

**LOVE**

**NEVER AWAKEN IT  
BEFORE IT IS READY**

**SONG OF SOLOMON 2:7 – YOUNG WOMEN OF JERUSALEM, PROMISE ME BY  
THE POWER OF DEER AND GAZELLES NEVER TO AWAKEN LOVE BEFORE IT IS  
TIME. (WORD IN LIFE BIBLE TRANSLATION)**

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

## **91% OF HOUSEHOLDS OWN A LEAST ONE BIBLE**

IF THIS BOOK WERE READ PERHAPS, EACH PERSON IN EACH HOUSEHOLD WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT TO EVERY THING THERE IS A SEASON, AND A TIME TO EVERY PURPOSE UNDER HEAVEN. ECCLESIASTES 3:1

WHEN THE OWNER MADE THE WORLD, HE UNDERSTOOD WHAT WAS NEEDED, THE TIME FRAME WHEN EVERYTHING SHOULD BE PLACED INTO EXISTENCE. WHEN HE COMPLETED EACH SECTION, BEHOLD IT WAS VERY GOOD.

NOW GENESIS CHAPTERS 1-3 GIVES US THE BEGINNING AND SUPPORTS THE FACT THAT WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN FREE WILL. THAT IS WE CAN CHOOSE AND MAKE DECISIONS.

THEREFORE, THE OWNER MADE EVERYTHING AND IT WAS VERY GOOD. HE GAVE US A MANUAL TO FOLLOW. TO FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS WOULD ENSURE THAT WE WOULD HAVE A HIGH LEVEL OF SUCCESS.

**NOTE: SUCCESS AS THE OWNER DEFINES IT IS DIFFERENT FROM THE SUCCESS WE DEFINE IT. WE LIMIT SUCCESS TO TEMPORARY THINGS OF THIS DECAYING EARTH AND GOD VIEWS ALL IN THE MEASUREMENT OF ETERNITY**

FROM THAT FIRST ACT OF DISOBEDIENCE IN THE GARDEN, THE WORLD BEGAN TO DECAY. HOWEVER, FOR THIS TIME OF SHARING WE WILL JUST LOOK AT THE PAST 25 YEARS. THERE HAS BEEN AS STUDY EROSION OF THE WAY PEOPLE VIEW THE GUIDELINES THAT THE OWNER WROTE IN THIS WORD. WE HAVE TURNED OUR HEADS, MADE

EXCUSES AND NOW WE FACE AN ENEMY THAT IS BOLD IN OUR FACE AND WE WONDER HOW IT ALL HAPPENED.

NOTE THESE STATISTICS CONCERNING YOUTH AND THE EROSION OF THE FAMILY THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE AND INCREASES AS WE SPEAK:

- OVER 3,000 CHILDREN AND TEENS A DAY SEE THEIR PARENTS' MARRIAGE END IN DIVORCE
- 40% OF THE CHILDREN IN AMERICA WILL GO TO BED IN A HOME WITHOUT A FATHER
- SEVEN (7) OUT OF TEN (10) GIRLS AND EIGHT (8) OUT OF TEN (10) BOYS WILL HAVE HAD SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS BY THE TIME THEY GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL.
- Over 30% OF EIGHTH GRADERS HAVE EXPERIMENTED WITH ILLICIT DRUGS.
- EIGHTY PERCENT OF GRADUATING SENIORS WILL HAVE EXPERIMENTED WITH ALCOHOL, FORTY-TWO PERCENT HAVE USED MARIJUANA AND FIFTY-TWO PERCENT WILL HAVE USED ILLICIT (ILLEGAL) DRUGS.
- TREATMENT FOR TEEN PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE HAS INCREASED 300 PERCENT
- TEN PERCENT OF ADOLESCENT BOYS AND EIGHTEEN PERCENT OF ADOLESCENT GIRLS HAVE ATTEMPTED TO TAKE THEIR OWN LIFE.

- AT THE TIME OF THIS STUDY, CHILDREN AGES 13-17 MAKE UP ONLY 7% OF THE AMERICAN POPULATION, BUT AT THE SAME TIME THEY MAKE UP 31% OF THE SHOPLIFTING POPULATION.

- TEN PERCENT OF TEENS IN 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE HAVE ABUSED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS. ON AN AVERAGE, 2,500 TEENS ABUSE A PRESCRIPTION DRUG FOR THE FIRST TIME EVERY DAY.

- MEN      WOMEN              SEXUAL PARTNERS

|     |     |             |
|-----|-----|-------------|
| 64% | 86% | 1-10        |
| 16% | 06% | 10-20       |
| 17% | 3%  | 21 AND MORE |

NOTE: SUPPORTS THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF SEXUAL TRANSMITTED DISEASES

- THE AVERAGE STARTING AGE FOR DRINKING IS 14

- **1,100,000** TEENAGE GIRLS BECAME PREGNANT IN 1984. 30,000 WERE UNDER THE AGE OF 14. 80%, OF THE PREGNANT TEENAGE GIRLS WILL DROP OUT OF SCHOOL 70% OF THE UNWED TEENAGE MOTHERS WILL GO ON WELFARE AND TODAY THE CYCLE CONTINUES.

- BOYS AT AGE 13 AND GIRLS AT AGE 15 WHO HAVE NEVER HAD SEX ARE CONSIDERED A MINORITY.

- A RESEARCH AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY SURVEYED 677 (7<sup>TH</sup> - 9<sup>TH</sup>) GRADERS. FIFTY-FIVE PERCENT ADMITTED THAT THEY HAVE HAD SEX.

AT THE END OF THE STUDY – EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THESE SEXUALLY ACTIVE GIRLS WISHED THEY HAD SAID NO.

THEY REALIZED THAT THEY HAD AWAKENED THEIR BODY AND THE LOVE THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN RESERVED FOR THE WEDDING NIGHT WAS NOW AWAKENED BEFORE IT WAS TIME.

AN AS A RESULT, THAT EXCEPTION OF THE FIRST INTIMATE UNION OF ONENESS SANCTIFIED BY THE BEAUTY OF HOLY MATRIMONY IS NOW LOST TO THEM FOREVER.

WHEN WE SEEK TO DO IT OUR WAY OR BY THE STANDARDS OF THE WORLD, OR BECAUSE WE FEEL LIKE WE HAVE THE ANSWERS, THAN WE GET STATISTICS THAT MAKE US SHAKE OUR HEADS IN WONDERMENT.

IN THE STORY OF THE COCOON, THE STRUGGLE WITHIN HELPS THE BUTTERFLY'S WINGS BECOME STRONG. HELPING THE BUTTERFLY GET OUT TO SOON OR WITHOUT A STRUGGLE WOULD CAUSE GREAT HARM. GOD DESIGNED EVERYTHING AND SET IN MOTION HOW IT SHOULD WORK IN ORDER THAT THE OUTCOME WOULD BE THE VERY BEST.

**WHEN WE INTERFERE WITH GOD'S DESIGN, PROBLEMS OCCUR.**

IN 2003 14.7 MILLION CHILDREN LIVED IN POVERTY

THIS IS A RESULT OF THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN BORN IN THE VICIOUS CIRCLE OF POVERTY THAT CONTINUES TO GROW AND LIKE A MAGNET, IT ATTRACTS MORE AND MORE.

WHAT HAS THIS INFORMATION TO DO WITH THE SUBJECT – IT SHOWS SOME OF THE ISSUES THAT COME TO BE WHEN WE UNLOCK LOVE BEFORE IT IS TIME.

GODLY ROLE MODELS HAVE GONE INTO HIDING. THE FEAR OF STANDING ALONE, BEING UNPOPULAR, OR IN SOME CASES THE LIVING OF A DOUBLE LIFE, HAS SILENCED SOME VOICES BUT IN THEIR SILENCE THEY HAVE SUPPORTED THE CONTINUATION OF THE WORLD GONE MAD.

CHILDREN, WHO HAVE NOT YET DEVELOPED IN PERCEPTION AND DAILY LIVING SKILLS, ARE HAVING CHILDREN.

CHILDREN, WITH CHILDREN ACTING LIKE CHILDREN, PLAYING THE GAME OF ADULTS/FAMILY BUT HAVING NOTHING TO PASS TO THE FUTURE GENERATIONS.

CHILDREN WITH CHILDREN, STRUGGLING TRYING TO FINISH HIGH SCHOOL AND/OR COLLEGE, MAKE ENDS MEET, TAKE CARE OF HOME, PERHAPS A PART-TIME JOB WITH LITTLE TIME TO SPEND WITH THE CHILDREN SO TELEVISION AND PEERS INSTILL THEIR VALUES ON HOW TO SURVIVE.

CHILDREN HAVING CHILDREN AND PASSING THEM FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE, MOVING FROM PLACE TO PLACE, BUILDING NO STABILITY, NO RESPONSIBILITY AND NO RELATIONSHIPS.

CHILDREN HAVING CHILDREN AND SHARING LOVE IN SEGMENTS AS TIME PERMITS.

**THE BABY IS SEEN AS A TOY AND FOR A SEASON, IT IS FUN. HOWEVER, UNLIKE THE TOY, THE BABY CANNOT BE PUT ON THE SHELF WHEN YOU GET TIRED OR WHEN IT IS INCONVENT TO BE A MOM OR TO BE A DAD.**

CHILDREN HAVING CHILDREN WITHOUT THE STRUCTURE NEEDED TO DEAL WITH STRESS AND FAMILY NEEDS WILL HAVE REAL PROBLEMS WHEN THE CRUNCH FOR TIME AND MONEY ALL COMES TO A HEAD AS THE YEARS PROGRESS.

CHILDREN HAVING CHILDREN TO FILL THE VOID THAT WAS NEVER FILLED IN THEIR LIVES ONLY MAY FIND THAT THE VOID REMAINS AND THEY NOW HAVE CHILDREN THAT THEY DON'T REALLY WANT OR LOVE.

CHILDREN HAVING CHILDREN HOPING THE MAN/BOY WILL INSTANTLY TURN INTO PRINCE CHARMING AND WANT TO TAKE CARE OF HIS FAMILY ARE HURT MORE DEEPLY WHEN THE PRINCE NEVER APPEARS.

CHILDREN HAVING CHILDREN EXPECTING THE ULTIMATE HIGH ONLY TO FALL VICTIM TO A SELF-DESTRUCTIVE SYSTEM CALLED WELFARE.



CHILDREN WHO AWAKEN LOVE BEFORE IT IS TIME FIND THAT SEX AND LOVE ARE NOT THE SAME. ONE SHOULD HAVE A REAL LOVE RELATIONSHIP SO THAT SEX IS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THAT LOVE

## FROM DATING TO MARRIAGE HOW DOES IT HAPPEN?



**Marriage – The biblical concept whose foundation was in the beginning – the book of Genesis suggests that marriage is a new relationship, that is a man will leave his father and mother where there was nurturing to adulthood and then at adulthood the ties are transferred from parents to a wife**

## **One Husband + One Wife = One Flesh**

**This tie is different for it enables the man and woman to become one flesh. This implies that the husband and wife experience the joys and sorrows of this life and sharing all things together.**

**The New Testament enriches our understanding of marriage as the bonding to two people in a covenant, which God uses to illustrate the depth of his, own commitment to Israel which Jesus uses to show his relationship to the church.**

**Ephesians 5:25 Husbands are to love their wives as Christ loved the church and gave himself for it. In respond to the love of her husband, the wife freely submits – Ephesians 5:22-24.**

**One husband + one wife = one flesh forever  
The forever is intimacy with God**



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## Marriage – Planning

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In the planning stages, we are learning about God. We are learning the most important rules of life and that is to love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. **Matthew 22:37-40**

In order to be prepared to experience the union of love as designed by God, one must have an intimate relationship with God. This is the key if you are to hear the directions from God.

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The first is to understand love. God is love and love is action - John 3:16 God so loved that he **gave**. Love is giving, caring, and the willingness to give your life for the cause.

