

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

Dating – Total Commitment

Jane Stolz' video teaching, handout, and audio Mp3 file of this message will be online to share with others at www.christiansinglesindenver.com

Ruth 1:16-17 *16 Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. 17 Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me.*

I'll **N** _____ leave you
I won't **T** _____ away from you
I'll **G** _____ where you go, I'll **S** _____ where you stay
AND where you die – that's where I'll die.

Unqualified **C** _____.

Why is such loyalty important to God between husbands and wives?

- God regards marriage as **H** _____ creation
- **H** _____ desires couples to have Godly children.

God used marriage as a model of His **R** _____ with His people.

What kind of commitment is necessary for a strong marriage?

- **C** _____ to God.

God objects to us being in a relationship with unbelievers (unequally yoked). Why?

- Theological
- The more we pull “together” toward God, the stronger our relationships/marriages will be.

If we want our relationships/marriages to be permanent

- we need to be **C** _____ to our significant other/spouse
- commit to “going where they go
- stay where they stay
- die where they die

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 *Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.*

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What is interesting is that in I Corinthians 13, there is almost no discussion of love as emotion.

These are:

A _____

B _____

Without God in the center of our relationships/marriages – we end up with:

- A **S** _____ relationship that is self-centered and self-focused.

How to Love:

Let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth **1 John 3:18**

How we know what love is:

- Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.
- Relationship/Marriage is about commitment - The giving of ourselves to another.

Discussion Questions:

Unqualified Commitment - (I'll never leave you-I won't turn away from-you-I'll go where you go-I'll stay where you stay-and where you die-that's where I'll die.) Can you personally give someone this kind of commitment? How about after you have been hurt from broken relationships or divorce? What makes this difficult for you?

What kind of commitment is necessary for a strong relationship/marriage?

It has been a topic of controversy over the past few weeks but do you see why it is so important to be equally yoked with other believers for a strong committed relationship? Why or Why Not?

Looking at what love is – we notice that it isn't based on emotion but on actions and behaviors. What does this say to you personally? Does it change how you've been thinking love should be? Does this make sense looking back on your past relationships or marriage(s)?

What would you say the difference is between Lust and Love?

Ephesians 5 tells us how we should be in a marriage – Ladies Submit to your husband Men love your wives as Christ loved the church... How do you feel about that in today's world/culture? Do you still believe we should do this today? Why or Why Not?

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Spend some praying for one another. Pray for the future spouse of those sitting with you or for their children/grandchildren.