5. *Who am I? A* CHRISTIAN

- God's perspective on our identity should be primary.
- As Christians, *identity confusion* occurs when we let the things of this world define us more than God's Word.
- Your fundamental identity as a single adult is that of a Christian.
- Eph 2:1-6; 4:22-24; Gal 3:26-28.
- Take greater ownership of your faith.

Next Week: The Gift and Freedom of Singleness (Week 2)

Questions, concerns, feedback or comments? Email us at *Deepak@capbap.org* *and* *LukeHolland@gmail.com*

Singleness & Identity (Week 1)

What are we doing in the singleness class?

Week 1: Singleness & Identity
Week 2: The Gift & Freedom of Singleness
Week 3: Friendship & Community
Week 4: Contentment (idolatry, contentment as a single)
Week 5: Panel

1. *Who am I?* SINGLE

1996: Singles make up 45% of the population

Definition of singleness:

- Someone who is not married?
- Those in our church community who have the opportunity and freedom to use their gifts in undivided devotion to the Lord (1 Cor 7:35).

2. *Who am I? An* EMPLOYEE

"Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need" (Eph 4:28).

Other references: Proverbs 14:23; 21:25; 22:29; 28:19.

- Take advantage of the freedom (Prov 24:27).
- Don't set such a ridiculous pace (Luke 14:28-33).

- Build your life around a church.

- A quandary for single women.

3. *Who am I? A* SON OR DAUGHTER

- It seems like the biblical pattern is for a woman to remain under her father's authority until she can be given in marriage to a husband (Gen 2:24; Judges 21:1, 7; 1 Sam 18:17; Matt 24:38; Luke 20:34), but….

- Honor and respect your parents (Eph 6:1).

- A distinct difference in Christian and non-Christian parents.

- Put yourself within striking distance of older men and women in the congregation (Titus 2; Heb 13:17).

- The elders have a "fatherly" role in the life of singles (1 Thess 2:11; 1 Tim 3:5).

4. *Who am I? A* SEXUAL BEING

"Some people think of world religions as Christianity's main competitors. Yet I think it can be fairly said that the main competitor that Christianity faces today in the West is not Islam or Judaism. It is not atheism or Hinduism. It is eroticism—the increasingly uninhibited search for fulfilling our sexual passions in whatever form we please" (Mark Dever).

- Be honest and open instead of ashamed and secretive.

- Be really careful about the temptations that come with a sexually pure life.

- One of the greatest dangers of singleness is the ability to isolate yourself (Gen 3; Prov 18:1 "Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment"; Eph 5).

- Those of you who have active sexual pasts –the blood of Christ covers your sin (Rev 1:5 "To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood").

- If you are struggling, don't fight this battle alone.