

The Steps to "Dating"

What you need to do to be ready to court.

There is no Biblical support for our society's version of dating. By current standards our practice of dating is a social excuse to place ourselves in a place of great temptation that God clearly warns us about. There is no wise reason why two teenagers of the opposite sex should be alone together for long periods of time and expect to escape without sinning. King David was a grown man with anything a man could want and he still did not escape his own lust (2 Sam 11).

I understand the pressures put on people these days. But consider the modern statistics of divorce, STDs, teen pregnancies and abortions. All of these numbers have shot up at rapid rates since our society decided we should shop around at an increasingly early age. This is not a matter of trust but rather one of wisdom.

When we use the world's standards of dating rules we place ourselves in a position of compromise, we train ourselves in bad habits and we ignore the wisdom and authority structure of God.

So, if you want different results; if you want to avoid the heartaches and divorces let us begin to use the wisdom and resources God has given us. He did not just hang us out to dry; after all God thought of sex and marriage so he certainly made provision to get us hitched.

So, when you begin to become interested in the opposite sex it is time to kick into action and preparation. You see if you are a Godly person then your romantic interest should be headed for marriage or it will become sin. So, that means when you become interested in the opposite sex it is time to start to prepare for marriage; not necessarily with that person but in general.

So, I have outlined some things to perfect prior to seeking out a mate. Focus your energy in the right direction.

God has so much for you to accomplish while you are single. Your focus must change when you are in a relationship and you cannot put the same energy into the things God has for you to accomplish and learn (1Cor 7:32-34). Don't ever cheat yourself out of the opportunity to become the person you could be. There is plenty of time to become who God has in mind and still have a relationship. Besides you need to give your mate time to grow and serve God as well. Don't rob someone else of their opportunity to serve God either.

This is a choice that only you can make. There are many opinions on the matter. But, the bottom line is: Will you choose God's way or the world's way? This is no different than the other choices you make about serving God, it is just louder and in your face all the time.



So do you want the drama of high school dating or the lasting love of a Godly marriage?

MEN

Be prepared to be the spiritual leader of yourself and your family.

Be ready to financially support yourself and your family.

Be ready to be a servant.

Be prepared to love your wife as Christ loved the church and be willing to give up your life for this.

Be brave and honoring. That young lady is under the authority of her father until she is married. Be ready to speak with her authority; do not go around her authority.

Be upright and public. Be willing to have a relationship above reproach. Stand publicly so that you can stand scrutiny and protect your relationship from your flesh. Be accountable.

Ladies

Be prepared to spiritually support and pray for your husband and family.

Be prepared to take care of your family in whatever way you and your husband deem appropriate.

Be ready to be a servant.

Be prepared to submit to your husband as unto the Lord.

Be willing to be under the authority God has placed you under right now and allow them to protect you. Be willing to listen to wisdom and honor decisions made for your benefit.

Be upright and public. Be willing to have a relationship above reproach. Stand publicly so that you can stand scrutiny and protect your relationship from you flesh. Be accountable.

Are you ready to love like this?

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."

[Ephesians 5:22-31](#)

Are you ready to love like this?

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

[1 Corinthians 13:4-7](#)