

# **Adventist Single Adult Ministries Day**

**May 17, 201**



**Materials and Resources for the Local Church**



**ASAM Day 2014 Materials  
"Committed"**

**Materials Included**

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**ASAM Mission Statement**

**Reaching and empowering Single Adults to  
create Christ-centered safe places for  
fellowship, nurture, and service**

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**ASAM Day 2014 - SUGGESTED ORDER OF SERVICE**  
**"Committed"**

**Introit:**

**Opening Prayer:**

**Opening Song:** SDA HYMNAL #510 – If You Trust in God to Guide You

**Call for the Offering:**

**Offering:**

**Children's Story:**

**Scripture: 2 Chronicles 14:11 - Then Asa, called to the Lord his God and said, “Lord, there is none like you to help the powerless against the mighty. Help us, Lord our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this vast army. Lord, you are our God; do not let mere mortals prevail against you.”**

**Sermon:** "Committed"

**Closing Song:** SDA HYMNAL #511 – I Know Whom I Have Believed

**Benediction:**

**[Remember to include a variety of single-adults in your service -- those who have never been married, those who are divorced, those who are widowed]**

## ASAM Day 2014 Children's Story

**Title: God Has a Plan for You**

**Items Needed:** A large empty box- The bigger the better!

**Scripture:** “For I know the plans I have for you,” says the LORD. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.” Jeremiah 29:11

**Application:** Good morning! Let me show you all what I have today. What is it? It’s an empty box! What can you do with an empty box? (Allow the children to come up with several ideas).

Well, let’s keep thinking. Let’s give this box a job. We can stand it up on its side and pretend that it is a refrigerator! But wait.....if we really use it for a refrigerator, then all the food we put in will begin to spoil and stink up the place.

OK, we can lay it flat, climb in it and use it for a car! But wait...I’m too big to fit in the box. I’d crush it! Besides, it has no wheels.....we wouldn’t get very far. I know!

I’ll use it for a hat! But wait.....the box is too big for my head, and it really isn’t very stylish. Hmmmm.....maybe this box just doesn’t have a job, or purpose.

But this box has to have a purpose it was made for something! It is best used when it is used as it was designed! You can put things in the box and store things in it! That is what this box was made for! It is only really of value to me if I can use it for what I designed it for!

This box is a lot like you and me, kids. God says in Jeremiah 29:11: “For I know the plans I have for you,” says the LORD. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.” God has a plan for our lives. He has a job just for us! We might try to live our lives the way we want to, but we will only really be of great value to anyone when we are doing what God has planned for us. He has a very important plan for each of us, and God wants us to find it and fulfill it—all with His help, of course! When we discover what God’s plans are for us, we find great joy in being what God made us to be. As a matter of fact, we’ll find a lot of satisfaction in doing things we never dreamed of.

**Prayer:** Father, we thank you that you have a plan for our lives. Help us to discover those plans and to allow you to complete those plans. We want to be useful to you. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

**Author**

**Pamela Consuegra, PhD. Associate Director**

**Family Ministries Department**

**North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church**

## 2014 ASAM Day - Sermon Materials

### Author of the Sermon Resource

#### *Chaplain Adrienne Townsend*

Although, Adrienne Townsend grew up as a Seventh-day Adventist Christian, it was in 1999 that she wholeheartedly gave her life to Jesus and accepted Him as her Lord and Savior. Now, she revels in the daily opportunities given her to stay intimately connected with the lover of her soul who is unlike none other. "Lord there is none like you" is the song her heart sings.

Chaplain Adrienne Townsend formerly served as an Associate Dean of Women for Lamson Hall located on the campus of Andrews University. Simultaneously, she served as an associate minister on the pastoral staff of Andrews University's New Life Seventh-day-Adventist Fellowship from 2002 to 2008. Her responsibilities included providing pastoral care, planning, and implementing opportunities for students to come in contact with Jesus Christ.

Chaplain Townsend has blessed many with her dynamic and life changing seminars and workshops. *Jezebel Tendencies*, *Called to Deepen* and *Everyday Gospel* are a few of the seminars she currently presents. Her passion for soul winning and appeal of the gospel is felt from generation to generation. All ages are able to come in contact with a life transforming touch from Jesus through the ministry opportunities Christ gives her daily to impact lives for the kingdom.

Chaplain Townsend holds an A.S. in Early Childhood, B.A. in Elementary Education and Psychology, MA in Curriculum and Instruction, and the Master of Divinity degree from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. In addition to this, Chaplain Townsend was commissioned into the U.S. Navy Chaplain Candidate program in June 2005. Lieutenant Townsend superseded into active duty in June 2008 as the first US Navy Seventh day Adventist female Chaplain. She was first assigned to MCAS Beaufort, South



Carolina then from 2011 to September 2013 was assigned to a naval ship in Sasebo, Japan. In both assignments she ministered to both Marines and Sailors and has used the gifts God has seen fit to entrust her with to meet the specific needs of this community. She is currently serving at the Training Support Command in Great Lakes, Illinois.

Chaplain Townsend is in awe of a God who has called her to non-traditional ministry to show how Christ is real and relevant to the needs of people in everyday living. Chaplain Townsend was asked why she chose this particular ministry path. Her response was simple, “The opportunity to bring hope and the light of Christ to precious souls in the dark corners of life is a mission that I am privileged to embrace daily.”

There have been several articles written about Chaplain Townsend. If you would like a closer look at the impact of her ministry please visit the following link:

<http://www.dvidshub.net> - in the search box type in “Adrienne Townsend” and click on the article entitled “Farewell to H&HS’s guiding light”

Also see *The Adventist Chaplain Ministry Magazine – Issue 2 – 2011*

## 2014 ASAM Day - Sermon Outline

**TITLE: Committed**

**TEXT: 2 Chronicles 14:11**

### SERMON OUTLINE

Sermon Manuscript

A) Congregation Declaration

I declare that God has great plans for my life. He is directing my steps, and even though I may not understand how, I know my situation is not a surprise to God. He will work everything out every detail to his advantage, for His glory, in His perfect timing, according to the plans He has for my life. This is my declaration of God's promise to me.

B) Single

1) Categories

- A) Single by Decision
- B) Single by Design
- C) Single by death
- D) Single by Distance
- E) Single by Disassociation
- F) Single by Desertion
- G) Single by Divorce

2) Challenges

- A) Pressure to get married
- B) Church Limits
- C) Danger of Lumping
- D) Societal Temptation
- E) Stress with mingling with Marrieds
- F) Different goals, needs, and interest

3) Questions

- A) When God?
- B) Why God?
- C) How Long God?
- D) This is too much God.

C) 2 Chronicles 14:11



1) Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the Lord

D) What did Asa do that was good and right?

- 1) Committed his entire being to God
- 2) Actively committed his entire being to God
- 3) Actively committed his entire being to God and was confident in God

E) Asa took the battle off of himself and placed it on God.

1) Ellen White, MH 453

The Christian life is a battle and a march. In this warfare there is no release; the effort must be continuous and persevering. It is by unceasing endeavor that we maintain the victory over the temptations of Satan. Christian integrity must be sought with the resistless energy and maintained with a resolute fixedness of purpose.

2) 1 Corinthians 9:25-27

3) 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

F) Stand on the promises of God

- 1) Psalm 91:11
- 2) Proverbs 3:5-6
- 3) Jude 24

G) 10 Things God Cannot Do

- 1) God can't get tired. (Isaiah 40:28)
- 2) God can't take on a job He can't handle (Jeremiah 32:17)
- 3) God can't be unholy (Isaiah 6:3)
- 4) God can't be prejudiced (Acts 10:34-35)
- 5) God can't break a promise (Psalm 89:34)
- 6) God can't remember sins he has chosen to forget (Isaiah 43:25)
- 7) God can't make a loser (2 Corinthians 2:14)
- 8) God can't abandon you (Deuteronomy 31:6)
- 9) God can't stop thinking about you. (Psalm 139:17-18)
- 10) God can't stop loving you (Jeremiah 31:3)

H) No Condemnation

- 1) Romans 8:1
- 2) Romans 8:34-39

I) Holy Spirit Navigates for Us(John Maxwell)

- 1) He intercedes and groans for us (Romans 8:22,23,26,27)
- 2) He directs and testifies to us (Romans 8:14)
- 3) He empowers and anoints for service (Acts 1:8; Romans 8:28-37)
- 4) He searches and enables us to discern (Romans 8:26-27)
- 5) He confirms and bears witness with us (Romans 8:14-17)

J) Surrender Your Heart to Christ

- 1) Ellen White shares, "From every human viewpoint the vast host from Egypt would sweep everything before it. But in times of peace Asa had not been giving himself to amusement and pleasure; He had trained for conflict and endeavored to lead His people to make their peace with God... and now, although his forces were fewer in number than the enemy, his faith in the One whom he had made his trust did not weaken...Having sought the Lord in days of prosperity, the king could now rely upon Him in the days of adversity. His prayer proves that he was not a stranger to God's wonderful power..."