An important factor to a sound marriage is **communication**. If you are to carry out your responsibility as a godly wife, you must begin by have an intimate relationship with God. God is the union of the oneness in marriage. We need not focus on marriage we need to focus on obeying God.

**Seven statements that become our daily guide:**

**Yes Lord!**

**Your will!**

**Your way!**

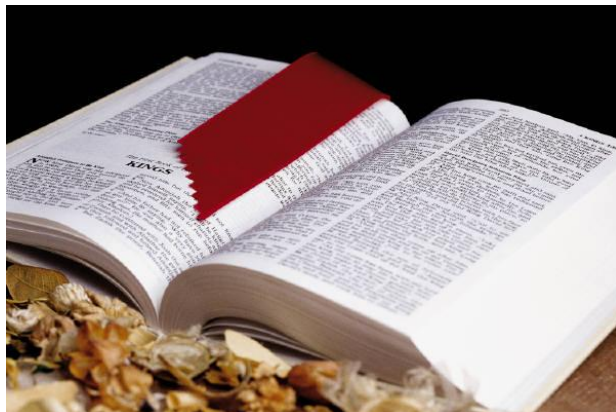
**Your time!**

**Your plan!**

**You lead!**

**I yield!**

**Practice saying them everyday and all through the day  
so you keep your mind close to God.**



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## Marriage – Dating

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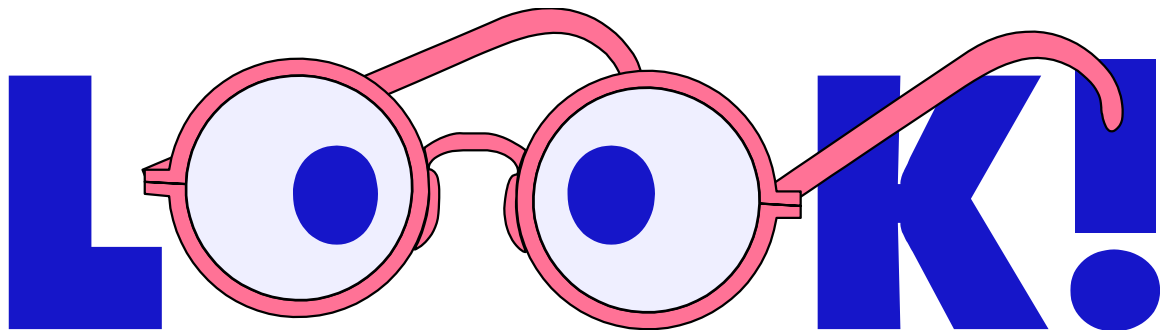
**When a Christian woman goes on a date, it is different from dating as defined by the world's standards.**

**Children of the king should always want to please their father. I Corinthians 6:19-20**

**Single Christian women should always trust in God for a mate and prayerfully wait for God to provide one.**

**If you are trusting God, why are you wasting valuable time looking for a mate? God knows where you are and he can arrange that you meet in due time.**

**Your number one priority is Matthew 6:33**



- **The first question should be - does he have an intimate relationship with God?**

**When a man has an intimate relationship with God and the Lord is his first love, he will know how to love you.**

**“Without God there is no basis for integrity, no motive for morality, no need for honesty, and, certainly, no accountability.” Guidelines, Inc July 2, 1993**

**If the man of your dreams has no relationship with God do you really, want to spend the rest of your natural life with him?**

**Remember – you cannot change him.**

**If you are outside the will of God’s guidelines, how do you expect it to work?**

**Danger sign**





**STOP! - DO NOT CONTINUE**

**Wait on God.**

**HE IS A BORN AGAIN BELIEVER - YES**



## Other questions for consideration:

- Do you share a common view of scripture?
- How does he view family?
- What are his expectations of marriage?
- What about children?
- Is he a good steward with his finances? Has he always been? Issues outstanding?
- How does he feel about working? Wife working?
- What does he like?
- \*\* What things do you have in common?
- Any history of abuse in his family?  
(physical, verbal or substance)
- Can you live with his habits? **Bubble gum on the dinner plate???**

