



SEVEN AREAS OF PREPARATION FOR SINGLES (PROV. 24:27; 1 COR. 7: 32-38)



**Being Outline of Message at Faith
Baptist Church, Port Harcourt
On Sunday October 18, 2015 Being
Singles Retreat Sunday
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INTRODUCTION

- The theme of this year's Singles' Retreat is "The Prepared Single" (Prov. 24:27).
- The theme is most appropriate in our time when people want to achieve great things without adequate preparation.
- If there is any area in life where singles need preparation, it is in the area of marriage.

INTRODUCTION, contd.

- The bigger the preparation, the brighter the opportunities and the greater the achievements!
- Put in reverse order, the bigger the opportunities sought and the achievements hoped for, the bigger the preparation required.
- Preparation is not a joy-ride but a deliberate, tasking, and strenuous exercise.

MEANING OF PREPARATION

Different Meanings of the Hebrew Word Translated "Prepare" in Prov. 24:27:

- **Prepare:** to get ready for something, in this context, marriage
- **Arrange:** to organize the details of a thing; to plan for something; to set in order; to put things into appropriate sequence
- **Establish:** to put in a position, role, etc., that will last for a long time

SEVEN AREAS OF PREPARATION

- 1. Physical:** age, general personal appearance, personal hygiene, dressing, skill, job, occupation, property (basic) – rented or personal
- 2. Mental:** proper concept of marriage; healthy view of persons of the opposite sex; proper understanding of the respective roles of husbands and wives in marriage; motive for desiring to marry; a vision for your home

SEVEN AREAS OF PREPARATION, contd.

- 3. Emotional:** emotional stability and maturity, possession of basic emotional competences such as management of anger, frustration, disappointment; compatibility; etc.
- 4. Financial:** regular source of income – a job, career or business

SEVEN AREAS OF PREPARATION, contd.

5. Spiritual: view of God and eternal matters, personal conversion experience, spiritual condition and commitments

6. Attitudinal: one's attitude or mindset to life generally and to those around him/her; one's approach to issues; one's passions and manners

SEVEN AREAS OF PREPARATION, contd.

7. Value System: A personal value system refers to a set of principles or ideals that drive and/or guide one's behaviour and gives structure and purpose to his/her life. It also helps in determining what a person considers meaningful and important.

Value System, contd.

There are about four categories of value systems, namely,

- ***Personal values*** – the qualities we see as worth imbibing or emulating and that define our character;
- ***Spiritual values*** – the traits we cherish that link us with God and give us a sense of purpose;

Value System, contd.

- ***Family values*** – love and care for those close to us, such as our parents, children, siblings, friends, etc.; and
- ***Career values*** – how we view and utilise our talents, skills and resources in contributing to the progress of the society; our view of monetary compensation.

CONCLUSION: FOUR CARDINAL VALUES

There are four core values every person, especially singles, need to imbibe. They are:

- **Integrity:** trustworthy character
- **Loyalty:** commitment and faithfulness to a person or course
- **Respect:** honouring the worth and dignity of other people
- **Responsibility:** accountability, dependability