K) Confidence in Christ as We Await His Soon Return

- 1) Sincere singleness through Christ is rewarded with a clear conscience, clear focus, minute by minute confidence in and through Jesus. It is only through Christ that we may experience internal and external peace and rest as we await the manifestation of God's timing for our lives.
- 2) John 5:14
- 3) Revelation 21:1-7

L) Prayer

## 2014 ASAM Day - Sermon Materials

**TITLE: Committed**

**TEXT: 2 Chronicles 14:11**

### **SERMON SCRIPT**

There's a song that says, "Soon and very soon, We are going to see the king, Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King, Soon and very soon, We are going to see the king, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, We are going to see the King."

It continues by saying, No more Crying there, We are going to see the King, No more Dying there, We are going to see the King, No more \_\_\_\_\_ ,  
What is it that you would sing, "NO MORE \_\_\_\_\_ (Pause, then say, Bills, broken relationships, unemployment)?"

We are going to see the King! Hallelujah, Hallelujah, We are going to see the King."

**Isaiah 32:17**, says the result of righteousness will be peace and the effect of righteousness will be quiet confidence forever.

### **Turn to your neighbor, and REPEAT AFTER ME,**

"I declare that God (They will repeat after you)  
has great plans for my life. (Repeat)  
He is directing my steps, (Repeat)  
and even though I may not (Repeat)  
or always understand how, (Repeat)  
I know my situation (Repeat)  
is not a surprise to God. (Repeat)  
He will work everything out, (Repeat)  
every detail to His advantage, (Repeat)  
for His glory, (Repeat)  
in His perfect timing (Repeat)  
according to the plans (Repeat)  
He has for my life. (Repeat)  
This is my declaration (Repeat)  
of God's promise to me (Repeat) (Based on Jer 29:11-13)

**Let us pray.... (Pray)**

ONE (1) can be the loneliest number, especially in the church. Today, there are more singles in the United States than at any other time in history – 43.6 percent of the U.S. adult population are unmarried, according to the 2010 U.S. Census. <sup>1</sup>

Dr. Gary Gulan proposes that there are various categories of Singleness to consider. In our congregations today, sitting in this service we have the:

**Single by decision:** celibacy

**Single by design:** waiting(virgin)

**Single by death:** widowed

**Single by distance:** interrupted

**Single by disassociation:** separation

**Single by desertion:** abandoned

**Single by divorce:** break up<sup>2</sup>

Some of the challenges that Christian singles face are:

**A.** Singles face the pressure of people trying to get them married.

**B.** Singles face limits that churches places upon them.

**C.** Singles face the danger of churches lumping all singles into one group.

**D.** Singles face temptations that society places in front of them.

**E.** Singles face stress in trying to relate and inter mingle with married couples. **F.** Singles face different goals, needs, and interest than married couples. <sup>3</sup>

Week after week “single” men and women come to the house of God empty, tired, numb, and frustrated. There are real vast armies that face singles every day:

1) **When God?** “This makes absolutely no sense. I have been praying and fasting and setting myself aside for years now with no manifest results. Am I not praying hard enough!!! Do I need to stay in the church all day and pray like Hannah”?

2) **Why God?** How many times have singles, heard someone say, “What’s wrong with you? “Your too picky?” “Your standards are too high”...“Your not positioning yourself to be blessed”...What???

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.christianpost.com/news/pew-for-one-how-is-the-church-responding-to-growing-number-of-singles-70586/>

<sup>2</sup> **COURSE: THE CHRISTIAN HOME AND FAMILY THEME: BIBLICAL ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND RELATIONSHIPS LESSON #1: SINGLES AND SINGLENES** By Dr. Gary M. Gulan ©1986 (83,86,90,98,09)

<sup>3</sup> **COURSE: THE CHRISTIAN HOME AND FAMILY THEME: BIBLICAL ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND RELATIONSHIPS LESSON #1: SINGLES AND SINGLENES** By Dr. Gary M. Gulan ©1986 (83,86,90,98,09)

3) **How long God?** Singles believe in God's timing but for real..."When is it going to be my turn?...Well meaning, people will say "that when you least expect "it", "it" will happen. So stop looking."...Really? How do I have faith and believe **and not** expect "it" at the same time"?

