

If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

	Response Count
	612
answered question	612
skipped question	2,557

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

1	they have been there to listen to concerns and worries	Oct 22, 2012 3:25 PM
2	Kate, who has recently retired from her role as children's worker, worked diligently at teaching our children and encouraging her team of volunteers over many years, demonstrating a well-lived single life in action.	Oct 18, 2012 12:43 PM
3	My Church is more family orientated. The issue of how singles struggle is rarely addressed.	Oct 8, 2012 4:14 AM
4	.	Sep 25, 2012 11:40 AM
5	Unfortunetely I cannot comment on this because that was not my experience.	Sep 24, 2012 2:35 PM
6	We have very few single people in our church (we have people who are on their own eg widowed but I feel they are viewed differently)	Sep 23, 2012 4:09 AM
7	My pastor is an inspirational leader and I know that if I did need to talk to him then I could. I am blessed in that I see my singleness as a gift from God and so I don't feel a need to get advice on it.	Sep 21, 2012 9:04 AM
8	They have used their past experiences to come to you with advice that is so relevant to everything you're thinking and feeling. You can come to them and be completely honest without feeling judged. They are sympathetic to your feelings and can relate completely to what you are experiencing and they stear you away from bad things by reminding you what it was like for them when they did the same.	Sep 19, 2012 3:27 PM
9	My church leader and worker have shown empathy and interest in my life and single life. Have also shared insight and encouragement.	Sep 19, 2012 8:56 AM
10	I couldn't care less	Sep 18, 2012 8:08 AM
11	A previous pastor always went out of his way to talk to single people and invite them to his family home regularly. I know it was a sacrifice to open up his home several times a week, but it made a huge difference.	Sep 17, 2012 2:17 PM
12	In a different church a girl in late 30s leading ministry and talks on singleness	Sep 17, 2012 2:17 PM
13	inviting folks around - but in mixed groups, so it's not all obviously singles	Sep 16, 2012 2:33 PM
14	We user to have a group of 20s and 30s. It was closed down when people in families found they were too busy	Sep 16, 2012 5:00 AM
15	They highlight singleness as an acceptable state to be in rather than the perpetual goal is to be married.	Sep 15, 2012 1:30 PM
16	This is not directly answering the question, but I do remember a question-and-answer session run while I was at university, and many of the questions were to do with sex and relationships. I remember that my minister, who was on the answering panel, gave some very helpful answers to the questions asked. For example, to the question of the most 'Christian' way to conduct a relationship, he simply gave the answer 'Slowly!'.	Sep 14, 2012 12:17 PM
17	unable to answer	Sep 13, 2012 2:32 PM
18	Again, not specifically for single Christians, but on the third Thursday of	Sep 12, 2012 2:26 AM

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	every month they have beers and curry, or comedy nights in the local area. It's open to all and is great fun.	
19	Providing lots of social occasions for people to mix and get to know each other.	Sep 10, 2012 3:34 PM
20	Unfortunately I can't think of one.	Sep 10, 2012 12:19 PM
21	One of our leaders was very good at getting people of a similar age together for social and spiritual events that were relaxed and comfortable, which provides room for single people to meet. The Churches don't provide enough single events!	Sep 8, 2012 6:32 PM
22	Shown others that there is more to life than relationships	Sep 8, 2012 6:13 PM
23	Encouragement from the Word of God, a great influencer with wisdom and an inspiration to me.	Sep 7, 2012 3:55 PM
24	Ran a 5 week relationship course which provided a lot of guidance.	Sep 6, 2012 5:49 AM
25	caring	Sep 6, 2012 5:38 AM
26	It is wonderful to have a female single curate as she kind of models that life can be fulfilled and happy with plenty of friends as a single. She also sometimes invites other single ladies over to hang out watching a film or the olympics - creating opportunities for for community. We also have a female vicar in our parish (but who works for the diocese) who is really comfortable with being single and models how great staying single can be and actively encourages single girls to take up opportunities that are easy for marrieds eg taking yourself out for dinner, going travelling etc. She often has lodgers that are single girls so she can invest in encouraging them to be confident to do things on their own (without a partner).	Sep 4, 2012 2:30 PM
27	I, myself, try and be good for other singles. As a leader of the church I feel it is important for people to know that I am single - not so that they can find me a husband!!! but so that they can see that I am perfectly capable of living, working, and leading church without needing one. Its not to say that I wouldn't want one, but its not a husband that makes me good or bad at leading in a church. People often come to me for relationship advice, I think because I am a good listening, but also because I'm not married - they think I understand a bit better about how it really feels to be single. But I do think we need more people who are advocates for single christians - whether they are single themselves or not, everyone was once!	Sep 4, 2012 7:10 AM
28	Arranged single weekend away about singleness	Sep 2, 2012 2:59 PM
29	I'm afraid I can't remember... Pastor Mitchell was very good; he made everyone feel included.	Sep 1, 2012 3:08 PM
30	As part of a serious on relationships, a single member of the church was asked to speak in the issue	Sep 1, 2012 7:34 AM
31	They engage in conversations to understand the issues They address the subject, particularly for women in the talks They empathise with the pain of not having children They deal of messy break ups of girlfriend and boyfriend wisely They live in community houses that support housing needs of singles, This is truly sacrificial in many ways, It gives a family living environment for	Sep 1, 2012 2:09 AM

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	singles and massively reduces the cost of single living. Really great idea. People are not aware of the financial stresses surrounding being single esp re buying a house unless you have parental contributions as I have. They have a alot of social gatherings	
32	It's never been an issue!	Aug 30, 2012 2:14 PM
33	A particular officer in the church, is single through her artier leaving after she gave birth to twins. She has worked and brought up these children on her own and she encourages you through the spiritual and natural struggles. e has bee a practical help with finances, as this is her professional fields. She will always support with challenges with the children and support in prayer and signposting to other services.	Aug 30, 2012 11:53 AM
34	Never known it.	Aug 29, 2012 8:44 AM
35	none	Aug 29, 2012 7:26 AM
36	Generally I know that my pastors and my church want the absolute best for me. This is demonstrated by their constant love and attention.	Aug 26, 2012 6:10 PM
37	They have met up with me regulary to chat about how my life is going. They have told me their personal testimony about his relationship with his wife to encourage me that all works out in the end.	Aug 26, 2012 4:26 PM
38	We have YFC volunteers who work closly with our youth. I feel their values are very inspirational to our young people	Aug 25, 2012 9:22 AM
39	I have asked my vicar to get out there and find me a husband and he really gets singlesness and thinks the church doesn't do enough- so he is going to help! He's awesome!	Aug 24, 2012 8:22 AM
40	??	Aug 24, 2012 4:49 AM
41	Our Minister talks to the guys about why they aren't married yet, and sure enough, three months later they get engaged. It's uncanny.	Aug 23, 2012 9:46 PM
42	When my friend was a curate she spoke very positively on community expressed in different ways - through family, marriage, friendships & as equally important.	Aug 23, 2012 4:04 PM
43	It's all about someone being open, honest and genuinely caring. There is nothing more off putting than someone who is smug and happy in their relationship and can't imagine or accept both the struggles and positives of being single.	Aug 23, 2012 8:26 AM
44	No applicable	Aug 22, 2012 3:05 PM
45	gave me advice	Aug 21, 2012 5:10 AM
46	Being in a Choir was helpful in building healthy relationships. We don't have a choir leader now.	Aug 18, 2012 4:10 AM
47	They're not afraid to talk about it with you or bring it up. I think some people feel is it a taboo or presume you might be unhappy/upset about being single.	Aug 17, 2012 5:38 PM
48	haha, none	Aug 17, 2012 3:04 PM

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49	there in lies a problem, to separate anyone on the grounds of singleness (however well meant the reason) builds hedges between people, in a family the treatment of all is the same	Aug 17, 2012 5:22 AM
50	Vicar, gave good post divorce advice.	Aug 17, 2012 12:53 AM
51	They always ask what it is like from a single person's point of view, in order to make balanced decisions.	Aug 17, 2012 12:43 AM
52	Why have a Church Leader for single Christians? My Parish Priest is the person that any one of us (regardless of whether single or not) can discuss anything with in confidence.	Aug 16, 2012 1:56 AM
53	social events - purely for the sake of having fun and building relationships.	Aug 15, 2012 1:42 PM
54	eh, again, nothing to add here!!	Aug 13, 2012 6:51 PM
55	set up a singles group various events Spring Harvest	Aug 13, 2012 10:13 AM
56	It's really female friends, single or married, who have helped me by not behaving in different ways if they were married or in relationships, by praying with me and for me, by not talking down to me, etc.	Aug 12, 2012 10:31 AM
57	Talked about having singles round for tea, but not making it into an event just carrying on as if it were a normal meal time etc, make them feel at home, alongside everyone else in the family and not the focus of the attention as the guest.	Aug 9, 2012 12:18 PM
58	Our last and present vicars are both single. Never has been a problem	Aug 8, 2012 9:48 AM
59	I have received very blunt advice regarding certain situations with the opposite sex which in the long run has saved me a lot of hurt. In that instance, my pastor was more concerned for my feelings and emotional well being than marrying me off to someone who would not have been right for me. That is what is needed, waiting is good and I would rather be waiting than in a relationship that I had settled for out of fear of being unmarrief	Aug 7, 2012 5:33 PM
60	Our pastor supported a ministry to organise activities for single people. However, our finance/committe believed that it was not cost effective because the ministry did not make any couple.	Aug 7, 2012 2:56 PM
61	they listen very well and dont try to put pressure on. but the bible is the final word, remember, jesus had great commpasion on all mankind when on earth. the women in adultery is a great example.	Aug 7, 2012 9:04 AM
62	We had a sermon from a single (and happy!) older church member, which was really helpful and provoked discussion on a topic that's often taboo.	Aug 7, 2012 6:19 AM
63	OAP who is encouraging that I will eventually find the right person for me	Aug 7, 2012 1:52 AM
64	Dedicated under 8s children's worker takes an interest in my family as a whole (mum plus two preschoolers) and is keen to help me any way as a single mum	Aug 6, 2012 10:24 AM
65	Been open and quite graphic about boundaries, and also the best kind of Godly relationship	Aug 6, 2012 2:02 AM

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66	N/A	Aug 6, 2012 1:12 AM
67	Just to love and accept people for what and who they are.	Aug 5, 2012 3:16 AM
68	Although I have never sought particular guidance regarding being single and I don't think she has expressedly offered any, our current Officer, Christine, is in her 50s and still single. I suppose because of this, I feel that I could speak to her about this topic should I need to.	Aug 4, 2012 11:55 AM
69	N/A	Aug 3, 2012 4:17 PM
70	There is one leader who ran a series of talks on relationships. In one of the sessions, before talking, he prayed for those who were struggling with singleness - this was encouraging and I think it should be done more - this was on a church holiday and has never happened in a church service despite there being talks on relationships and marriage.	Aug 1, 2012 4:04 PM
71	They talked to me, and invited me to things without other intention. Treated me as me and not me with the label of 'single'. Questions about having a significant other in my life where not the topic of conversation	Aug 1, 2012 2:17 PM
72	One to one chats from time to time.	Aug 1, 2012 1:17 PM
73	One of our church workers is single, ages 31, but she also recently prayed to get married, something which made us think that she feels the same as us single christians.	Jul 31, 2012 9:56 AM
74	one person tried to get me involved in the youthwork that was good for the church and for a lonely person	Jul 30, 2012 1:59 PM
75	I have never seen such a leader in our church.	Jul 30, 2012 12:52 PM
76	One of the best approaches I'm aware of is All Souls, who did run workshops and weekends away with an open-ended age window. They always worked to make the events inclusive without ever mentioning any agenda on singleness.	Jul 30, 2012 6:24 AM
77	We have been admonished and encouraged by our Pastor to embrace and enjoy our singleness. We keep monthly women's meeting which focuses on different things such as image, self esteem, identity, purity/sexual ethics, forgiveness, sexuality & sexual behaviour, communication skills etc.	Jul 29, 2012 2:11 PM
78	My senior Pastor has started to address the matter from the pulpit.	Jul 29, 2012 1:50 PM
79	We did Bible studies on singleness and what happens when we find the one. We are able to talk about singleness etc	Jul 29, 2012 12:00 PM
80	None	Jul 29, 2012 8:16 AM
81	Haven't had one. What can they do anyways? If God is not helping, it won't be any use. Men are just hopeless.	Jul 27, 2012 12:48 PM
82	One single man organised the Christians singles night once a fortnight, but he has now met someone and is getting married in August.	Jul 26, 2012 1:44 PM
83	Shown from the Bible what being single is and it's aadvantages.	Jul 25, 2012 4:52 PM

