





To . Get . Her (Together)

A BIBLE STUDY AT HOME FOR SINGLE WOMEN

Lysa TerKeurst, in her article, I Was Her wrote: I saw her coming across the arena. Deliberately. Intentionally. Her eyes fixed on the stage ... on me ... on what I must have represented in that moment a woman who might understand. Through the crowd. Up the stairs. Across the stage. She stood next to me, pressing her shoulder against mine, as I was speaking to 6,500 women. And there she was staring out at thousands, but pressing into one. Needing more than words. Later she explained she needed God and thought if she stood close enough to me, she just might be able to feel Him. I didn't have time to carefully plan what to do. I'd never had this happen before. I've never seen this happen. It wasn't even on my scope of possibility. But there she was. And there I was. Two women who simply, desperately, need Jesus. And because I am so hyper-aware of my own desperation for Jesus in every moment of every day, I simply wrapped my arm around her and kept on speaking. It was a wrinkle in time. Something that wasn't supposed to be, and yet was. And I think I now know why ... Two women who simply, desperately, need Jesus.

All of us have friends who need Jesus. If you are a Christian, one of your deepest longings is to see others come to know Jesus Christ not only as Savior but as Lord.

Pandemic or not, God's plan has always been: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

Tucked beautifully inside the word **together** is three words: **to get her**. God knows the enemy wants **to get her** to conform to the pattern of this world. But He intends us **to get her** to Jesus.

When women come together, becoming happens. That is why our inner circle of friends is crucial to our destiny. The people in your inner circle are there for a reason, and their love, encouragement, and advice are the ones that count the most.

It is important to understand that just because someone is in your life, it doesn't mean that they should be in your inner circle. Not everyone has the values that are important to you to be in your inner circle.

Have you asked yourself lately, "Am I okay with who my inner circle has me becoming?"

In the midst of COVID-19, and during this season of your singleness, there is no better time than now to reevaluate your inner circle.

If you remain in friendships that do not help you to mature spiritually, you are not helping yourself or the other person. Not everyone in your inner circle will have the desire to or the ability to journey along with you to where you want to go. Not everyone in your inner circle will have the desire to become uncomfortable with where God wants them to go.

One of the key functions of an inner circle is an invitation to let us know things about ourselves that we can't see—our blind

spots. Nothing can be further from the truth than when we are in love. We have often heard that love is blind. Is love blind or does love blinds us?

Several years ago, Pastor Mike Todd did a series on the inner circle. His objective was to help others learn the value of having the right relationships that will lead us toward purpose. He asked the question, "Who's in your inner circle?" But then he took us to the "missing link" in our inner circles. He said, "Some of you are in here are saying, 'No Pastor Mike, I got my clique, I got my dogs, my girls, my besties'. But I am not talking about people who have the same interest as you. I am talking about the people who will point you towards the interest of Christ. See because we'll get with people around makeup and fashion, and games, and whatever else we like, and there is nothing wrong with that. But then when it comes to moral compass, when it comes to us making the right decisions, when it comes to us deciding whether we are going to stay in a relationship or not, a lot of times people will give you advice based on their feelings and not based on their faith."

Why do you think it's so difficult to receive advice about whether we should stay in a dating relationship or not?

A good friend does not always tell you what you want to hear. Proverbs 27:6 says, Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

How have the wounds of a friend showed faithful to you?

Jeremiah 23:22 in God's WORD Translation says: "If they had been in my inner circle, they would have announced my words to my people. They would have turned back from their evil ways and the evil they have done."

If you thought a friend might need to be confronted about their behavior, would you be more likely to say something or stay quiet?

We desperately need friends who are willing to point out our sins and help us see our blind spots. We need friends to speak truth in love (Ephesians 4:15). Love not only helps us speak the truth, but it is the deciding factor that will show others that we belong to Christ. Love will help us be the kind of friend who will bring people to Christ.

Bring all who claim me as their God for I have made them for my glory. Isaiah 43:7

What are you willing to do to bring someone to Jesus? There are many verses in the Bible about friendship, but Luke 5:18-26 tells a beautiful story about friends bringing a friend in need to Jesus. The account of this story can also be found in Mark 2:1-12.

What lessons does God want you to apply to your life from this story?

Now that we talked a little about what an inner circle looks like, let's dig deeper to give our inner circle of friends a much-needed assessment.