**DO NOT LAUGH, LITTLE THINGS CAN BECOME ANNOYING AND A REAL ISSUE.**



- **\*\* Do you share a common view about the word commitment? WHAT ABOUT RESPONSIBILITY.**
  - **\*\* Are you willing to be treated as his parents treat each other?**
  - **\*\* How does this person, respond to trouble and /or pressure?**
  - **What was his life like before he accepted Christ?**
  - **Other marriages? Children?**
  - **\*\* Do I really know this person?**
  - **Does he have a criminal record? Reason?**
  - **Did you hear what he didn't say?**
  - **Who are his friends?**
  - **Home ownership/renting which one and why?**
- \*\* Questions from Guidelines, Dr. Harold Sala**

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## God's Boundaries

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**II Corinthians 6:14 unequally yoked**

**Daniel 1:8 I Corinthians 10:13 and 31 ROMANS 12**

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**God gives us boundaries because He loves us. Just as a loving parent(s) gives their children boundaries for their protection, so our God has designed a perfect plan for his children. To be blessed, we need only to obey. Please note every aspect of God's plan for us may not be our will or desire. However when we live in the guidelines of Christ, He will carry us through.**

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## Dating Tips

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**Keep your hands in your lap**

**Keep your clothes on at all times**

**Go home alone early**

**If God cannot go, why are you there?**

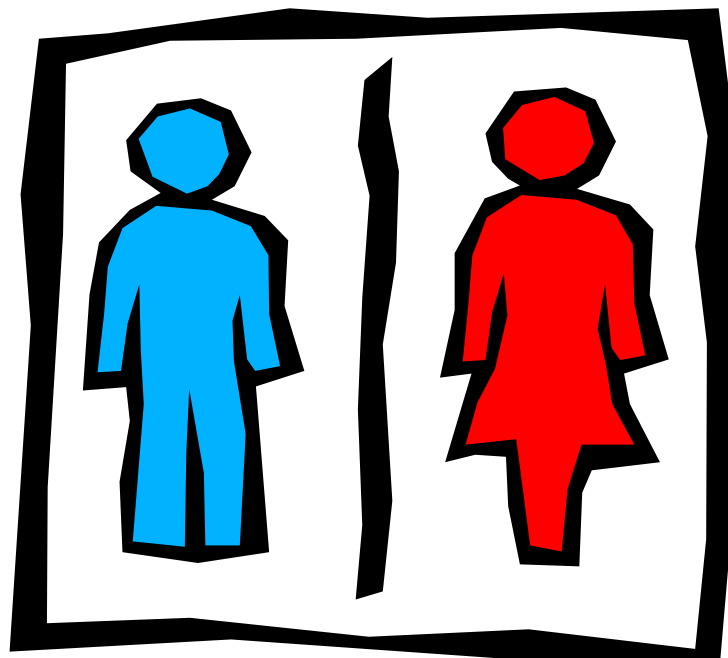
**If you must have a kiss – make it a good-bye kiss at the door, run in the house close the door, and leave him outside.**

**YOU THINK HE IS THE ONE?**  
**BOTH OF YOU NEED TO TALK WITH GOD.**

**If it is real, it can wait so take a break.**

**While in prayer decide on a time away from each other. During this time, focus on God and allow him to seal the union or sever it. No letters, no calls, no dates, you will have a lifetime to see each other if God seals the union.**

**PRAY**



**LISTEN**

**FOCUS**

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## **Marriage – Godly Counsel**

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**It is so very important before you march down the aisle that you have Godly counsel; and I don't mean your girlfriends, his friends, dear anybody, the 1-800 number, or a non-Christian counselor.**

**We are planning to live as God has designed, so we should know what the guidelines are before we say I do.**

**Note in the theme, Daniel 1:8 the only way Daniel could purpose in his heart that he would not defile himself is he needed to know God's guidelines and be willing to follow them at any cost.**