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84	No this is the area that they lack in.	Jul 24, 2012 1:18 PM
85	The free forum for single Christians as part of the love and relationships summit was a good start. They didn't run it but the younger single people took it and ran with it. Having the courage to let them do this, and to provide guidance and oversee the process was good. Some people invited non-Christian friends to this. I don't know what the result was, but it was a good starting point to be further developed.	Jul 24, 2012 4:51 AM
86	They are willing to sit down and listen to what you have to say and will offer any advice that they feel is necessary to the situation - Biblical and otherwise.	Jul 24, 2012 3:48 AM
87	They have always been open, honest and frank with me. And incredibly helpful and understanding.	Jul 24, 2012 1:45 AM
88	They have encouraged me to deal with all the unfinished things in my life and to seek God fully when looking into relationships	Jul 23, 2012 4:53 PM
89	As previous. We are advised to bring a possible suitor to church where they can be welcomed by the other members, and checked out by some people of the same gender and the church leader, in a low key friendly way. This also helps them to see us in a social and community/family context so we can learn more about each other. One chap attended a singles conference at our church. Pastor drove him home as lived in similar area. Feedback was "run for your life". because the man was looking for "someone who fit's the package" for his stage of life at 50 years old. He wanted to marry me for a tax break. He also had no intention of having in relationship with God. I stayed with him for a while, but pastor was right. After a stressful few months I ended it. He stalked me for by phone and text using different numbers and tried to manipulate me into getting back with him. PHEW. Good escape!	Jul 23, 2012 5:55 AM
90	They have dealt with the issue of masterbation and homosexuality honestly and openly in a question and answer session which was backed up by excellent research and honesty.	Jul 21, 2012 2:17 PM
91	they have asked about my experience and what is helpful and unhelpful they have led talks in church and got individuals to share their perspective	Jul 21, 2012 4:19 AM
92	Personal insights in how they dealt with it. How they felt before they found the one they are now married to.	Jul 20, 2012 4:22 PM
93	see 18	Jul 20, 2012 3:15 PM
94	I don't think people should be focussing on singleness - just seeking after God. Matt Chandler, Philip Yancey, J John, Rico Tice are all excellent Church leaders and inspirational.	Jul 20, 2012 3:31 AM
95	None	Jul 19, 2012 1:26 PM
96	they do house calls, will visit you at home,pray with you,praise the lord so much more?praise the lord, thankyou, for our church,its a blessing?	Jul 19, 2012 10:42 AM
97	See no 16	Jul 19, 2012 5:47 AM
98	I am the only single in a house Church numbering between 13 and 17 (me making the odd number!) I am totally included	Jul 18, 2012 2:05 PM

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99	no.	Jul 18, 2012 9:33 AM
100	We've a TnT (Twenties and Thirties) group that is good for fellowship, and I was encouraged that the 1-2-1 Bible Study "mentor" the church found me, whilst uneven in authority, was someone I gel with.	Jul 17, 2012 3:49 PM
101	My previous church had a pastoral worker who was very good for single christians. She listened, advised, counselled, challenged and cared about people. Ultimately drawing people into a deeper relationship with God and hopefully other people and friendships.	Jul 17, 2012 1:47 PM
102	I dont know	Jul 17, 2012 12:49 PM
103	Our own pastor is going through a separation from his wife, but he has practised what he preaches and has stood firm in his faith, unshaken by what has happened to him. He has been a source of inspiration to us and has encouraged us to trust the Lord in our circumstances and for our future.	Jul 17, 2012 12:48 PM
104	A particular support in not being afraid about singleness and being able to see the blessings that come from developing new skills. Particular support in being able to cope with my own company and not being dependant on having somebody else around. The ability to be dependant on faith rather than a partner.	Jul 17, 2012 10:07 AM
105	a church leader has many responsiballities we should not overburden them with more	Jul 17, 2012 5:44 AM
106	Started social groups and tried to include new members of the congregation	Jul 17, 2012 5:07 AM
107	n/a	Jul 16, 2012 4:56 PM
108	He was single for a long time and talks about it often so doesnt suggest its easy to find a partner	Jul 16, 2012 2:23 PM
109	Previous Officers, were so good that they created socials to ensure that everyone was included.	Jul 16, 2012 2:06 PM
110	This is a very personal subject and examples might not work in other settings	Jul 16, 2012 12:29 PM
111	All our church leaders are very good - despite the majority being married, as I believe it is meant to be.	Jul 16, 2012 7:00 AM
112	projects for single people. in an indirect manner.	Jul 15, 2012 1:54 PM
113	N/a	Jul 15, 2012 12:01 PM
114	N/a	Jul 14, 2012 12:24 PM
115	NOT APPLICABLE.	Jul 14, 2012 3:55 AM
116	Have not had that good fortune.	Jul 13, 2012 6:01 AM
117	No comment.	Jul 12, 2012 9:21 PM
118	They have given good honest advise	Jul 12, 2012 1:32 PM
119	There isn't one at my church	Jul 12, 2012 12:06 PM

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120	N/A	Jul 12, 2012 8:58 AM
121	.	Jul 11, 2012 2:06 PM
122	Instigated social events which weren't just for singles but for anyone eg after church on Sundays - a walk, or meal together at someone's home, or trip to an event. It allowed anyone to go, so singles weren't stigmatised but also had the opportunity to make friends	Jul 11, 2012 11:14 AM
123	yes	Jul 11, 2012 7:03 AM
124	Rev Paul Vaswani.has been inspirational with his work with single young adults He has a great sense of humour and love of music and the big outdoors	Jul 10, 2012 5:58 PM
125	Don't have a Singles worker, all people are treated the same	Jul 10, 2012 1:51 PM
126	One of the curates at my previous church did talk of setting up a singles group, but it didn't happen!	Jul 10, 2012 9:23 AM
127	pray and encourage us	Jul 10, 2012 9:18 AM
128	She was single herself and started a singles group in the church, having Sunday lunches and trips out. The only problem is that the age range is rather older than me!	Jul 8, 2012 2:50 PM
129	They are careful to use inclusive language themselves and encourage and educate others to as well	Jul 8, 2012 12:43 PM
130	I personally have got myself involved with CSNW over the last 2/3 years. I took the initiative to start a monthly pub night in the Chorley area and a Qtrly Curry Night. I have met and made friends with other christian singles from Preston, Southport, Chorley and South Manchester. As a result, I have also been able to invite my single friends from my own church to these events. The leaders at my church have done nothing for the singles in the church but this is not an issue and does not appear to be a problem. We have a group set up for 50+'s and this includes singles in that age group. The rest of us 'tap' into CSNW as & when we choose to.	Jul 8, 2012 3:56 AM
131	I have no information on this issue.	Jul 7, 2012 9:54 AM
132	One person in last church did give sermon on singleness	Jul 7, 2012 8:26 AM
133	I believe if the Church leaders talk more about the Holy Spirit and His gifts and fruit will be easier to the body of Christ to have new experiences with the Lord. If we gave 100% of our heart to Jesus, He will help us in every detail in our lifes.	Jul 7, 2012 7:21 AM
134	They have encouraged me to keep finding someone even though I am already 41.	Jul 7, 2012 7:06 AM
135	We have a singles group that we share a lot including socialising supporting eachother in everything.	Jul 7, 2012 6:16 AM
136	nothig to ad	Jul 7, 2012 5:06 AM
137	When I was going through the awful process of divorce my church leaders	Jul 6, 2012 4:48 PM

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	would come to my home to offer help and were a great help to me.	
138	The previous Elder I shared all with gave me the sense he was earnest about my life beyond just Church attendance - I felt I could confidently discuss my lifestyle challenges with him and he understood and encouraged me.	Jul 6, 2012 3:25 PM
139	Listened!	Jul 5, 2012 2:53 PM
140	No, I counsel myself.	Jul 5, 2012 3:42 AM
141	There are a couple of staff at the church who are very good with people like me, widowed and older but I feel for younger singles who feel neglected by a church which is very family orientated.	Jul 5, 2012 3:14 AM
142	The pastor teachings	Jul 4, 2012 12:01 PM
143	not applicable	Jul 4, 2012 6:56 AM
144	He empathises	Jul 4, 2012 12:49 AM
145	just gets on with it and doesnt make singleness an issue	Jul 4, 2012 12:48 AM
146	One member of the leadership team has met with me on a few occasions for chats, some of which has involved discussing singleness and relationships, and his advice has been very helpful and supportive	Jul 4, 2012 12:02 AM
147	My church leader accepts that singles have a sex drive. When I had a friendship with a guy that I was tempted to develop into something further, my pastor was really helpful. Instead of loading me down with doctrine I already knew he encouraged me to consider what would ultimately be the most loving way to treat the man - i.e. the way God would want me to act towards him. Hard to explain hear but got me focused on Jesus again.	Jul 3, 2012 4:16 PM
148	By being alive and enjoying life as a Christian, by getting to know everyone, making friendships and meeting and marrying someone in the church community involved in some other mission.	Jul 3, 2012 3:16 PM
149	Pastoral care.	Jul 3, 2012 12:45 PM
150	pastors acknowledge and greet by first name regularly single ppl. thought about long term issues (ie; when created the singles website who was going to take resp for it for the next year and follow up. who was technical support etc etc	Jul 3, 2012 10:30 AM
151	A above getting to know people as individuals inviting them for meals	Jul 3, 2012 10:09 AM
152	no immediate thoughts	Jul 3, 2012 8:38 AM
153	This hasn't really arisen for me.... but I'm confident that Matt and Emma would be brilliant, because they are in their 30s, have children, and are great with everyone!!! We also have several young and old single people who come to our church - so they must be doing something right!!! We even have 3 married women who regularly come to church, including one with young children, but their husbands don't attend...	Jul 3, 2012 8:13 AM
154	Our Youth Worker has been brilliant at getting along side people and	Jul 3, 2012 3:43 AM

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	accepting them at face value, coming from a mixed family background himself he knows the issues people face.	
155	N/A	Jul 3, 2012 3:06 AM
156	Church secretary, happily married, is very supportive of all the church family members including me. Church treasurer is single like me and we have been mutually supportive during difficult times - discussing things on an emotional level - unlike typical men!	Jul 3, 2012 3:04 AM
157	A couple who I met several years ago had a heart for single people and used to hire a venue for once monthly meetings. Neither were pastors of their own church but felt there was a need. The group was well attended but the couple moved the venue was sold on and the singles night disbanded.	Jul 3, 2012 1:23 AM
158	As mentioned previously, there is a genuine respect for single Christians in the congregation. Sometimes there are sermons which are very pertinent to married couples/families and those are sometimes hard to take (there is a very strong Bible teaching ministry), but I know the senior minister well enough to go and say that it was hard as a single person to listen to that particular sermon. On the other hand, it's a privilege to be in a church where the Bible is expounded in depth. I've just been listening again to a sermon on divorce and remarriage and the depth of insight is so helpful.	Jul 2, 2012 3:09 PM
159	I heard of one pastor who facilitated dates for singles he knew well....no strings attached just introductions. The people I heard about seemed to find it helpful and it took away some of the barriers to women feeling as though they had to approach the men	Jul 2, 2012 3:02 PM
160	There was a meal at a singles house which was lovely but there were only 3 of us!	Jul 2, 2012 2:58 PM
161	Sorry unable to	Jul 2, 2012 2:07 PM
162	One excellent sermon on singleness last year. (I've been in this church 14 years!)	Jul 2, 2012 1:34 PM
163	Again my vicar David McDougall.	Jul 2, 2012 12:45 PM
164	The women's group at one church I attended did do a session on singleness once which was well meant. It really highlighted the misunderstanding between those that had been married since young and their misconceptions. Though sadly didn't take a good route to addressing them. Can't remember the speaker though.	Jul 2, 2012 12:37 PM
165	Arranging excellent singles conferences where people are encouraged to ask question and where all issues affecting singles are addressed candidly and from a biblical refernce point	Jul 2, 2012 12:04 PM
166	A priest who was supportive of us setting up a social group for single church-goers	Jul 2, 2012 11:53 AM
167	I have experienced church workers who have encouraged single Christians to life full lives in every way and to develop their talents within and outside the church.	Jul 2, 2012 11:40 AM
168	Someone who perhaps, has encouraged single Christians to be involved	Jul 2, 2012 10:47 AM

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	with other fellowships. Or who has given support with help around the home, or babysitting, but this is up to the congregation.	
169	Simply put - they treat single Christians just that same as they would married or those in a relationship. The church respects everyone for who they are not their marital status.	Jul 2, 2012 9:56 AM
170	The Single Adults Ministry (SAM) in other churches have been a useful forum.	Jul 1, 2012 7:23 AM
171	meetings and talks	Jun 29, 2012 4:37 PM
172	Organised events that included singles on an equal basis.	Jun 29, 2012 12:24 PM
173	I have not had that opportunity,	Jun 29, 2012 3:15 AM
174	listened	Jun 28, 2012 12:59 PM
175	They have encouraged me and provided practical help as I organised events for single Christians. They gave me the opportunity to speak about what I do and why at a mid week meeting.	Jun 28, 2012 7:54 AM
176	St Marys at Bryanston Square John and Jenny Peters. This is the only church i attended which addressed the issues of being single in a realistic and practical way. The One Course was good and they also did social things for singles. Date my mate is very good too. St Mary's Church Office 245 Old Marylebone Road London NW1 5QT T: 020 7258 5040 (Mon- Fri, 9.30am-5.30pm)	Jun 27, 2012 2:48 PM
177	MY FRIEND IS CHURCH LEADER HOLD THE BROWNIES, ORGANISE VARIOUS ART AND CRAFT TO RAISE MONEY FOR SINGLE ELDERLY,AND SINGLE WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN	Jun 27, 2012 2:44 PM
178	He asks questions about how I am doing and how my love life is! Hilarious.	Jun 27, 2012 11:17 AM
179	Two female curates have been single.	Jun 26, 2012 3:15 PM
180	Not in this church, but at Ellel Ministries - strong teaching about Christian marriage and how God hates divorce, but no judgement, much love and fellowship - made me feel 'normal' and not tainted. Whilst churches need to be clear in their teaching, they need to also recognise that we're human and get it wrong - and love us back to fellowship, not judge us back. Many church leaders have married young, led lovely Christian lives, and have little real life experience of trauma - (not that I wish it on them) - other than anecdotal.	Jun 26, 2012 1:25 PM
181	They listened, empathised, read the Bible with me and prayed with me. Sorry not more detailed, pretty simple but effective and helpful support.	Jun 26, 2012 12:34 PM
182	OifeNE woman asked me over to house for snack then took me to church occasionally a minister and his wife and 2 boys who were being home schooled i could knock door any time have a cup of tea and a chat they adpoted me alough very different beliefs MINISTERS WIFE stayed up to 4.30am to do reply to divorce, they came to house saw me surrendered with papers she told me to pack it up and cme over in 30mins and then reply to divorce would be done-----high court case after i had been given a meal	Jun 26, 2012 10:13 AM
183	We talk. Often, openly, honestly and frankly.	Jun 25, 2012 1:29 PM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

184	no one good in my church	Jun 25, 2012 1:24 PM
185	They would not want to see single people different then other members of the congregation. Jew or Greece Male or female all one in Christ Jesus. Cannot think of a church worker single who has particular gifts in this area.	Jun 25, 2012 9:59 AM
186	Well everybody in my church step up but i have had a great deal of help when my Daughters dad died in 2009. That is when everyone pulled out the stops for us and i will always be grateful and i continue to be.	Jun 25, 2012 3:17 AM
187	i dont like the idea of being led - i am an individual. generally speaking 'leaders' tend to give us a very bad time. AKA george bush - tony blair - mussolini - margaret thatcher - adolph hitler - etc etc. take heed of the words of the great bod dylan: dont follow leaders - and watch your parking meters. there are the odd exceptions: i once heard about a chap called doctor martin luther king. he was very good for single black christians - both male and female. they can ride on buses these days - and are actually allowed to sit alongside god fearing white folk. one of them became a president - Praise the Lord and God Bless America !	Jun 24, 2012 4:12 PM
188	N.A	Jun 24, 2012 3:03 PM
189	One of our associate rectors, Joanna, is a single woman and she often organises women's fellowship and relationship talks about how to live faithfully as a single person.	Jun 23, 2012 4:12 PM
190	Arranging to pray for people who would like to be married and have a family	Jun 23, 2012 4:10 PM
191	My Church has never acknowledge single people	Jun 23, 2012 6:43 AM
192	Our church leaders just acknowlege what we do for them, just to say thank you when we are serving in different roles is the best they can do. They are always there for anyone who has problems or wants to talk to them, not neccessarily about single issues but anything. A church leader has to be a people person, he has to be the best leader and not be selective with who he wants to speak to or who he will like or dislike. Jesus never did that either. Showing true love to others is the first and most important attitude.	Jun 23, 2012 3:21 AM
193	SHE SUPPORTED US AND ENCOURAGED US	Jun 22, 2012 5:06 PM
194	---	Jun 22, 2012 4:01 PM
195	I have seen other single people in leadership inspire but also struggle as they reach their 40's as a single.	Jun 22, 2012 3:44 PM
196	Speaking the truth and being real is very helpful.	Jun 22, 2012 3:32 PM
197	i feel our vicar is an inspiration to us as singles, as he is single himself and sets an example that god has a plan for us and we need to trust his plan and except that we may find a partner but if not we are never alone.	Jun 22, 2012 2:42 PM
198	Acknowledges that people in congregation can be single or married. Includes single people in activities. Is in the process of starting singles group.	Jun 22, 2012 9:43 AM
199	Previous Vicar good in understanding the issues and appreciating the demands of living alone but no advice given	Jun 22, 2012 9:26 AM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

200	Had teaching in church on men/women, marriage and singleness, was helpful teaching series.	Jun 22, 2012 8:47 AM
201	my previous minister provided some excellent counselling sessions when I suddenly became single and helped me through a very difficult time.He also had the ethos of including and involving everyone in church life no matter what their status.I do think it would be useful if more church leaders were aware of and had information on events and groups for christian singles.I help to run one of these groups and I promote our events amongst singles when visiting new churches;I find thatmost of the people I speak to are unaware of the groups.	Jun 22, 2012 8:28 AM
202	The Youth Leader says he is a child of God and not defined by his job, his status or otherwise. This is a good leader to have. He also affirms me and others as children of God.	Jun 22, 2012 7:08 AM
203	n/a	Jun 22, 2012 3:36 AM
204	Matchmaking is a lost art!	Jun 21, 2012 4:13 PM
205	I think that my current leaders are supportive if I need to go to them for help.	Jun 21, 2012 3:46 PM
206	We've had some helpful meetings on the subject of sex. At the end, they allowed people to text questions to the front and the leaders answered them. People asked some quite explicit stuff - don't think they'd have done this if they had had to ask in front of everyone or even face to face with the leaders. Clearly there are issues that singles want to discuss, but don't feel comfortable to ask. We have recently had an elder appointed with "singles" in his remit - haven't really noticed any difference thus far though.	Jun 21, 2012 3:23 PM
207	None really.	Jun 21, 2012 2:06 PM
208	Spa days for single seminars and prayer conferance that letting us know that because we single dosnt mean somethin is wrong with us...cause it was a choice	Jun 21, 2012 1:02 PM
209	N/A	Jun 21, 2012 9:43 AM
210	We are an extremely welcoming Church where singleness is as normal as marriedness. Christ is our centre and we recognise that we live in a fallen world, but we are also encouraged to live by biblical principles. We covered a study of 1 Corinthians 6/7 only last week.	Jun 21, 2012 9:26 AM
211	They get alongside widows and those who are lonely in their singleness.	Jun 21, 2012 6:44 AM
212	Probably youth leaders but nothing at all for other age groups.	Jun 21, 2012 6:27 AM
213	Probably youth group leaders, but nothing for other age groups.	Jun 21, 2012 5:56 AM
214	Student worker has encouraged single men to step up and ask Godly single girls out if they like them.	Jun 21, 2012 4:54 AM
215	No	Jun 21, 2012 2:35 AM
216	She just shares her own life experiences and doesn't judge you for anything that you have done.	Jun 20, 2012 2:45 PM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

217	Smiled, welcomed and not treated a single as different (as in less) than the marrieds.	Jun 20, 2012 2:21 PM
218	1. Released singles to organise events for singles 2. The church hosted singles events	Jun 20, 2012 11:42 AM
219	There was one church worker at my previous church whose guidance was patchy - she encouraged strong friendships - always a good place to start, but when I mentioned Christian Connection and online dating - she appeared to be very sceptical....What a pity!! So, for me, her encouragement was sort of nullified - if you see what I mean....	Jun 20, 2012 10:50 AM
220	I am an inspiration for many singles. I am a female, separated pending divorce, a mother and about to go into ministry. Also serve as an Elder.	Jun 20, 2012 9:16 AM
221	The leader of the young adult group takes interest in the individual lives of each group member and encourages them to the best of his ability (i think).	Jun 20, 2012 8:51 AM
222	Sorry, nothing. I hope there are some out there!	Jun 20, 2012 8:25 AM
223	A pastor asked me if I was lonely and what social life I had.i.e friends, relationships and provided me with contacts of the Christian Network	Jun 20, 2012 8:19 AM
224	I refer you to my comments in response to Q16.	Jun 20, 2012 8:17 AM
225	Much more publicity by the heads of religious Communities about the call to celibacy.	Jun 20, 2012 8:05 AM
226	none of them really.	Jun 20, 2012 4:39 AM
227	Two curates who were more open and welcomed a range of people into their homes and families not just those who had children or came as a couple.	Jun 20, 2012 4:35 AM
228	Tried to treat them no differently from anyone else and be as inclusive as possible	Jun 20, 2012 3:07 AM
229	Always seeking to address my concerns from the Bible. Pointing out what the Bible says about singleness and how this is a challenge for our church to respond to. This means that the 'action' is one which should come from those who are married, not so much from singles. There's a recognition that our church isn't as effective for singles as it could be, so the desire is to shape the church to be a better place for all.	Jun 19, 2012 3:22 PM
230	There are a couple of ladies who are part of the SAM Ministry. They are not afraid to talk about their lives whilst they were single and life after marriage.	Jun 19, 2012 2:55 PM
231	Single Christian dances. Where all single men and women come together, and enjoy themselves.	Jun 19, 2012 2:13 PM
232	When my church leader preaches he always gives examples which apply to married and single people. E.g. 'How could you apply this in your relationships with your family / friends / housemates / colleagues' 'Maybe you struggle with (something which applies to married people), maybe you struggle with (something which applies to single people)'	Jun 19, 2012 1:53 PM
233	My Worship Leader, who is herself single, was concerned for me and my circumstances and she was the person who was sensitive enough to realise	Jun 19, 2012 1:28 PM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

	that I had a heart to worship and that that, above all, was the thing that would get me through tough times. Church leaders cannot do all that needs doing. What our church leaders do is to encourage others to be leaders of groups who can then spot and encourage other relationships or future leaders of other groups. It's a constant and exciting weaving of people together, like what God does!	
234	Provided words of encouragement	Jun 19, 2012 12:53 PM
235	N/A	Jun 19, 2012 12:29 PM
236	One of our Pastors is a single woman so she has been inspirational.	Jun 17, 2012 2:37 PM
237	Discussion group once at a church weekend away	Jun 17, 2012 2:34 PM
238	n/a	Jun 17, 2012 7:12 AM
239	Gathered a group of single people together.	Jun 16, 2012 4:53 PM
240	They don't go on about trying to find a marriage partner and emphasise community instead. And getting on with what God has gifted you with instead of just getting married	Jun 16, 2012 12:24 PM
241	I think the most helpful Church leaders are those who see beyond your marital status and challenge, encourage and inspire you spiritually.	Jun 16, 2012 7:25 AM
242	There was one occasion when the pastor said that if you are single you don't need to accept second best for yourself i.e. I 'll buy a nice house when I am married or I'll get better furniture, cook nicer meals when married, she said we should value ourselves as we are, single because we are valuable and loved by God as an individual.	Jun 16, 2012 2:19 AM
243	Movie nights, discussions, debates, come dine with me dinner party, salsa night, black & White Christmas Party, Valentines Ball, Spa Days, Bible Study, Prayer Meetings, Seminars, Retreats, Conference, Workshops, Presentations, Quiz nights.	Jun 16, 2012 1:22 AM
244	Our Youth Minister has been very good with the young singles	Jun 15, 2012 1:33 PM
245	The leader (same person as no.18 question) is an inspiration as she is a good role model of positive singleness and is very committed to church life. She speaks about singleness positively to the wider church.	Jun 15, 2012 8:52 AM
246	Mr David King, he is very good and informing and encouraging Singles....	Jun 15, 2012 6:00 AM
247	GOOD AT MOTIVATING PEOPLE IN A REALISTIC WAY TO FIND PURPOSE IN LIFE.	Jun 15, 2012 3:36 AM
248	we have a two ladies who served on the single adults ministry and are now married, however they STILL service on the ministry and one certainly will remain as she is passionate about singles	Jun 15, 2012 3:04 AM
249	ditto	Jun 14, 2012 2:41 AM
250	I was encouraged to go on this site to meet other single Christians who can maybe relate to my situation... i still struggle with biblical instruction about divorce and re-marriage etc	Jun 12, 2012 2:14 PM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