4) **This is too much God?** I know you promised that you would not give us more than we can bear but the truth is...this is hard to bear...I don't know what else to do right now..."  
Notice, that whether you are single in heart or single in state of being, the questions and the ultimate answers are still the same...

Turn in your Bibles to **2 Chronicles 14:11**

**Then Asa, called to the Lord his God and said, "Lord, there is none like you to help the powerless against the mighty. Help us, Lord our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this vast army. Lord, you are our God; do not let mere mortals prevail against you."**

There are times in life where it appears as though the gift of singleness seems to provide only enemies that you are constantly warring against.

We encounter life-altering trials:

- ◆ mother dies (loss of support from someone who truly cared for you),
- ◆ sickness rages the body (have to deal with recovery on your own),
- ◆ car suddenly needs repairs (limited funds and getting deeper into debt),
- ◆ past abuses and/or unwise choices that still haunts you and plays a factor in your ability or inability to move forward in life,
- ◆ your house is about to go into foreclosure (by the worlds perspective still not stable at your age),
- ◆ relationship ends in heartache that won't cease (God still has not provided Godly companionship...Why not God?),
- ◆ future is uncertain (What truly is God's will for my life...will I ever find out my true purpose?),
- ◆ and rejection, anxiety, abandonment, and depression is what fills and consumes your mind each day and night.

Here in 2 Chronicles 14, Asa, the third king of Judah, fifth king of the house of David, son of Abijam, grandson of Rehoboam, and great grandson of Solomon, ( a strong man, a warrior, firm, dedicated, and confident) found himself in a situation where:

1) even though he was seeking and worshipping the Lord,

2) had taken the stand to remove false and foreign Gods and idols from his environment, and

3) daily fortified himself and the people in the peace that comes with being in relationship with God...

He still found himself in a situation where he was helpless against the enemy.

Either he was going to take control on his own and hope for the best outcome or he was going to turn to his God,

the God who had delivered him time and time again before;

the God who had given him the very breath that he continued to breathe;

the God who had set him up as king in the first place and could remove him without a second glance;

either he was going to handle it on his own or he was going to place Zerah and the Army of a million men in God's hands...

What do you do when you have been praying and believing like Abraham and Sarah for 25 years, like Moses for 40 years, for Godly companionship and your still praying and trying to keep hope alive?...to where do you turn first?

When the bill is due and you don't have any more resources left, except your tithe and offering as your only option... to where do you turn first?

When you desire to maintain a pure mind and the internet quietly and incessantly introduces you to the pornographic pictures and websites...to where do you turn first?

At the beginning of 2 Chronicles chapter 14, the Word of God, tells us that Asa did what was good and right in the **eyes of the Lord his God**.

If someone was to write about your life today...could they write the words...\_\_\_\_\_ did what was good and right in the eyes of the Lord his/her God?

What in your life past or present would prevent one from writing that statement about you or would prevent the Lord from sharing, proclaiming, declaring that about you?

**2Chronicles 16:9** For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him...

What did Asa do that was right?

### 1) **Committed to his entire being to God**

In times of peace, Asa commanded Judah to seek the Lord and observe the law and commandments. As Christians, as follower of Christ, you and I have been commissioned by God to DAILY “go ye therefore”...Matthew 28:19-20.

But before we can “go ye therefore” to our communities, we must first “go ye therefore” in our hearts and in our homes. One on one with God.

When was the last time you commanded/committed your heart and your mind to worship God in fullness and in truth, to trust God, to adore Him, to respect the ways and delays of God, to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' Matthew 22:37.

Not because you needed anything from Him, but just because you love Him. Just because He is God.

What does committing your heart to God look like on a daily basis?

What does it sound like to have your mind/desires commanded to love, honor, and respect God.

### 2) **Actively committed his entire being to God.**

2 Chronicles 14:3-6 uses action verbs to show us how Asa was active in his commitment to the Lord. His commitment to the Lord wasn't just lip service. He removed altars and high places; he built fortified cities; commanded Judah...built, removed, commanded...Asa was active in his commitment to serve the Lord and as a result the Lord gave him rest...

