



SUNDAYS IN JULY

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QUESTION #2: *Can We Just Be Friends?*

fb/ig: @thestoryhouston @pastorerichuffman www.thestory.church July 16, 2017

I hope you'll sign up to receive my daily devotionals - 40 Days of Doubt: A Single Sceptic's Devotional - as they will serve as a companion to this sermon series! You must register in order to receive them! Visit bit.ly/tsh40days to sign up!

Here are my working hypotheses for this series:

1. most single people are looking for a committed relationship
2. most committed relationships are moving toward marriage
3. most married people are looking for ways to grow deeper in love.

Over the course of this series, we're rolling out Ten Ground Rules for Real Romance. Here are the first four:

1. SINGLE \neq INCOMPLETE
2. CHARACTER > CHEMISTRY
3. FRIENDSHIP FUELS REAL ROMANCE
4. SOULMATES ARE MADE, NOT BORN

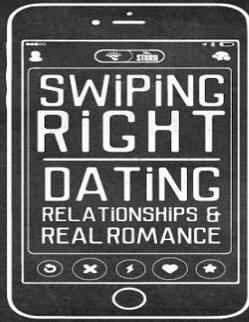
What are your first impressions and knee-jerk reactions to Rules 3 and 4?

Soooo today let's talk about friendship in the context of dating.

What are some of the reasons why it's a bad thing to be FRIEND-ZONED?

But what's the flaw in this line of reasoning?

1. Most single people say they want _____,
2. and the best marriages are _____,
3. but we _____.



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What do you think are some of the traits of true friendship?

John 15:15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

How is the Bible a story about friendship? What's it mean to be called "friends of God"?

What difference does real friendship make in marriage?

What difference do you think it would make if people retrained themselves to date for friendship first?

Write more notes and insights from this message below: