

All individuals are equal in God's sight. This individuality is precious. It is often on single people that many of the great enterprises are built. Singleness is not a problem to God. There is nothing in scripture or in psychology to suggest that being unmarried is wrong or sinful. In fact there are examples in both Scripture and secular history that show the effectiveness and power of the single life.

The gospel allows for both singleness and marriage as valid options for adult living, including ministry as single persons, like Jesus and the apostle Paul (1Cor. 7:7, 8). While some, by choice or circumstance, are single, they may experience wholeness as individuals, connect with others through family and friends, and bring glory to God as single men and women. (Matt. 19:12; Mark 3:33-35; 1 Cor. 7:7, 8)

**Singles Ministries
Coordinator**

Community

Community is essential for those who are single as well as for those who are married. In community we live connected, fruitful and supported lives. All of us are created to be interdependent and connected with one another. Our search for wholeness is not necessarily fulfilled in another person, but all of us are healthier when we are supported and when we help one another. God's saving grace operates on a one-on-one basis. Jesus showed great respect for the one-person audience. As Adventist Christians we believe in the potential, power and priority of one.



THE MINISTRY OF THE **Singles Ministries Coordinator**

You may be reading this because you have been asked to serve your local church as Singles Ministries Coordinator or perhaps you serve on a church nominating committee and wonder what the Singles Ministries Coordinator is expected to do. In either case, if you understand the church as the body of Christ and understand the call to ministry as experienced by each member, this will help you see the role the Singles Ministries Coordinator fills within a local church.



Singles Ministries Coordinator

Statement of Mission

Singles Ministry exists to provide a ministry of encouragement, support and nurture for single adults within the church.

It seeks to achieve its mission through:

WORSHIP

Providing spiritual events where single adults can meet, associate and worship together in an atmosphere that recognizes and affirms Christian values

GROWTH

Conducting a variety of events that provide for the social and fellowship needs of single adults

AFFIRMATION

Offering acceptance and support for single adults experiencing loneliness and loss, and affirming them in their search for purpose and significance

COMMUNITY

Providing a community in which the unique concerns of single adults can be heard, shared and addressed

SERVICE

Developing meaningful service opportunities and outreach activities for single adults within the Church and the community

RESOURCES

Developing appropriate resources for strengthening ministry to single adults.

Leadership

Singles Ministries Coordinators need to be:

1. People of Integrity: Authentic leaders are characterized by their relationships. Openness and honesty are vital to authentic leadership.

2. Affirming and Positive: Pleasant, positive leaders achieve more than those who are negative. No one's life circumstances are perfect. It is important to focus on affirmation, appreciation and encouragement.

3. Observant and Discerning: It is important to look out for the indicators of what makes Singles Ministry effective and successful.

4. Able to Maintain Personal Boundaries: Over-commitment often causes distress to leaders so it is essential that leaders nurture themselves and plan time out for self-care. All leaders have personal limits to their time, money and energy. Managing these resources is imperative for sound leadership.

5. Able to Dream, Act and Evaluate: Strong leaders dream and plan boldly; they combine this with reflection, prayer and careful planning. Thorough preparation and enthusiastic implementation results in successful leadership.

6. Able to Manage Challenges: Balancing nurture and support in a caring and loving manner will enhance and enrich leadership to adult singles.

Responsibilities

The responsibilities of a Singles Coordinator include:

1. Form a Committee

Find responsive people who will help plan and develop activities and events specifically for single adults. Invite them to assist in making your ministry relevant and alive to the needs of the singles in your church.

2. Involve Singles in the Ministry of the Church

Find as many ways as possible to include the singles in all the various ministries of the church including worship, ministry to the community, and caring for the functional aspects of church life.

3. Plan 'Entry' Events

Assist the church in providing events that will help build bridges to singles and attract new adult single members, encourage them to be involved in the life of the church, and nurture their faith and investment in all of life's experiences.

4. Build Positive Attitudes

Help the congregation and church leaders develop a non-judgmental, open and accepting attitude towards singles and we minister to them in all situations in which they are found.