I experienced an enlightening church service this morning. It kind of blindsided me to be honest. Pastor Jimmy Evans was the guest speaker, and he and his wife have been conducting marriage seminars together for over forty years. They just finished a marriage conference at our church this weekend, so Pastor Evans stayed to deliver today's sermon. It was amazing.

Those of you who are familiar with my story know I'm divorced, for three years come May of this year. It has taken ages to get to a point of relative peace, and yet sometimes the freshness of the pain hits again, like it was just yesterday. This morning's sermon reminded me about that pain, causing me to grieve all over again, however the grieving came from a different place this time. The most important takeaway from this morning was that I have renewed hope in finding a person with whom I can spend my remaining years. Yes, even at my age.

The pastor said there is a small percentage of 'super people' who are meant to be single, like Jesus was, and the apostle Paul, but he added that most of us were created for marriage. We, as God's created people, thrive in the marital setting, but only if we do it God's way. I was so relieved to hear this, tears welled up in my eyes. I know in my heart I'm not meant to finish this life alone.

I won't attempt to share the contents of the sermon myself, but I am sharing the link below so you can hear it firsthand. I believe you will be blessed by it as well.

## God's Perfect Plan for Marriage (youtube.com)

Recently, doing life on my own I have felt overwhelmed by the reality of raising my grandsons. I've been trying to find a reprieve, looking in various places to get a short, much-needed break from this most important responsibility. Sometimes I want to throw up my hands and quit, but I know I've been placed where I am for a reason.

This week, I was feeling defeated from not hearing from the Lord about where I need to be or for what I should be praying. I was even considering shelving my blogs on this website, not sure if my words really mattered. After a rough start to my week, I chose to fall off the radar and go silent for a while from my family. I feel like I haven't had anyone pour into my cup for a very long time.

In the sermon today, the pastor reiterated that we are supposed to be using the unique gifts God has given us. I was reminded again that God has given me a love for writing. It doesn't matter what others think about my writing, although I hope you are touched somehow by my words. What is important is that I obey my Father, and so, here is another entry for 'today's thoughts.' Aside from raising these boys and waiting for my future husband, I believe I need to write, and share my journey with others. Our great God can use my small and insignificant words to do miraculous things.

While searching and seeking answers, I came across the images below that show the number of views for my website, beginning in 2021. That first year, I didn't start until April, so the numbers reflect two-thirds of the year. I know I have had to revamp my site and my computer crashed once or twice since then, so the numbers for each year aren't exact, but these images give me something that is measurable.

I like to think of each view as a planted seed. If just one person is led to read scripture or to call on God in prayer, it is worth it. To those who have visited in the past and to those who are viewing right now, I thank you all for giving me courage to keep sowing. I look forward to watching these seeds continue to grow. There is still so much more to do. To God be the glory.

Blessings,

Lisa Jo

"I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest." (John 4:35b NIV)

