

Models of Singles Ministry

By Earl Creps
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Model #1: The Sunday School Hub

- Core: a singles Sunday school class
- Fellowship meal or activity afterward
- Occasional outside activities

Model #2: The Three-Generation Breakout

- Core: combined session for worship
- Age-level breakout electives:
 - Young Adult Bible study
 - Boomer group/divorce recovery
 - Seniors study
- Combined closing and fellowship time

Model #3: The Topical Breakout

- Core: combined Sunday school class
- Off-night worship event with breakout groups:
 - Divorce Recovery
 - Leadership Training
 - Children's Ministry
- Monthly fellowships

Model #4: The Way-Cool GenX Thing

- Core: midweek worship event in GenX style:
 - Postmodern orientation
 - Music/teaching highly experiential
- Cool off-night activities, like a Christian Comedy Club
- Married couples are included
- Lots of direct mail promotion
- Small groups for discipleship

Model #5: The Inter-SAM

- Core: multiple-church coalition
- Monthly seeker-sensitive outreach dinner at a neutral site
- Quarterly fellowship activities
- Semi-annual missions trips and outreaches
- Joint newsletter and promotion

Model #6: The Targeted Group

- Core: define one specific type of single to reach and go after them
- Uses a specific ministry method such as Divorce Recovery

- Offers parallel children's programming
- Doesn't worry about the groups outside the target

Model #7: Mainstreaming

- Core: "we're not married...so what?"
- Ministry to singles is to prepare them for leadership
- Singles are dispersed into ministry positions
- Singles and couples combined in all activities
- No formal SAM

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