251	They do pray mightily for God to make his promises to come to pass because the church wants the best for the children of God, Genesis1:28	Jun 12, 2012 12:31 PM
252	Prepared to listen, biblical but also very practical.	Jun 12, 2012 11:54 AM
253	There is a couple who send texts to people when they don't see them in church on a sunday, and they are good at discipling new believers on how to live thier lives. I have a very young married friend in her early twenties who does feed me in her home and I do feel accepted and incuded by her. her husband often goes out and leaves us to chat.	Jun 12, 2012 2:45 AM
254	At our bi-annual retreat one of the senior ministers held a workshop in being single and how to conduct ourselves when getting to know a person. I found this helpful and insightful - as it was informative and current.	Jun 11, 2012 7:25 PM
255	n/a	Jun 11, 2012 2:12 PM
256	One church leader once told me that, for some it's a gift but for some it's a form of suffering. I found that really helpful pastorally because it enabled me to ask God to help me through the suffering each day, rather than rebel against Him because He's given me this gift that I don't seem to be dealing with very well.	Jun 11, 2012 1:07 PM
257	They themselves are widowed and so I didn't feel patronised in talking to them about wanting to be with someone as they understood.	Jun 9, 2012 1:42 PM
258	The first thing he has done is going through the scriptures, he has allow us to understand the concept of singleness from the pulpit, our pastor instructed us from Corinthians 6 and 7 in 5 Sundays, bering in mind he preached to the whole church, with audiences starting from the age of 11, as our Sunday School finishes ay primary school age.	Jun 9, 2012 12:56 PM
259	Until completing this survey I've never thought about this for this angle. It's got me thinking that maybe this is an area of ministry we should be addressing.	Jun 9, 2012 4:54 AM
260	To be frank, I am not sure what a 'good' leader or worker would be when it comes to ministering to singles, I am not sure I would be very keen for the issue to become a strong focus - I would rather address it as part of the wider church community growing together and loving eachother. I guess I find the whole thing very difficult and don't really know what would actually be helpful for me in my walk with Christ as a single person.	Jun 9, 2012 2:34 AM
261	Good advice - Don't rush into anything, find out how you can serve that person, don't settle in desperation.	Jun 9, 2012 2:16 AM
262	Jago Wynne has given some helpful sermons	Jun 8, 2012 8:43 PM
263	n.a	Jun 8, 2012 3:54 AM
264	At another church I went to for a while, they did a whole series on singleness. The minister made it clear that singleness is a form of Christian living and for some people may well be God's will for their life. He made it clear there is no shame or sin in being unmarried, as long as we keep to biblical teachings. This was followed by a big drive to encourage the men to ask the girls out on dates, which was good but also seemed to defeat the purpose of suggesting singleness is an acceptable option for some. I think it	Jun 8, 2012 2:03 AM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

	is just a really sensitive area for me as I really value marriage and hope this is God's plan for me; in the mean time it is a bit sad seeing all my friends married	
265	Have an elder who has given prayer support and also offered to help in any way without being judgmental.	Jun 8, 2012 1:18 AM
266	Our village church accepted all .	Jun 8, 2012 12:56 AM
267	My line manager who is on the leadership team at a different church is very open about his experiences of being single in church and has no issue talking about relationships (or the lack of them!). He and his wife are very welcoming people and always remind me to enjoy being single while I can.	Jun 7, 2012 10:59 PM
268	no	Jun 7, 2012 3:48 PM
269	They have put on sessions on Marriage and Singleness which have been very helpful	Jun 7, 2012 2:51 PM
270	As a leader I would introduce single Christians to someone I think might have something in common with them or would be an encouragement to them. The Church meets in various groups for pastoral purposes - ie we 'belong' to each other and 'do life together' - looking out for each other in practical, spiritual or whatever ways we can. Therefore someone coming into the church would be introduced to the leaders, who co-ordinate the groups, to see which would be the most appropriate group for them to join and be looked after.	Jun 7, 2012 2:41 PM
271	I think that if you are in your 20s churches do have more on offer, its just when you get older there is less, but still if not more the need for support. People in general need to be more supportive and encouraging not making you less of a person as a singleton!! I think this is why often people end up with the wrong person and in the wrong relationship because they want to be in a couple for the wrong reason, and as the public we are all to blame.	Jun 7, 2012 12:58 PM
272	Member of the staff team who is single and has spoken on the topic - brings it to the thoughts of the congregation honestly and openly.	Jun 6, 2012 5:08 PM
273	Vicar's wife, late 30's great friend and understanding woman	Jun 6, 2012 3:04 PM
274	A vicar who listened, and took my views and thoughts seriously, and offered to put me in touch with a single Christian guy he knew, but offered in a completely appropriate/tentative/discrete/trustworthy way, which I was very grateful for.	Jun 6, 2012 12:35 PM
275	Leader of a home group is single and open about intention of remaining single. As a female she takes the edge off the feeling of condemnation. She celebrates people for their gifts and their singleness and strives to help them serve to the best of their ability regardless of relationship status. She co-ordinates events where single people are invited as well as married couples, she can do this so well I think because she is not involved in the married scene.	Jun 6, 2012 11:24 AM
276	I lead a small group when i was a student, everyone at that point was single and we prayed together and encouraged each other, this was encouraging for the time it was but as things change and move on there has been nothing since.	Jun 6, 2012 9:29 AM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

277	My church leader is an evangelist, she's shown me and also tells me stories of girls that have been singles but now they have found someone nice that they will be definitely spending their life with.	Jun 6, 2012 9:06 AM
278	The minister of my previous church had been divorced and had re-married and was very supportive of single women in a loving and complimentary way. He acknowledged attractiveness and sexuality very openly but with very clear and appropriate boundaries which made it easy to be honest about wanting to be in a relationship with someone. This sounds potentially dodgy but he was very happily married and would never do anything wrong. He was just being honest about finding other women attractive which was very affirming and made it easier for me to acknowledge my attractiveness and desires to myself.	Jun 6, 2012 8:30 AM
279	praise, christian music, dance and music videos activities sometime for single people.	Jun 6, 2012 7:00 AM
280	Shown empathy when I was struggling with issues relating to being single - did not dismiss me, made me feel like it mattered. Also given some helpful advice once I was starting out on a relationship.	Jun 6, 2012 5:13 AM
281	In a previous job I helped to start a Bible study group for young single people in our deanery (rural). There were around 6 of us, each from different churches, who would meet together, we also ended up having a bit of a social life as a result.	Jun 6, 2012 4:36 AM
282	Vicar has been supportive and encouraging. Asking me to get involved in things, e.g. play in music group, take a lead in some services. When feeling on periphery it really helps to be asked to do something specific within church life. Also, vicar tries to meet up with me every so often to talk about things going on in my life, how I might be involved in services etc.	Jun 6, 2012 2:02 AM
283	I can't think of any that have been very good, but here's a few things that might help: - Make an effort to introduce people. The minister doesn't have time to engage with everyone in depth, but they could briefly chat, then pass someone on to another member of the congregation. - A long while ago, my vicar used to say after every service: please make an effort after the service to talk to someone you don't know. Many ignored that call. But it influenced me, and it was an important signal to those who left isolated, that the vicar was on their side. - Make sure that what you change is well advertised. If the only easy way to know about changed services is to have been in the previous service, that's very bad for those who aren't always there. It can mean a wasted journey, and makes them feel very unwelcome.	Jun 6, 2012 1:46 AM
284	Encouraging me to stay on track and wait rather than dating non Christians which I am now doing.	Jun 5, 2012 10:52 PM
285	We have a very inspirational and dynamic church leader who is married but still gives so much of his time to the single groups of adults in outreach etc. He inspires them to find their place in church and society.	Jun 5, 2012 5:08 PM
286	none	Jun 5, 2012 4:54 PM
287	Keeping in touch by email. If I miss a lot of Sundays at church, I sometimes receive an email from my pastor - How are you? Do remember you are valued etc. A friendly reminder of the blessings of church life.	Jun 5, 2012 4:50 PM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

288	Sadly I haven't had any positive feedback for this question.	Jun 5, 2012 3:35 PM
289	Again it is the commitment of one man (and his wife), plus a small group of helpers running the divorce help group that has turned around the lives of so many people who believed their lives were shattered and themselves worthless and rejected. Living out God's message of 'love they neighbour'.	Jun 5, 2012 3:10 PM
290	Ran a Pure course (UCCF). Suggested good books e.g. Tim keller: The meaning of marriage	Jun 5, 2012 3:09 PM
291	Not sure...	Jun 5, 2012 3:07 PM
292	just encouraging me to be confident and assertive enough to dare to ask a guy out or try dating sites	Jun 5, 2012 2:31 PM
293	My pastor is very much available to members of the church and relationship problems, whether married or single. He and his wife helped me make a crucial decision in a relationship that I needed to end. They listened and then gave me sound advice which proved invaluable.	Jun 5, 2012 1:51 PM
294	in my church we talk about single christian and what is expected of them. we do have bible study and discussions.	Jun 5, 2012 1:39 PM
295	We have a Bible College Student who has just turned 30 and who is single on placement at our church. She is just a 'great example' of focussing on God and nothing else. Basically she just lives out an inspiring life...as a single Christian. I think there should be more single church leaders perhaps.	Jun 5, 2012 1:38 PM
296	All of them are (team of 5). They are very open todiscussing singleness, open to questions and suggestions. It might not be overt on a Sunday gathering, but then neither would their support for mums and toddlers, single parents, retired people, all of whom they are supportive of. What makes them so great is that they recognise what stage of life anyone is in and they have the ability to appreciate that, ask questions about it and seek Biblical guidance about it. They are approachable whatever situation of life you are in.	Jun 5, 2012 1:35 PM
297	Allowed me to be part of his young family	Jun 5, 2012 1:31 PM
298	N/a	Jun 5, 2012 1:25 PM
299	When David Hope was Bishop of Wakefield he held a conference for single people. It was good.	Jun 5, 2012 12:37 PM
300	We have never had a 'single' church leader.	Jun 5, 2012 11:45 AM
301	Small church with no leaders. Previously belonged to larger church but very anonymous and nobody knew when my husband left me .. I'd only been going for about 3 years and no-one knew who I was so definitely no-one to talk to.	Jun 5, 2012 11:17 AM
302	Build your relationship with the Lord before all other relationships.	Jun 5, 2012 10:59 AM
303	i feel its important to find a gd girl nt cheap and weather friend and one who values my belifs and wants my life values	Jun 5, 2012 10:57 AM
304	I live with a pastor who has been single by choice for many years and has	Jun 5, 2012 10:28 AM

