**Chapter 2: Excerpt taken from “Every Single…” Leaders Guide by Max Holt and Doug Stephens**

**To purchase your copy,** [**click here.**](http://www.amazon.com/Every-Single-Ministry-leaders-Ministry-ebook/dp/B012DS15L4/ref%3Dsr_1_13?ie=UTF8&qid=1448823384&sr=8-13&keywords=max+holt)

**2.  PURPOSE & VISION**

**PURPOSE:**

Why should you do ministry with the single adults in your area?  The basic answer is found in Matthew 28:19-20, “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.  And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."  Notice that it said to make ***disciples*** first, not just converts.  Notice the detail…it said to ***baptize*** (after they become disciples) and to ***teach*** them to ***observe all things***…in other words, teach them how to live a Christ-like life.  All too often churches will state their purpose as *“getting people saved.”*  But the scripture is clear; we have a responsibility to ***mentor*** or ***teach*** them **how** to live as Christians.

This is a big area of failure in most churches we have observed.  The Pastor can’t teach the detail needed from the pulpit.  As you will see in the following pages, single people are certainly part of “***all the world****.”*  Effective ministry to any group does not happen by accident; it happens when we ***on purpose*** commit ourselves and our resources to it.  Philippians 2:1-2 says, “If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and ***purpose***.”

You must know your PURPOSE for doing ministry with single adults.  What do you want your SAM to accomplish?  The church must know the purpose and the single adults who will participate must know the purpose.  People will respond to a ministry if they know ***why***…if they understand the GOAL…if they know WHAT you are trying to accomplish.  Work with your church leaders to first determine the Purpose of the church.  Why does it exist?  What is its target group? What is it trying to accomplish?

When you know the purpose of the church, then you can you define the purpose of your SAM, ensuring that it does not contradict the purpose of the church.  (If you have The Single Adult Ministry Solution, Leader Manual, refer to Solution 2 on page 61.  This method is very helpful.)  Take your time as you work on defining your PURPOSE.  Brainstorm with others in the church or who will be in the Single Adult Ministry.  One group’s Purpose was defined like this:  “The purpose of our Single Adult Ministry is to…”Reach and teach young single adults about Jesus and their need for salvation. To help them find and pursue their calling in life as they grow into fully devoted followers of Christ.”

If your church is surrounded by many apartment units, where the majority of the occupants are single parents, your purpose might read, “To share the love of Christ with single parents and their children, leading them to accept Him as Savior and grow as His disciples.  To minister to their fellowship needs, feeling of community and recovery needs so that they can do meaningful ministry in the lives of others.”

Notice the statements in those purposes that will require the SAM to design mentoring relationships and provide specific lifestyle training to singles.  Remember, as the scope and dynamics of your ministry change you will need to review and maybe modify your purpose.  **Write your Purpose** below.

**Purpose of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Church/Ministry:** Our purpose is to…

**List names** of those defining the purpose: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_