What this says to us is that faith without works is \_\_\_\_\_.

What are the commitment blockers in your life that must be **removed**?

Where are the areas in your life that need to have a “God wall” of protection built so that your mind may **be fortified** by Christ?

How can you **command** your spirit a natural default to minute by minute, like David, say I will bless the Lord at all times, and His praise shall continually be in my mouth....(Psalm 34:1)?

As Asa was active for the Lord, the Lord gave him rest...HMMMMM Anyone in need of rest this morning? In verse 7, He says to Judah, “because we have sought Him...He has given us rest on EVERY SIDE”...

When we seek the Lord He gives rest...Rest...I don't know about you but I want rest for my mind, rest for my body, rest for my spirit...rest in Jesus.

What does rest look like to you?

For some rest is being on the beach...in the water, swimming and enjoying riding the waves...for others rest is sitting on the beach under a beach umbrella watching others enjoy the water and riding the waves. Rest...sometimes it is a literal physical rest...other times it is an internal rest...

One gospel writer calls it the peace that passeth all understanding...( Phillipians 4:7) The Word of God promises that when we seek Him with all out hearts that we will find him.

Rest..active...moving forward step by step with faith in the God that we serve... Rest...being at peace in the midst of a storm...Singing, when peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrow like sea billows roll, whatever my lot thou has taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul...able to sing because of our confidence in our God who is big enough and strong enough to handle all the affairs of our world.

### 3) **Actively committed his entire being to God and was CONFIDENT in God**

Inevitably, as life would have it there are peaks and valleys in the seasons of life. The time of external rest that Asa and Judah was experiencing was coming to an end. Zerah the Ethiopian and the Army of a million men and 300 chariots come boldly threatening to defeat the children of God.

Asa runs out to the battle and cries out to the Lord.... (verse 11)

Then Asa called to the Lord his God and said, "Lord, there is none like you to help the powerless against the mighty. Help us, Lord our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this vast army. Lord, you are our God; do not let mere mortals prevail against you."

Here Asa, in the face of peace and rest being interrupted cries out and says,  
"Lord, help us..."

Repeat after me, Lord, (Lord) Help us (Help us) (2x)

Asa says, **Lord, help us...we are relying on you...in your name we come against this vast enemy...You are God...do not let this mortal prevail against you.**

Asa took the battle off of himself and placed it on God...He said Lord...You are great and mighty... You are Lord of all, You are powerful and in control...HELP!!! I am putting this in Your hands and I am trusting You to handle this army...to fight this battle...



Lord, how do I march through this battle called “the Christian life” and deal with my thoughts, loneliness, cravings, pride, envy, and insecurities? There are people who have hurt and abused me and I find that in turn I hurt and abuse others. I can’t settle down and commit.

Ellen White tells us, “The Christian life is a battle and a march. In this warfare there is no release; the effort must be continuous and persevering. It is by unceasing endeavor that we maintain the victory over the temptations of Satan. Christian integrity must be sought with resistless energy and maintained with a resolute fixedness of purpose.”<sup>4</sup>

### **1 Corinthians 9:25-27**

**24** Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. **25** Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

**26** Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. **27** No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

Today there is someone here who needs to say to the God, LORD, You are great and mighty....You are Lord, You are KING of Kings, the Alpha and the Omega, you know my beginning and my end...I coming to you right now because you are bigger than my singleness, you are bigger than loneliness, you are bigger than my sexual cravings and desires, you created me to love and be loved, you are infinitely greater than every counterfeit that the enemy tries to raise up, I do not want to be disqualified from the gift of eternal life...HELP!!!

### **2 Corinthians 10:3-5**

**3**For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. **4** The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. **5** We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

God wishes for us to have the mastery over ourselves. But He cannot help us without our consent and cooperation. The divine Spirit works through the powers and faculties given to man. Of ourselves, we are not able to bring the purposes and desires and inclinations into harmony with the will of God; but if we are “willing to be made willing”, the Savior will accomplish this for us,” Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ”.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Ellen White, MH 453

<sup>5</sup> Ellen White, AA 482,483

Lord, I don't have the strength to reject the temptations that are pleasing to my eyes on my own. I can't keep my hands from being weapons of destruction without you. I know you are bigger than my challenges, bigger than the storms in my life, bigger than every army that comes to defeat me, bigger than my past sins that try to re-familiarize themselves with me every time I rededicate my heart, my mind, my body to you.

With one voice today we cry out to the Lord like David in Psalm 119:49, who said, Remember your Word to your servant, for you have given me hope."

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness, I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly lean on Jesus name, on Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.

The only way to resist temptation like Joseph is to commit your entire being worship, cares, joys and pains to the Lord daily. It's not a one-time quick fix, one-size fit all gospel but a sweet daily walk with Christ.

The only way to sustain, elevate, and thrive in your singleness of heart in the midst of the real struggles we face each day,  
like Jesus  
is to be actively committed in your relationship with God.  
Call Him up and tell Him what you want...

The only way to be confident, walk confident, speak confident, radiate confidence in your ability/wrestling to rest in your singlehood like Paul is  
To through the power of the Holy Spirit  
confidently choose to rest in the promises of God and stay in God's face and presence until the peace of God inhabits you.

Stand on the promises of God:

**Psalm 91:11**

For He shall give His angels charge over thee to keep thee in all thy ways.

**Proverbs 4:5-6**

Trust in the Lord with all thy heart and lean not unto your own understanding, but in all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy path.

**Jude 24**

Now unto Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before the only true and wise God.

In this moment,  
as you reflect on the tension in your heart right now  
as you see the challenges you facing,  
the mountains you can't seem to get over,  
the sins that keep on besetting you,  
KNOW that God cannot lie...He keeps His word, His record is sure, He will do what He says HE  
will Do...

Yet,

We are told that there are 10 things that God cannot do:

- 1) God can't get tired. (Isaiah 40:28)
- 2) God can't take on a job He can't handle. (Jeremiah 32:17)
- 3) God can't be unholy (Isaiah 6:3)
- 4) God can't be prejudiced (Acts 10:34-35)
- 5) God can't break a promise (Psalm 89:34)
- 6) God can't remember sins he has chosen to forget (Isaiah 43:25)
- 7) God can't make a loser (2 Corinthians 2:14)
- 8) God can't abandon you (Deuteronomy 31:6)
- 9) God can't stop thinking about you. (Psalm 139:17-18)
- 10) God can't stop loving you (Jeremiah 31:3)

**John 3:16** For God so loved the world...that He gave his only begotten Son...that whosoever believeth in Him...should not perish but have everlasting life...

**John 14:1** Let not your heart be troubled...ye believe in God believe also in me.

Ellen White tells us, "From every human viewpoint the vast host from Egypt would sweep everything before it. But in times of peace Asa had not been giving himself to amusement and pleasure; He had trained for conflict and endeavored to lead His people to make their peace with God... and now, although his forces were fewer in number than the enemy, his faith in the One whom he had made his trust did not weaken...Having sought the Lord in days of prosperity, the king could now rely upon Him in the days of adversity. His prayer proves that he was not a stranger to God's wonderful power..."

Are you a stranger to the power of God? No...No you are not... you are familiar with the power of God... Whether you have been going to church every weekend for the past 25 years or this is your first Sabbath, you are not a stranger to the miraculous power of God.

He woke you up this morning...He keeps on providing for your needs...and in our daily fight against spiritual wickedness in high places he has given us full armor...He will not allow Satan to defeat us...Do you realize that every time you get down and feel defeated... every time you are ready to quit, God steps in and finds a way to encourage your soul. To give you hope...

**Romans 8: 1** Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

**Romans 8:34-39**

**34** Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. **35** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? **36** As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”<sup>[a]</sup>**37** No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. **38** For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,<sup>[b]</sup> neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, **39** neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John Maxwell, tells us, ‘After declaring that the law of the Spirit of life has set us free from the law of death, Paul navigates the Spirit-filled life. He is the under-navigator, directing us to the Holy Spirit, the ultimate navigator.

Observe how the Holy-Spirit navigates life for us:

- 1) He intercedes and groans for us (Rom. 8:22, 23, 26, 27)
- 2) He directs and testifies to us (Rom. 8:14)
- 3) He empowers and anoints for service (Acts 1:8; Rom 8:28-37)
- 4) He searches and enables us to discern Rom 8:26,27)
- 5) He confirms and bears witness with us (Rom. 8:14-17)<sup>6</sup>

Do not allow anything or anyone to keep you from surrendering to Christ right now. This is the moment to give God your heart, Surrender your heart, put it back by faith in His hands.

Dan Crawford declares, Faith links me with divinity. Faith clothes me with the power of Jehovah. Faith insures every attribute of God in my defense. It helps me to defy the hosts of hell. It makes me march triumphant over the necks of my enemies. But without faith how can I receive anything from the Lord? Faith honors God, and God honors faith.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Maxwell, J. The Maxwell Leadership Bible. 2002. p. 1377

<sup>7</sup> Cowman, C.B. Streams of the Desert., 1965. Cowman Publications, June 14

Let God have His way in romancing you, loving you, healing you, holding you, dating you, pleasing you, providing for you, protecting you, fulfilling you, keeping His promises to you, and sharing with you the gift of salvation.

Ellen White reminds us...

Your sins may be as mountains before you; but if you humble your heart and confess your sins, trusting in the merits of a crucified and risen Savior, he will forgive, and will cleanse you from all unrighteousness. With intensity of desire, long after God, yea pant after him, as the deer pants after the water-brooks. As your soul yearns after God, you will find more and more of the unsearchable riches of his grace. As you contemplate these riches, you will come into possession of them, and reveal the merits of a Savior's sacrifice, the protection of his righteousness, his inexpressible love, the fullness of His wisdom, and his power to present you before the Father without spot or wrinkle or any such thing. Those who accept of this salvation will bear testimony: We have redemption through his blood." We are more than conquerors through him that loved us."

What can wash away my sins,  
Nothing but the Blood of Jesus  
What can make me whole again  
Nothing but the Blood of Jesus

Singleness is not a curse. It is a blessing. Sincere singleness through Christ is rewarded with a clear conscience, clear focus, minute by minute confidence in and through Jesus. It is only through Christ that we may experience internal and external peace and rest as we await the manifestation of God's timing for our lives.

**1 John 5:14** Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. Hallelujah! Victory in Christ Jesus is assured!

**Rev 21:1-7** God will wipe away every tear....Then He who sits on the throne said, Behold I make all things new...He who overcomes shall inherit all things and I will be His God...Hallelujah!

God wants to be your God. Will you let Him be Lord of your life?

He wants you to inherit eternal life and all things,

Will you let go and let God?

He died so that you may live, and live this life right here, right now, more abundantly.

Like Asa, he says today is the day to commit your entire being. Do not leave this church the same way you came in.

You are redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. Commit your singleness in heart and in state of being to the Lord. Actively commit, Let the Lord renew you daily, and stand confidently on the promises of God for you.

No weapon formed against you will prosper. (Isaiah 54:17)

Today, let's recommit our lives to the Lord so that we may be single in heart ( no other God but Jehovah), even as some of us are single in state of being...

**Let us pray,**

Father, I ask you to bless every man and woman who is listening to this prayer right now. Show them a deeper revelation of your love for them specifically. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, minister to their spirit and break every stronghold that the enemy has been able to have over their lives. Release the yokes of bondage. Where there is pain, give them peace, where there is a need for justice, provide mercy. May your spirit of renewal and favor replace the spirits of doubt and delay.

Lord we confess that we are sinners  
But we believe that you are our Savior  
Lord, Jesus, I believe that you died on the cross  
For our sins

And we believe that on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day you arose with victory  
And that you are seated right now in heaven  
On the right hand of the Father  
I ask you to forgive me of all my sins

Wash us in the blood  
And cleanse us from all unrighteousness  
Come into our hearts  
And be Lord of our lives

Lord I believe you hear me

And have answered me  
Thank you for saving me  
Thank you for washing me  
Thank you for loving me  
In Jesus name  
Amen!

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!  
Soon and very soon we are going to see the king,  
Soon and very soon we are going to see the king,  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah we are going to see the king

Prayer for singles:

Heavenly Father,

There are many things in my life that I do not understand, like why I haven't met your match for me yet. However, today, I want to live like Your Son did.

I want to prove the love You have for each person. I want to show that love, being light and salt to the Earth. Please help me to overcome my fear of what I don't know, my fear of loneliness, and my fear of being without a mate, as I know you have a plan for me that includes light and love. Help me to show my grace, my faith, and my love for You and the world You created. In His Name I pray, Amen.

Read more at <http://www.beliefnet.com/iLoveJesus/Features/5-Powerful-Prayers-for-Singles.aspx?p=2#3Y8WBtjTwjrOY5qp.99>