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	inspired and taught many women on the joy and blessing of singleness.	
305	N/A	Jun 5, 2012 9:59 AM
306	Our minster is good to talk to if there are particular issues you are struggling with such as childlessness. It has also been helpful to have meetings together as singles to discuss issues that we face and if there is anything the church needs to do differently to address these.	Jun 5, 2012 9:57 AM
307	Umm well no.	Jun 5, 2012 9:54 AM
308	Prepared to listen and offered information on schemes he was aware of	Jun 5, 2012 7:42 AM
309	Leaders who are single - modelling God being number one and a healthy attitude to everything else!	Jun 5, 2012 5:22 AM
310	I have known a friend of mine too far away to attend, organise regular christian events for singles in their area. The church they attended wasn't SO stuffed up with organisational beurocracy, that it was allowed to get off the ground INSTANTLY, without Questioning the Logistics of it and so thereby killing it from a married persons 'ooo, I don't know about THAT', perspective! I WOULD organise something myself in my area, but I'm afraid at the moment I'm too fearful!	Jun 4, 2012 7:49 PM
311	They have asked what I am actively doing. They have prayed with me and for me with other prayer support groups. They have shown me love by making sure that I know I have a network of people there at all times to support me. They have encouraged me to try new activities and meet new people.	Jun 4, 2012 5:39 PM
312	Non of the church members or leaders have ever singled me out as an individual. Everyone is equally welcomed, and even if you are not baptised, they do not single you out.	Jun 4, 2012 4:15 PM
313	gave me a shoulder to cry on 121 in private when i went into church before my oldest sons funeral on my own i tried to get my head round why i would be following his coffin in my church before his funeral day.	Jun 4, 2012 12:08 PM
314	My minister is 26 and married - I, at 31, therefore don` t feel confident discussing my singleness with her	Jun 4, 2012 11:35 AM
315	When giving examples during preaching they acknowledge different life stages. Very sensitive on mother's and father's day.	Jun 4, 2012 6:29 AM
316	Being single themselves is a big help! Generally we need to be more accepting and inclusive of everyone without making assumptions about them.	Jun 3, 2012 10:48 AM
317	Sadly I have not	Jun 3, 2012 10:27 AM
318	Shared their life story, offered bigger picture, reasrrued it's not end of world, re-affirmed Paul's singleness!	Jun 3, 2012 9:44 AM
319	I thankfully in previous churches had very good role models in single women in their 60's who befriended me and showed me that it is possible to be happy fulfilled and loved without being married.	Jun 3, 2012 7:41 AM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

320	A number of the staff are single, and seem contentedly so, this is a good example to find satisfaction in Christ and resist the pressure to find ultimate satisfaction in a romantic relationship/marriage.	Jun 3, 2012 7:01 AM
321	Been ready to listen and provide support and prayer and wisdom in thinking, questions and emotions of being single. Valued me for being me as a single person and not been afraid to build friendship and invite into their family life.	Jun 3, 2012 6:30 AM
322	I was blessed to have a really, really, good vicar when I was in youth group, who was not embarrassed to speak about sex and sexuality to us. Too many clergy are just too embarrassed - the whole fear / taboo / making a big deal, which is in many ways the opposite side of exactly the same coin which results in sexualisation of advertising, young kids, media, etc etc etc to a really unhealthy degree. High levels of denial are equally unhealthy. And I suspect that this is what leads to the idea that singleness is all about sex - whereas single people are about lots of other things too, as indeed is everybody else.	Jun 3, 2012 6:12 AM
323	.	Jun 3, 2012 5:39 AM
324	As above, he is very good at listening and taking account of the unspoken ethos of the church as a whole.	Jun 3, 2012 5:08 AM
325	Was open and honest about where they were at and allowed it to be ok to be single	Jun 3, 2012 1:24 AM
326	They have been very caring towards me.	Jun 2, 2012 12:03 PM
327	no	Jun 2, 2012 11:56 AM
328	be a catalyst for getting ppl to organise social and 'Christian' events in order to build up a 'family' atmosphere	Jun 2, 2012 10:46 AM
329	see info	Jun 2, 2012 3:41 AM
330	Find your satisfaction in Christ not in others, security in your identity in Christ Singleness allows you freedoms that you may not have as a married couple so relish and be thankful in these precious times.	Jun 2, 2012 12:38 AM
331	Encouraged me very much in my faith and to believe that it was/is important for me to always SEEK GOD first regardless of my status. Not always easy to receive but invaluable in preventing bitterness and disappointment. Also I was loved practically very much by being invited round to stay for meals ,movies ,just being part of family life.	Jun 1, 2012 2:15 PM
332	see previous question as already listed	May 31, 2012 2:18 PM
333	no comment	May 31, 2012 1:53 PM
334	haven't met one yet!	May 31, 2012 10:13 AM
335	that just pray for me	May 30, 2012 2:09 PM
336	They have arranged dinners with friends from all over... not intentionally set people up, but just been generally sociable, and have encouraged all congregation members to be the same... equally have encouraged singles of all ages to get together informally as a family.... pizza after church, walks in	May 30, 2012 1:22 PM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

	the park, picnics... have also advertised events at other churches. I don't think singles need to be treated any differently, they simply need to be included.	
337	Gathered us together.	May 30, 2012 8:28 AM
338	I was in a para-church group of people in their 20's and 30's and while singleness wasn't ever really discussed, I felt very accepted as a single person. It was a group that contained both singles and married.	May 29, 2012 10:52 PM
339	They are all married - many have been for many years.	May 29, 2012 10:31 AM
340	N/A	May 29, 2012 10:30 AM
341	A COUPLE IN OUR CHURCH GIVES ACCOMMODATION TO COLLEGE STUDENTS ANOTHER COUPLE HAS A PLACE FOR YOUNG POPLE IN CRISIS BY GIVING THAM A HOME.	May 29, 2012 3:18 AM
342	They haven't belittled the struggles singles go through. Have treated us as normal, gifted and useful people. Have encouraged us to develop and serve, as they would anyone else. Have cared for us and invested in us. Have treated us and our views with respect.	May 28, 2012 3:05 AM
343	n/a	May 28, 2012 2:33 AM
344	n/a	May 27, 2012 3:22 PM
345	set up a group for single young women, really encouraging for those of us not in relationships.	May 27, 2012 2:22 PM
346	Not from my experience. Church Leaders, I think, tend to be like Doctors-church member confidentiality.	May 26, 2012 1:55 PM
347	created a group for us to share our experiences, to have a laugh and organise nights out and nights in.	May 26, 2012 1:01 PM
348	n/a	May 26, 2012 7:16 AM
349	They try to help by pointing out all the benefits of singleness and suggest that the single Christian really wouldn't be so enthusiastic about having a marriage partner if he/she only knew how hard, stressful and burdensome married life is and how it really does hamper one's walk with God to have such distractions as needing to please a marriage partner. I can sort of see where they might be coming from but if the advice proceeds from an attractive person who got married in their early twenties, who has no real experience of many years spent alone, feeling undesirable and a failure with the opposite sex then it all rings a bit hollow and can be quite hurtful. I've heard such advice being given to childless single ladies in their forties who long for a family. It must be so hard for such a woman to be told how wonderful it is to be single, by a lady who got married at 22 and has a quiver full of children!	May 26, 2012 6:00 AM
350	Showing loving interest to all, whatever their relationship status. Everybody wants to be lovingly respected, whether single, married, widowed, divorced....	May 26, 2012 3:20 AM
351	Recommended an amazing and insightful book by a Christian author called	May 25, 2012 10:28 AM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

	Linda Petherbridge - What happens when your marriage dies	
352	that pray foe me	May 25, 2012 10:08 AM
353	My large, urban, church that I went to as a student has a couple of singles on the leadership team, who helped address problems with being single in the church, and did sermons on singleness with the whole church - none of this optional seminar stuff that don't really engage the rest of the church with the issue but brought the issue to the awareness of the whole church.	May 25, 2012 9:01 AM
354	In my Church when you decide to get married you can got to a another married couple to have marriage guidance. A lot of the married couples current in my church have really benefited from the marriage guidance course.	May 25, 2012 5:06 AM
355	A small group of us with a heart for this, now meet socially to enjoy fellowship, support and talk about the issues and struggles we face... this has had to be done outside of the church format. we try and source Christian DVDs and teaching to share together.	May 25, 2012 4:42 AM
356	tim Stillwell many years ago before he left St. Pauls he was great. wise articulate and was approachable and always made time. I miss him.	May 25, 2012 4:02 AM
357	No comment	May 25, 2012 3:43 AM
358	N/A	May 24, 2012 3:10 PM
359	I have a lecturer who is a very well qualified counselor and has done a series of talks on singleness. She is amazing!	May 24, 2012 11:48 AM
360	I've noticed they are better when they are with their own/similar age groups - relate well, inclusive, organise things.	May 24, 2012 11:24 AM
361	Just keeping the faith that God will fulfill his promise and give your heart's desires.	May 24, 2012 8:14 AM
362	They are single, social and a good example in how they follow Jesus.	May 23, 2012 3:33 PM
363	mostly comfort and inclusion. My church leaders include me in their families, this helps with loneliness.	May 22, 2012 11:35 PM
364	The fact that my church leader was single for a long time gives a certain amount of empathy. The fact that his (now) wife was a single parent for many years also helps. The factthat they have a clear understanding of how my marriage ended because of alcoholism and abuse from Christian husband also means they are non judgemental and very supportive if me as a single parent.	May 22, 2012 2:12 PM
365	sorry can't help with that one	May 21, 2012 2:12 PM
366	be open and honest to address concerns from singles ,meet with singles and deal with stigma and attitude in line with biblical principles	May 21, 2012 8:34 AM
367	don't have one	May 21, 2012 6:34 AM
368	Can't think of any in the past 15 years or so, altho I have been inspired by what some groups are doing to "contextualise" Christianity to other groups	May 20, 2012 7:01 PM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

(eg The Message in Manchester with unchurched youth, LZ7 etc) - if only someone would do something similar for singles!

369	We had a single female in church leadership who gave good sermons on coping with singleness, but now she's married and her loss to the church leadership team was great and she has not been replaced.	May 20, 2012 12:03 PM
370	n/a	May 20, 2012 8:31 AM
371	We had a very open and detailed discussion after a series of themes on relationship and sex in my church. I never heard leaders to share their weaknesses in terms of relationship of course in a small circle and encourage people to live according to God's standard and not wordy way. After the last teaching there was a number to which people could send their questions and later in the discussion the questions were answered by married couples, 1 single male and 1 single female, 1 married male who has been a guy, but now He is totally healed and has his own family and children.	May 19, 2012 5:34 PM
372	I think the thing that isolates 'singles' is when there are dinner parties that only happen for couples, or there is an assumption that male leaders are supported by their female spouses in very traditional roles. I am passionate about encouraging 'singles' to support families and families to include singles as part of their family. I've seen this modelled brilliantly. I think when there is a large younger congregation this is more difficult as there aren't so many families and young couples can appear more exclusive...	May 19, 2012 2:19 PM
373	Asking direct questions. Willingness to advise guys about their role/responsibility. Incredibly helpful, godly and realistic advice from curate's wife.	May 19, 2012 2:03 PM
374	n/a	May 19, 2012 11:27 AM
375	It is all about relationship. Relationship with God so that he leads you into areas you can serve in and feel you have something to give and it is about building good Godly friends around you so that in the lonely times you have people to be with.	May 18, 2012 11:44 PM
376	listened to me.	May 18, 2012 8:37 PM
377	Aware of our needs, getting home etc.	May 18, 2012 8:26 AM
378	Where do I start. Everyone is good. God's people provided me with support right from beginning to now with my divorce and singleness. I cannot think of going to anyone else in difficult times than turning up in my churches that I have attended. Individually support with any practical issues, financial support, emotional issues and also treating me like someone normal that they include me in events and plans. Also the husband I was breaking up with was provided with support as he was my children's father and they need him in their lives although he wasn't a believer - whom felt always welcomed and part of his children's lives in special events. They asked my help at times due to my experiences... I believe I am with God's true people but I think it reflects how I treat and see others. Because it is not about me it is all about God.. Everything we do and say must bring glory to God then how can we go wrong then, how not our actions would not give fruit. It is all about GOD, who created us and loves us, and we have to learn to receive freely and give freely.	May 18, 2012 2:02 AM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

379	See Q18. I felt very supported by the leader of my previous church and his wife. They really did (and still do) treat me like family - having me over for meals, inviting me to stay at Christmas etc. It was particularly helpful knowing that they were there to support me, as I had no family in the town and also was unable to visit my parents for over a year. Also in a wider context, I felt that as a group of singles, we were acknowledged and accepted in the main church meetings.	May 17, 2012 2:52 PM
380	my church has a single parent ministry	May 17, 2012 2:35 PM
381	If only!!! They haven't been bad just a bit inadequate I suppose. It's a tricky issue but always something that could be done better.	May 17, 2012 12:58 PM
382	they shared their experiences as a single person which was encouraging and inspirational	May 17, 2012 10:18 AM
383	Pastors, a couple, led month-long+ series on relationships in Feb 2012 with biblical teaching about marriage and the conduct of singless and couples. Had open sessions for Q&As. Culminated in complimentary meal for congregation to celebrate more than 20 years of their marriage. Also in recent years they did the love languages as a service and excercise for each attending post-service session to find theirs.	May 17, 2012 8:02 AM
384	No	May 17, 2012 7:32 AM
385	n/a	May 16, 2012 7:33 PM
386	Doesn't make you feel like a freak or 'sad' that you have not found a partner yet and encourages fellowship and friendship regardless of singleness. I am sure they would try to match make if there were more men on the scene!	May 16, 2012 10:16 AM
387	Nothing!	May 16, 2012 8:09 AM
388	To admit that a desire for a partner is a God given one,not `dirty` and lustful. To accept that one has human tastes in this matter	May 16, 2012 1:14 AM
389	have excepted me and i nclude me me in their events	May 15, 2012 2:00 PM
390	As before, they have encouraged us to get involved in leadership and serving. Whilst the general perception that marriage is the ideal situation, this is often from others in the church, rather than the pastor, who will recognise us all as individuals with our own talents and abilities.	May 15, 2012 1:01 PM
391	I am the youth leader (am i allowed to put in comments about myself lol) - I invite the youth for home group every 2 weeks and try to put the Bible into practical every day life situations that they can relate to. I invite them around for tea aswell most weeks. We go on holiday together. We evangelise together a couple of times a week around our town centre. The thrill of the Lord saving a soul through one the youth is amazing.	May 14, 2012 6:30 PM
392	Started up a support group for female divorcees in the church	May 14, 2012 3:03 PM
393	I have had church leader who did the opposite and stated that single people needed to have courage and put themselves out there. Not realising that it takes more courage to stay single andnot be in any relationship just for the sake of being in a relationship.	May 14, 2012 1:35 PM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

394	The minister's wife in my last church encouraged me to start a very informal women's study group. This comprised of a number of (under 60 year old! ie 20s - 50s) women who for one reason didn't feel part of the 'in' crowd. We were a group who could be real with each other and it was good to here of each others joys and tribulations. It was a good lesson to hear from the perspective of those who were married and had kids that the grass isn't always greener on the other side and vice versa!	May 14, 2012 12:35 PM
395	Having spent time thinking about this I now realise that I perhaps could have done with more input into the spiritual side of the single life. I have never felt discriminated against but realise that while relationships are celebrated, singleness isn't.	May 14, 2012 11:47 AM
396	In a previous church there were optional seminars for single women that encompassed issues like dating and boundaries in dating that were very helpful.	May 14, 2012 6:43 AM
397	Sharing with other single church members/co-leaders has been the most helpful.	May 14, 2012 3:44 AM
398	sadly none	May 13, 2012 3:01 PM
399	Our church pastor invited me over for a coffee with him and his wife. They very lovingly listened to my worries and fears, and prayed with me.	May 13, 2012 2:06 PM
400	Regular teaching and training events at large central London church when I was a young Christian. Very helpful.	May 13, 2012 1:54 PM
401	Not about a leader, but our church has an 18 to 35 group that is more singles than not and is a vital fellowship group for people to meet each other, share what's on their mind and have close friendship - aside from the Christian aspects of the group. The minister suggested ending the group because the members 'should all be part of the adult church now anyway' but perhaps had lost sight of how singles don't have people to talk to at home often and need a time and space at church simply to 'have friendship' and a very strong sense of belonging.	May 13, 2012 12:07 PM
402	n/a	May 13, 2012 5:14 AM
403	There was a young trainee who rented next door for a while after living with the Vicar at first ...he is very active in India...he is energetic and a true christian spiritual young man who will always try to help anyone ...he was and is a great inspiration to me...he is always there for a prayer..and when in the area(he comes back and raises money to go back to help out in India from time to time) we arrange to get together with my other peer/ lady friend from church...he will soon be coming again!... it is wonderful to know such a Christian as he...a priveledge! Prays for my Mum all the time...I don,t need to ask! amazing how such a young man was such a help... I was very lucky...as through him with some one higher we got my home blessed!	May 12, 2012 8:35 AM
404	At one time we did have a single parents group but that seemed to fizzle out. It was good at the time - was set up by a couple of leaders.	May 12, 2012 7:39 AM
405	The vicar of the last church I went to, which was Liberal Anglican, was accepting of single people and would never have dreamt of asking awkward questions or making you feel out of place.	May 12, 2012 5:28 AM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

406	NIL	May 12, 2012 5:24 AM
407	We had a church leader who was single and she longed to be married. However, she did not let her marital status stop her from doing what she felt God call her to do, so she has been a massive inspiration to keep our eyes on God rather than focus on ourselves.	May 11, 2012 1:59 PM
408	They have a open house policy. They also ask very honest questions (single male) regarding issues facing a single male. They also let me sleep over christmas eve when I didn't want to be on my own and I joined in Christmas morning when I was missing my own children.	May 11, 2012 1:44 PM
409	Better to ask what we can do to support our churches rather than to assume that they are there to meet all of our needs.	May 11, 2012 9:17 AM
410	I think gathering to serve God is a good way forward. It removes the focus from, 'Oh no, I'm still single' to something more constructive. While you're building something good, something good might happen. It's along the principle of a watched kettle never boiling. Put the kettle on, and start doing the washing up.	May 10, 2012 2:21 PM
411	!	May 10, 2012 12:26 PM
412	They recognise my giftings and what i achieve/do with my life. There have been comments about my time and i realise that i would have to make sacrifices in other areas to have time to persue a relationship. There are no expectations but where answering your questions is difficult is that they know that i really want to get married and have children.	May 10, 2012 11:37 AM
413	They ahve been a listening hear and advisor	May 10, 2012 8:55 AM
414	They have actively tried to organise activities which might offer opportunities to bring single Christians together. Also their guidance and approach is Christ-centred, encouraging an individual to see their current situation from the perspective of eternity and what might be God's plan.	May 10, 2012 3:54 AM
415	Like I said before, Pastor Matthew's annual Single Mingle summit for single Christians of all ages is a source of inspiration but singles need to be inspired more than once in a year!	May 10, 2012 1:40 AM
416	support, prayer, encouragement and love. Invites to social things, invites for dinner etc.	May 9, 2012 2:38 PM
417	None	May 9, 2012 2:17 PM
418	I would say - in all humility - that's me, because my professional experience in psychotherapy and mental health is available to fellow members, who also enrich me with their life experience, faith and advice.	May 9, 2012 2:01 PM
419	Had a course looking at the various aspects of life - singleness being one of them.	May 9, 2012 12:50 PM
420	My God mother she is my advisor	May 9, 2012 12:40 PM
421	I have friends who encourage the single church members, sometimes as match makers others just encouraging to embrace them into their family, invite them to things etc	May 9, 2012 7:39 AM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

422	Church Leader - who also works at Leigh Abbey, Devon is a good listener and counsellor, is non judgemental and very helpful.	May 9, 2012 7:23 AM
423	Included the subject in a sermon.	May 8, 2012 2:26 PM
424	Be relevant really. To bring the men....do stuff guys like to do. Combine with other churches and form a football/rugby team. That way these guys will bring their friends and relationships will begin to form etc. Same for women....do things that women like to do... It's all about building relationships and doing things together that you would do normally with your friends. Organize a movie night and extend it to your friends, non Christians....everyone likes to see a movie!	May 8, 2012 12:20 PM
425	More single people in leadership would provide more inspiration.	May 8, 2012 9:56 AM
426	Minister used some of what I had said (anonomously) as part of sermon about inclusiveness and labels.	May 8, 2012 6:53 AM
427	They were kind and understanding	May 8, 2012 2:56 AM
428	There isn't one.	May 7, 2012 5:57 PM
429	I've never known any.	May 7, 2012 3:17 PM
430	see above	May 7, 2012 3:16 PM
431	Seeing other single women in the church living happy, fulfilled lives and being fully integrated into the life of the church, as well as being included in the lives of families in the church, is an inspiration and encouragement to me.	May 7, 2012 2:36 PM
432	We had a couples evening, and he and other leaders remarked that we should have one for singles too.	May 7, 2012 2:24 PM
433	In my experience there are often one or two church workers (very rarely a church leader though) have been there as a shoulder to cry on. That's all!	May 7, 2012 1:10 PM
434	NA	May 7, 2012 12:56 PM
435	So sorry, I would love to give you a positive story here but having been 10 years at this high profile church and only attended one singles day (aware of only one other such event in the time) I don't feel in a position to comment. Inter-church events seem to be popular, but usually set up by individuals, not church leaders or workers.	May 7, 2012 12:39 PM
436	I don't know who has been good for single Christians	May 7, 2012 11:09 AM
437	Some people think they have a 'ministry for singles' - but this particular couple don't! We are not 'projects' to feel sorry for!	May 7, 2012 11:05 AM
438	The leaders at HTB have listened to people's concerns over the past year, and this is why the decision has been made to address it in sermons - it is a great result. Ultimately, it is the teaching on the goodness of God that will make the difference in people's lives. Once people experience a revelation of the goodness of God, and of their value as a single person, then single life partnering God can become the adventure it was intended to be. This is modeled by many of the church leaders at HTB.	May 7, 2012 10:43 AM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

439	they are led to identify and speak to single people and introduce single people following church guidelines	May 7, 2012 10:33 AM
440	n/a	May 7, 2012 9:45 AM
441	n/a	May 7, 2012 8:29 AM
442	Shared own experience. Still been single themselves! Not know all the answers. Not expect each person to fit into the mold, or perhaps even want to	May 7, 2012 5:01 AM
443	Influence church activities to make sure things are inclusive and see people for their gifts	May 7, 2012 2:51 AM
444	My previous minister built a positive pastoral relationship with singles in the church and was therefore able to ask them questions about how they were getting on. I felt part of the church family. He wasn't afraid to talk about the issues.	May 7, 2012 2:15 AM
445	We have a great youth leader. Other leaders great too but don't know of anything specific they do for singles.	May 7, 2012 1:39 AM
446	Very practical support when I am feeling lonely. A big effort made to make sure that I don't feel left out. The ability to be able to talk frankly about some of my frustrations and struggles and friends to pray with on some of these issues. Also, I am allowed to see the ups and downs of some of the marriage relationships around me, and am constantly reminded that the grass is not always greener. Plus, I am given emotional and financial support on the odd occasions that I need it.	May 6, 2012 7:26 PM
447	One that encourages single men to have a healthy attitude to women and dating. The ratios are very skewed, and men so often get away with "murder" in the way they treat the girls in church. They need solid advice. Literature for singles is only read by women, so the men need personal guidance.	May 6, 2012 4:38 PM
448	Yes, I told my pastor how I felt about someone and I understood she felt the same and was guided to stay good friends and don't be moved too much by feelings but keep myself grounded and pray. The future really must be based on how we honestly communicate and work together and to keep the rose coloured spectacles firmly off. As Christians we can't just walk away afterwards and it is expected to be for life.	May 6, 2012 3:29 PM
449	My discipler has always helped me to focus on God's plans and me staying in his plans for my life, including his plans for relationships both in a friendship and relationship way. She has often encouraged me to get alongside other Christians to build deep and meaningful relationships - this helps to build my feeling of loneliness of being unknown. As a single Christian there are also three or four other single ladies in the church. One of these makes a real effort to have us round for dinner with other ladies and build relationships. Although this doesn't specifically help me, I know it blesses her. My discipler has always been totally honest with me when I wobble about still being single aged 40 - she reminds me I choose God's ways and not my own. A lasting, honest relationship like this has been crucial to me - as has my own honesty about when I struggle - equally not making singleness the biggest issue but godliness.	May 6, 2012 1:58 PM
450	I have not had any leader who was single.	May 6, 2012 1:29 PM

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451	Shown christians who were single before myself and how they lived full lives. Explained the benefits of me being single and prayed over my content of the situation.	May 6, 2012 1:13 PM
452	Oh - please reveal the answers to the rest of us - we need lots of ideas please.	May 6, 2012 12:05 PM
453	Most single leaders I have known have been involved in youth work (common practice), occasionally worship and very occasionally preaching. Apart from that, they have been encouraged to do a lot of serving (running people around, community work, putting out chairs, PA etc) as they are deemed to have more spare time as they are single.	May 6, 2012 11:15 AM
454	I think the best advice I have been given is to concentrate on where you are today and not dread the future, to try and see what you have today as a gift. I try to celebrate all that I can do because I'm single and childless and try to think it may change one day. I was also advised to change the things I can and accept what I can't change,	May 6, 2012 9:54 AM
455	Presently and in the past - 1.Prayed with me 2.Listen to my fears for the future and hopes 3.Tried to network with other churches to set up a 'singles group' and get backing with them 4.They have researched the lack of availability to meet practising Christians who are single and in my area and are trying to address this area. 5. Acknowledge that this 'group' of singles are not catered for in Church life, nor supported to meet a christian spouse pro-actively. 6. Tried to consider how as a church we can rectify this situation to bring particularly singles and indeed Men into the church environment. But really this is one persons quest with me at the minute and not a church focus sadly.	May 6, 2012 8:25 AM
456	Our Pastoral Care leader and Study grp leader are both divorced women. They are both very caring and independent. Good role models.	May 6, 2012 7:09 AM
457	None	May 6, 2012 6:31 AM
458	There is a married woman in my church who goes the extra mile to try and incorporate me but is frustrated as she is aware there is not much for us. She invites you round for lunch and calls you regularly. She is rare one in a million angel	May 6, 2012 3:47 AM
459	I'm surprised by this question. Is being a single a big issue? I see it as something I need to address if I don't want to be single.	May 6, 2012 1:47 AM
460	Nothing that I've seen so far	May 5, 2012 4:40 PM
461	No Church leader. at the local Church I used to attend regulalry, one of the other sinlge ladies aged 40-50 age range took the initiative to get the singles in teh Church to have social times together	May 5, 2012 3:36 PM
462	accepted people for who they are and not received they with preconceived opinions... love everyone as God commands and accept that we are all a work in progress and will get things wrong and love will conquer everything.	May 5, 2012 3:20 PM
463	Encouraging people to get involved in housegroups / lifegroups, and activities - exploring gifts etc.	May 5, 2012 3:12 PM
464	encouraged singles to set up their own group	May 5, 2012 2:28 PM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

465	none	May 5, 2012 2:04 PM
466	None as yet	May 5, 2012 1:03 PM
467	I once had a vicar who preached the most inspiring sermon ever on the question of divorce. (An older Anglican.) I was happily married at the time, but it has stayed with me. He said that if we presume that Jesus was against divorce, then divorce becomes the only "unforgivable sin" because it is a state of being which, once we have entered it, we are unable to change - except by remarriage, which, if Jesus is anti-divorce, leads to another "unforgiveable sin". It is unthinkable that Christ intends divorcees to find themselves in this unique and appalling state. He also said that a true marriage occurs in the hearts of the two people involved - nowhere else. As a priest he may inadvertently officiate at a marriage of convenience, for instance, or a forced marriage. If the two people involved do not marry in their hearts, then there is no marriage in the sight of God, although there may well be in the eyes of the state. It was a generous and loving sermon that, when my marriage broke down, gave me huge consolation.	May 5, 2012 10:58 AM
468	None	May 5, 2012 9:55 AM
469	comments contained in previous notes	May 5, 2012 9:33 AM
470	Yes we did, but then she got married and moved to a different church	May 5, 2012 6:30 AM
471	They invite single people over for lunch on Sunday.	May 5, 2012 6:03 AM
472	no comment	May 5, 2012 3:49 AM
473	See above. She started organising one off events - meal out, trip out for single women	May 4, 2012 11:57 PM
474	Singles meetings arent "speed dating" but rather how to be Godly and pure while being single and how to approach finding a partner in a way that honors God	May 4, 2012 11:38 PM
475	Previously I had a minister who was inclusive to all and treated all equally and gave encouragement to use your gifts too.	May 4, 2012 4:28 PM
476	They listened and shared their own experiences of singleness. They are now married.	May 4, 2012 3:04 PM
477	Can't think of anyone in particular	May 4, 2012 2:30 PM
478	20s-30s group leader is very open about looking for a husband, and going on Christian Connection to do so.	May 4, 2012 2:11 PM
479	Treated me as one of the church family- my age, gender, marriage status are not mentioned but living a Christian walk is.	May 4, 2012 1:30 PM
480	As my church leader is himself remarried I know that he understands what it is like being a divorced person in the church, which is half the battle.	May 4, 2012 1:26 PM
481	My Church have never done anything like that	May 4, 2012 12:56 PM
482	There's an annual Singles day, which sounds hideous but is designed to counteract the annual Marriage days and is actually really worth while.	May 4, 2012 12:54 PM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

483	MY HOUSE GROUP LEADER HAS BEEN VERY WELCOMING.	May 4, 2012 12:10 PM
484	We have a bereivement group to help discuss things that other people might find difficult to deal with.	May 4, 2012 10:40 AM
485	Many of the mentors that are married are brilliant with talking to students and single women in general, I have always found them very helpful.	May 4, 2012 8:52 AM
486	They have accepted me for who I am.	May 4, 2012 7:47 AM
487	They organised dance opportunities or "tea and chat" events.	May 4, 2012 7:09 AM
488	We try not to dissguse these things in case we are juged or misunderstood. Why we would like to meet someone that might become a friend or our future husbad. Also if we have been devoiced we should not be getting married if are ex his still alive.	May 4, 2012 5:17 AM
489	The leaders in my church have never addressed my singleness or made me feel difference because of it. I think this is the most important thing. I don't want to feel different or 'special'. I just want to be me, single or not.	May 4, 2012 4:22 AM
490	Anna - she is happily married but does not cut herself off from single people but has a real heart for serving Jesus and supporting people in her small group. Although she has three children and a husband you don't feel that she resents time away from that but that she genuinely cares.	May 4, 2012 3:51 AM
491	I don't 'single' myself out as a single christian and have been welcomed and embraced by church leaders and home group members alike and I feel valued within the ministry I'm in. Sometimes when people expect to be overlooked, their expectations will be met as they unconsciously recreate the same experience. Hence the importance of counselling!	May 4, 2012 3:36 AM
492	Not applicable	May 4, 2012 2:11 AM
493	Talking about how choices have consequences. & how certain things impact you whether you like them to or not	May 4, 2012 2:03 AM
494	Sadly no !! The key is to have a heartfelt Biblical understanding of love and compassion - that their pain must become my pain and real to me.	May 3, 2012 5:56 PM
495	-	May 3, 2012 5:27 PM
496	NEVER TO TRUST ON LINE DATEING	May 3, 2012 4:53 PM
497	Given the context of Cathedral worship, I think it would be inappropriate for a church leader to be "inspirational" towards single members of the congregation, unless specifically asked.	May 3, 2012 2:35 PM
498	Good teaching last year on being accepted as a single and others not trying to find them a mate	May 3, 2012 2:21 PM
499	No one.	May 3, 2012 1:42 PM
500	Two people invited me for coffee, and another two for dinner - in 3 years. These were good times. Generally it is me who has to invite people to mine in order to get some company.	May 3, 2012 1:17 PM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

501	I am one of our church leaders and I hope I provide a good role model of being fully involved in church life and that I look out for others.	May 3, 2012 1:00 PM
502	Unfortunately I have never met any leader who has been good for single Christians.	May 3, 2012 12:39 PM
503	I have a very good relationship with my pastor and his wife and they have a very open house. They are very good at just having loads of people round for food several nights a week which creates a very natural uncontrived atmosphere in which to get to know people better. They are very good at drawing 2 people together in conversation without being over-obvious / match making - trully a gift!	May 3, 2012 12:36 PM
504	N/A	May 3, 2012 12:22 PM
505	Has pointed to scripture, invited singles round for lunch, has recommended singles christian organisations and singles christian holidays that have really helped me. They say things like "if you'd like to come for dinner one night this week, just let me know", "if you'd like a lift to the church bbq, just let us know".... invitations with no pressure are great.	May 3, 2012 12:12 PM
506	set up events that singles can attend so that connections can be made.	May 3, 2012 11:49 AM
507	Gving time for prayer and just giving general advice	May 3, 2012 11:39 AM
508	excellent series on men women marriage singleness spanning 3 months - very relevant EVEN for singles :)	May 3, 2012 11:36 AM
509	N/A	May 3, 2012 11:28 AM
510	- Accept that the single person has more experience of being single than he does - Treats like an adult and an equal not as infantilising - Accepts that the person has friends/family/work and personal commitments and cannot devote all of their time to the Church - Does not try to make you feel better by telling you anything or what he thinks you want to hear - Encourages you to take responsibility for yourself - Does not try to convince you that you should be single, you should be happy with it, it should be enough even though it wasn't enough for him and he doesn't know what it feels like.	May 3, 2012 11:27 AM
511	Good counsel about seeking a partner.	May 3, 2012 10:40 AM
512	One who listens with an open mind to my concerns, desires and disappointments. One who accepts that not all singles will marry and are complete in themselves. One who can see that long term friendships are valuable in their own right.	May 3, 2012 10:37 AM
513	My retired church leader considers that the single people have more disposable income than married and wouldn't fund anything. My previous church ran annual parenting courses and marriage courses and nothing for single people to attend - I don't mean a course about singleness, just something more inclusive like evangelism!	May 3, 2012 10:02 AM
514	Organised specific ministries or events suitable to go to whether you're single or not	May 3, 2012 9:58 AM
515	Cant think of one!	May 3, 2012 8:40 AM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

516	We run a single course called One and the leader talks openly about how difficult it can be to find someone and how it is not anyone's fault. Just the numbers' game.	May 3, 2012 8:29 AM
517	Put together a 4 week seminar, or random seminars.	May 3, 2012 7:23 AM
518	At least been open to discussion about the issue, including whether or not it is possible for divorced people to remarry.	May 3, 2012 7:00 AM
519	Two or three just by being single themselves	May 3, 2012 6:39 AM
520	Unfortunately there hasn't been one :-)	May 3, 2012 5:39 AM
521	Current church. Actively gone into the pew-before service and introduced self. Actively encouraged to come to: events/discussion groups. Occasional texts from vicar asking how I am.- I send him info on local community events which I'm involved with.	May 3, 2012 4:54 AM
522	organise youth camp affairs and engage people together as a community	May 3, 2012 4:26 AM
523	N/A	May 3, 2012 4:17 AM
524	She occasionally gets people together for a meal!!	May 3, 2012 3:22 AM
525	I would nominate my vicar who always wants to know how and me and my Daughter are on a regular basis at our church services.	May 3, 2012 2:13 AM
526	listen non judgemental except person and where they are at not put their values on to them, or assume being married is what I want or to be single ask about the issues of getting people together explore barriers in church community to relationships, help dispell the myth that guys are all sangerous.	May 3, 2012 2:10 AM
527	They're also single	May 2, 2012 7:47 PM
528	Tried to recognise that singleness is as valid a calling as marriage. We have many single people of a wide variety of ages so I know they realise we are there.	May 2, 2012 6:39 PM
529	One of our lifegroup members has recently trained to lead Alpha courses. He has been so honest about how he has felt and dealt with being single in a couples world in church. In our lifegroup we deal with all kinds of things and we share out hopes and dreams and successes and disappointments. He has always been a kind and caring person and I think perhaps the life group is more of a suitable place for us to explore singleness in more depth and with more support	May 2, 2012 5:37 PM
530	Willing to pray and believe for a spouse with me.	May 2, 2012 4:03 PM
531	We all used to go to the pub after evening service, for a drink/coffee and we had bbqs on Saturdays. We all hung out together and it was really good fun.	May 2, 2012 4:02 PM
532	no comment	May 2, 2012 3:37 PM
533	One leader has a very direct approach - keeps encouraging people to find a partner. And tells us that the way men and women look in our church is how people actually look - not how people look in magazines, films, porn etc.	May 2, 2012 3:33 PM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

534	Our assistant pastor is a single man in his late twenties and openly admits he wants to stay single at present to concentrate on his calling and the ministry he has been given. He also set up the 20's and 30's group at the church.	May 2, 2012 3:31 PM
535	N/a	May 2, 2012 3:30 PM
536	Met with a pastoral minister at my church a couple of years ago who was very helpful. Showed empathy and validated my feelings of unfairness at my single status. He didn't judge me for being upset and angry at God for singleness but listened and reminded me that God loves me all the same and deeply cares for me even during the times I'm angry with him.	May 2, 2012 3:26 PM
537	the leader gave me time to settle in and was gentle. No big talks just hellos and encouragement to go on camera club trip to London. Got time to chat then.	May 2, 2012 3:19 PM
538	organised Sunday night after-church group and taken interest in individual members	May 2, 2012 3:14 PM
539	Experienced leader, easy to relate to, good listener, loving and understanding, good practical advice.	May 2, 2012 3:03 PM
540	Both our current and previous Chairmen have been divorced, and while they have not made a big issue of it, I think it has opened others' minds to how God can restore divorced people.	May 2, 2012 2:36 PM
541	The three elders are very aware of the problems especially the single mums in our church face in their daily lives. They are always there for them to talk to them, pray for them, help them. One of the mums has been quite ill for months and elders would keep in touch w her, elders wives visiting her, etc. Another single mum who was going to get a divorce has now brought her soon to be ex-husband to church and they have met with one elder and his wife to see if they can rescue the marriage!	May 2, 2012 2:36 PM
542	Gave a talk explaining being single is not a disease. That marriage is temporary and we should value eternal things more. It wasn't a church leader, but a colleague.	May 2, 2012 2:34 PM
543	As I stated previously, they have used scripture, personal experience and real honesty to help single Christians learn more about themselves and about God at their centre.	May 2, 2012 2:30 PM
544	A sermon on sex! Invited me round for lunch on occasion which has been valued. More people should give hospitality to single people	May 2, 2012 2:21 PM
545	Makes jokey & friendly comments about people getting together in the church, if anyone gets engaged quite often they go out to the front of the congregation and everyone prays for them, there are opportunities (parties, events, etc) to meet people in a church environment, church leaders are always saying positive things about spouse.	May 2, 2012 2:10 PM
546	My pastor sees us as individuals not as couples. I wouldn't want to be seen as "someone's other half" but as myself.	May 2, 2012 2:09 PM
547	none	May 2, 2012 1:49 PM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

548	??	May 2, 2012 1:30 PM
549	To meet up twice a month would be great, but there is so much on at church there is little time to get people together. when we do we all say we should do this more often, between churches too to cover a wider area/community as 1 church can,t meet all the needs.	May 2, 2012 1:28 PM
550	Very odd question weird	May 2, 2012 1:26 PM
551	Do single meetings	May 2, 2012 1:18 PM
552	NA	May 2, 2012 12:46 PM
553	Just included us,taken an active interest in our needs and taken the time to spend time with us and input into our lives	May 2, 2012 12:43 PM
554	One guy stood up and preached a sermon on being single/ about when he was single.	May 2, 2012 12:35 PM
555	With regards Q17 - Difficult to answer - I listen to one homily a week of about 5-10 mins and the priest talks about all sorts of things - It is not the sort of church where one gets long sermons on marriage.	May 2, 2012 12:29 PM
556	Our pastor is married, the other deacon is a bachelor and I (a deacon) was married for 39 years but know the experience of losing my partner. I am confident that between us we could offer advice, based on our life experiences, to anyone in our fellowship asks for advice.	May 2, 2012 12:27 PM
557	Take the time to chat and mix with myself.	May 2, 2012 12:15 PM
558	Its a case of the singles doing something for themselves if they feel they are missing out but the church involves everybody in everything whether single, widowed or married.	May 2, 2012 11:53 AM
559	My church has been LOUSY in this department. It feels like we're in Pride and Prej with the leadership team hoping everyone will marry off. New Wine women in leadership and brought some interesting women to the table Tonya somebody changed the way I was viewing my singleness in a big way. She talked about vision and adventure and pioneering and opportunity's. I am so used to pity, blame, awkward match-making, conversations about my imaginary husband and wedding.	May 2, 2012 11:51 AM
560	I led a church as a single man, and I think that was a pretty positive demonstration of valuing single people.	May 2, 2012 11:35 AM
561	The best time i ever had as a single lady in church was 2 years spent in Africa where I felt accepted in my singleness and whole people joked and prayed for a husband it never came with the feeling that it was a necessity. In the UK we seem to think marriage is the natural state and should be the aim for everyone, in Africa it came across more as a blessing and a community celebration. I think churches with good community care for each other have less of an issue	May 2, 2012 11:24 AM
562	Have never had one unfortunately	May 2, 2012 11:05 AM
563	not yet a leader :-)) however there are plenty of single people who are an extremely good example of God fulfilling their singleness in various ways and	May 2, 2012 10:56 AM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

	with different callings.	
564	In the past - organised barge holidays for singles.	May 2, 2012 10:36 AM
565	Encouraged people to talk, invited singles over for dinner	May 2, 2012 10:32 AM
566	Preferr not to.	May 2, 2012 10:29 AM
567	Challenging me to consider that people who are married or in relationships actually have their own struggles, and that it's more important to embrace life as it is and not place disproportionate emphasis on finding someone - good advice!	May 2, 2012 10:20 AM
568	Seen me as a person in my own right and not excluded me from their home or family just because I was on my own. Made me feel valued and included by their actions and never talked down to me as someone single - danger you are treated as a perennial child as you have not yet achieved the "adult" status of marriage and children	May 2, 2012 10:19 AM
569	N/A	May 2, 2012 10:17 AM
570	Just a timely reminder that our primary relationship is with the Lord and its not about me. To look to seek a bigger God and the Joy of a relationship with Him... and it was very good advice that became a continuing great blessing.... but then I already have a family with my children....	May 2, 2012 10:16 AM
571	Very supportive when my (non live in) girlfriend died.	May 2, 2012 10:07 AM
572	Local Director of Youth for Christ is member of my Church and he is single	May 2, 2012 10:07 AM
573	ensured their inclusiveness in all church activities which was a wonderful thing when I was first widowed	May 2, 2012 10:06 AM
574	n/a	May 2, 2012 10:01 AM
575	Just welcoming to all and identifying everyone for their individual gifts regardless of their marital status.	May 2, 2012 9:57 AM
576	THE LEADER IS VERY CAREING TO ALL.I THINK THERE SHOULD BE MEETINGS FOR ALL WHO ARE SINGLE ,AND LONELY.	May 2, 2012 9:53 AM
577	none	May 2, 2012 9:51 AM
578	our ex pastor set up a relationships event it was great we had a panel down the front who answered questions . We also had a series of talk in our 18-30's evening service called sex on fire which talked about relationships singleness and sex.	May 2, 2012 9:42 AM
579	NONE	May 2, 2012 9:35 AM
580	One of our elders is single and is a great example of someone who may not have chosen singleness but is still living that life to the full and doing great things for God.	May 2, 2012 9:18 AM
581	Quakers work with young people with all sorts of problems and I am sure singleness comes into their discussions.	May 2, 2012 9:17 AM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

582	Tunbridge Wells Churches Together has supported the HTB Divorce and Separation Recovery Course which was brilliant and reached out to people who are not normally the focus of church outreach/mission.	May 2, 2012 8:44 AM
583	We had a students/young people weekend which involved a talk on relationships. It was good in some ways as they got other couples in to talk about their relationships and had an anonymous text line for questions. However, this focused a lot on the challenges of being in a relationship as a christian, and had little focus on being a single christian.	May 2, 2012 8:34 AM
584	Prayed with me, provided re-assurance, highlighted the benefits of being single too!	May 2, 2012 8:31 AM
585	Accepted me and made sure I am in contact with them. Our Pastor keeps in regular touch and is pastorally very good.	May 2, 2012 8:20 AM
586	One of my pastor last week was giving as guidance how to find a life partner and what to do when you spotted some one who can potential be your life partner, how to approach her/him	May 2, 2012 8:17 AM
587	I only know of one old women who remained single her entire life as she was a missionary! Most people today put their careers, family, education, etc ahead of God. Very few put God first. That is the only way to be a good single Christian. God comes first at the exclusion of ALL others.	May 2, 2012 8:09 AM
588	I think that often a spiritual answer is given and what is needed is to be listened to and encouraged to believe that God may have someone for you. That 'hope,' really makes a difference. Being told to accept your singleness is not helpful at all.	May 2, 2012 8:09 AM
589	My sister wrote a very helpful study about singleness. She was single until the age of 30.	May 2, 2012 8:04 AM
590	They ran a Divorce Care course, which attracted people from all walks of life, Christian and non-Christian	May 2, 2012 7:58 AM
591	Homegroups for Singles Talks specifically about Singelness/ Guest speakers	May 2, 2012 7:58 AM
592	We dont have one	May 2, 2012 7:52 AM
593	We had a curate who would myself and children for meals on days traditionally thought as family days in the church ie. Sunday lunch, Bank Holiday Mondays, Christmas and Easter. This was so important to me as they are the days where I feel most alone. We are now very good friends and try and invite other single people to join us at Easter and Christmas.	May 2, 2012 7:47 AM
594	See above.	May 2, 2012 7:45 AM
595	We have a leadership team of 3 and one of the pastors has been very helpful, giving practical advice, and encouraging. I think he looks at relationships as a practical pursuit rather than just a spiritual endeavour. So he has asked me if there's anyone I like and have I established any type of friendship with them. I know in the past he has even acted as go between for two parties that we interested in each other.	May 2, 2012 7:45 AM
596	included singleness on a sermon series on 'issues' along with marriage	May 2, 2012 7:40 AM

Page 18, Q1. If you have a Church leader or worker who has been good for single Christians, please tell us about what they have done which might provide inspiration to others.

597	Integrated singles with families in social events.	May 2, 2012 7:38 AM
598	One of my leaders is single herself and we have talked about the issue at length, both encouraging one another. And as I have said an other church leader makes me feel like I'm part of the family, her and her husband are inclusive and loving to a variety of people.	May 2, 2012 7:36 AM
599	Simply listening to my concerns and insecurities and those of others.	May 2, 2012 7:20 AM
600	Church leader's wife has been fantastic as she was in the same situation, but lived in a place where there were more christians about.	May 2, 2012 7:18 AM
601	N/A	May 2, 2012 7:15 AM
602	Not applicable	May 2, 2012 6:48 AM
603	My home group leader is one of the pastors in the church and when I was going through difficulty recently he just sent the occasional email/text to ask how I was going. I found it really encouraging to be 'checked up on' by someone at church.	May 2, 2012 6:40 AM
604	no one cares	May 2, 2012 6:33 AM
605	My current leader has let me know how he understand loneliness. He shared from his life a time when he felt extremely isolated and lonely. I knew he really did understand me then. He has told me he would hate to me single and he is blessed to be married. I know he understands which is very important to me. He also has been very supportive of my desire to set up a singles group or ministry in our area. He thinks it is a need in the church and is keen to see more help given to single people.	May 2, 2012 6:31 AM
606	They are always there to listen.	May 2, 2012 6:29 AM
607	they dont stigmatise or alienate single people and give them chances to help out in ministry and other things	May 2, 2012 6:26 AM
608	Cathy Clarke at Hillsong, she was single until she was 32/ She gets it better than anyone else I can think of.	May 2, 2012 6:20 AM
609	At Christmas all the alone are invited to lunch at the church which is great	May 2, 2012 6:20 AM
610	Organise social events with equal male and female attendees. 400:1 ratio of women to men doesn't help anyone. Encourage people to go for coffee with each other. Tell them they need to consult God but they also have to be wise. Every coffee date isn't a marital partner. It is possible to be unequally yolked with another believer.	May 2, 2012 6:19 AM
611	Just being open about it and sharing their own experiences. He has never expressed that I should get into a relationship, and was very supportive when I walked away from a Christian relationship. I would say just gently asking how you're feeling about being single is the way forward, as I then opened up about it and my thoughts on it all.	May 2, 2012 6:16 AM
612	Simply put, to accept everyone regardless of their background. It's not that hard!	May 2, 2012 5:50 AM