



Are you ministering to today's Single Parents?

Our Objectives at JAMES CRUISE MINISTRIES Become a SUPER Single Parent

- To help single parents build stability, love and wholeness in their homes.
- Increase understanding to the special challenges in the single parent family.
 - Help develop a game plan for successful single parent family living.
- Empower churches to better minister to the single parent families in their community.
- Educate others about the challenges and hardships involved in single parent family.
- Provide resources (written, audio & visual), conferences, seminars, retreats and talks.
 - Provide training for church leadership, staff and lay leaders.

Who are single parents and their families?

More and more these days parents find themselves raising their children alone, by themselves as single parents. There are more single parents raising their children now than ever before. The traditional structure of husband, wife and children is giving way to another form of family life – *“the single-parent family”*. Where one parent, either a mother or a father is forced for whatever reason to become the sole head of the household for their children.

The following statistics may surprise you. The number of single mothers increased between 1994 and 2006, from 3 million to 10.4 million; over the same time frame, the number of single fathers increased also, from 393,000 to 2.5 million.

39 % of all children in the United States that are under 18 years of age live in families where only one parent resides in the home (that's more than 1 in 3).

Of children living with one parent:

- 38% live with a divorced parent
- 35% live with a never-married parent
- 19% live with a separated parent
- 4% live with a widowed parent
- 4% live with a parent whose spouse lives elsewhere

Being a single parent is no walk in the park. It doesn't matter how one becomes a single parent.

JAMES CRUISE MINISTRIES

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The following statistics may surprise you.

In the United States

61 % are Two parent households
39 % are now Single parent households (That's more than 1 in 3)
38.5% of all births in the U.S. are to unmarried women

In Mississippi

44 % are Single parent families (That's almost half)
50% of all births are to unmarried women

Of Single Parents

1994 - 2006

84% are single parent MOMS (from 3 million to 10.4 million)
16% are single parent DADS (from 393,000 to 2.5 million)

75 % of all children in the U.S. will spend at least some time in a single-parent household.

- Each year the percentage of single parent household's **continues to grow.** •

Statistics—Marrying Again

38% of all weddings in the U.S. are remarriages for one or both partners. Most form step-families.
33% of individuals who got divorced in 2008 were re-divorcing (that is divorcing again).
33% of step-family marriages last until death do we part.
Over 60% of re-marriages end in divorce. Subjecting children to yet another family failure.
73% of third marriages end in divorce.

References; Wendy Manning, personal communication Jan 2010, National Center for Family and Marriage Research). U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2006)

Time parents are **with** their children:
1950 54% Today 18%

Let us at JAMES CRUISE MINISTRIES give you a helping hand with your single parent families and ministry. Statistics tell us that most single parents drastically cut back their involvement in or leave their church after becoming single parents. The reason for their leaving in their words are; *"I don't fit in anymore"*, *"My church doesn't understand me and my situation"*, *"They don't understand what I'm going through"*, *"My church doesn't minister to single parents"*, *"They think I'm just a single"*, and *"My church doesn't ever have events for single parents"*.

***Let us help by being your Single Parenting Resource
to your church, organization or association.***

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