**Reaching and Mentoring Single Adults**

Clark Graham | 2013 Leadership Conference Session Outline

Text: 2 Timothy 2:1-2

*“Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”*

Introduction:

Quote: *“Statistically, singles lead the pack in terms of people sliding out the back door of American churches, and many singles never make it to the front door.”*

* Julia Duin, *Quitting Church, Why the Faithful are Leaving and What to do About It*

Three Essentials for Singles Ministry:

1. **Recognizing the need is essential for enacting change – v. 1**
   1. Singles are a rapidly growing demographic
   2. Singles have unique needs and challenges
      1. Needs:

* *Biblical principles*
* *Unconditional love and acceptance*
* *Community*
* *Godly relationships*
* *Christ-focused direction*
  + 1. Challenges:
* *Embracing responsibility*
* *Culture*
* *Purity*
* *Education*
* *Finances*
* *Materialism*
* *Career*

1. **Reaching out is essential for exponential growth – v. 2**

*What should be some facets of our outreach?*

* 1. Reaching out to students through campus ministries

*1 Timothy 6:20 – O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:*

*Colossians 2:8 - Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.*

* 1. Reaching out to different life-stages
     1. College-age
     2. Unmarried singles
     3. Unmarried couples
     4. Divorced
  2. Reaching out in a highly mobile society
     1. Social media
     2. Websites
     3. Messaging

1. **Role modeling is essential for equipping development – v. 24-26**
   1. Nothing replaces the personal touch
      1. Personal communication
      2. Open your home for fellowship
      3. One-on-one mentoring

* *Take them soulwinning*
* *Take them out to lunch*
* *Take them with you on an errand or trip*
* *Enlist their help with projects*
  1. Relationships are more important than regimentation
  2. Some things are better caught than taught
     1. A genuine walk
     2. A heart to serve
     3. A heart for souls
     4. Faithfulness

Conclusion: