a new relationship in a way that is fair to the person I date and to my children?”

A Few Answers for the Question, Why Aren’t You Married Yet?

- You haven’t asked yet.
- I was hoping to do something meaningful with my life
- What? And spoil my great life?
- Because I just love hearing this question.
- Just lucky, I guess.
- It gives my Mother something to live for.
- My fiancé is awaiting parole.
- I’m still hoping for a shot at Miss America
- I’m waiting until I get to be your age.
- It didn’t seem worth a blood test.

# Table Discussion Questions

1. What Personality Type are you most like?

Knight in Shining Armor, Queen of Hearts  
The Hopeless Romantic  
Wind Beneath My Wings  
True Blue Lover

2. If willing to share with your table, what areas of hurt have you experienced? ( examples  
Alcohol \* Abandonment \* Drugs  
Critical spirit \* Anger \* Divorce )
3. What choices have you made that you believe created self-imposed hurt ( examples:  
Premarital Sex \* Illegal drug use \* Dating people who showed you disrespect, etc.)?
4. How would you like the person you are dating to respond to these past choices?
5. How are you with forgiveness? What might have helped you to better understand forgiveness tonight?
6. When it comes to children and future relationships does what was talked about tonight make sense?  
If you are someone who doesn't have children, your chances of entering in a relationship with someone with children is great, is this something you might find helpful?
7. Are you relationship ready? If so, Why? If not, Why?

## **HELPFUL TIPS for Great Table Discussions Each table should have a designated Table Host.**

### **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 host/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.