**During this time, you should ask all the questions you could think of no matter how small they may seem. And if you have reached this point and you feel that you can not follow the plan of God or your exception or his are unrealistic at this time, or perhaps you feel uneasy or whatever reason, you are not really ready than say so and wait.**

**It is better to wait than to proceed with doubt.**

## **BUT UNTIL**

- 1. YOU NEED NOT ADVERTISE FOR A MAN BECAUSE IF YOU CATCH WHAT THOSE SHORT DRESSES WILL ATTRACT YOU WILL WISH YOU HAD NEVER SEEN HIM.**
- 2. HAVING SEX DOES NOT PROVE HE LOVES YOU. IT ONLY PROVES THAT YOU HAD SEX AND NOW HE CAN MOVE TO THE NEXT ONE.**
- 3. NEVER WORRY ABOUT HOW OLD YOU ARE. THERE IS NO TIME TABLE IN GOD'S EYES BECAUSE GOD DEALS IN ETERNITY AND NOT MANMADE ISSUES.**
- 4. BE POLITE WHEN YOU ARE ASKED WHY YOU AREN'T MARRIED –**

**GOD IS STILL PREPARING HIM AND I AM WAITING.**

**I AM TRUSTING GOD AND I KNOW YOU WOULD NOT WANT ME TO STEP AHEAD OF GOD' PLAN.**

**FOR THE WORK GOD HAS CHOSEN ME FOR IN THIS STAGE OF MY LIFE, HE WANTS ME TO BE SINGLE SO I CAN FOCUS ON HIM.**

**I AM WORKING ON MEMORY VERSES AND ISAIAH 40:31 TOLD ME TO WAIT AND MATTHEW 6:33 TO ME TO SEEK THE KINGDOM FIRST, WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SCRIPTURE?**

- 5. IT IS TIME THAT WE FOCUS ON THE TRUTH OF GOD AND GOD'S PLAN FOR OUR LIVES.**
  
- 6. WE ARE NOT CALLED TO BEG A MAN TO CARE FOR US. ISRAEL BEGGED FOR A KING BECAUSE THEY DID NOT WANT THE GOD OF CREATION TO LEAD THEM. BUT WHEN IT GOT DOWN TO THE REAL ISSUES AT HAND IT WAS GOD THAT PROTECTED THEM, FEED THEM, LOVED THEM, FORGAVE THEM, AND PUT INTO PLACE THE PLAN OF SALVATION THAT THEY MIGHT BE SAVED. WHEN GOD IS FIRST IN YOUR LIFE, HE WILL PROVIDE ALL YOU NEED AND SHOULD HE CHOOSE A VALLEY OR A MOUNTAIN FOR YOUR LIFE, HE IS THERE WITH YOU. HE CAN HELP YOU**

**CLIMB THE MOUNTAIN BECAUSE HE HOLDS THE MOUNTAIN IN HIS HAND. THE VALLEY IS NO MATCH FOR GOD FOR HE CARVED IT WITH HIS HAND, KNOWS THE DEPTH OF IT AND WILL KEEP US IN PERFECT PEACE IF WE KEEP OUR MIND ON HIM. GOD CAN SUPPLY FOOD, WATER, SHELTER, AND CLOTHES IN A BARREN LAND. YOU HAVE A NEED, ASK.**

- 7. GOD'S MANUAL WAS WRITTEN BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED US. DO YOU LOVE HIM ENOUGH TO TRUST HIM TO PROVIDE ALL THAT YOU NEED?**

**TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL THINE HEART:  
AND LEAN NOT UNTO THINE OWN  
UNDERSTANDING. IN ALL THEY WAYS  
ACKNOWLEDGE HIM AND HE SHALL DIRECT  
THY PATHS.**

**PROVERBS 3:5 AND 6**

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**During this time, you should ask all the questions you could think of no matter how small they may seem.**

**Moreover, if you have reached this point and:**

**You feel that you can't follow the plan of God;**

**Your exceptions or his are unrealistic at this time;**

**You feel uneasy or whatever reason; or**

**You are not really ready**

**Then say no and wait.**

**It is better to wait than to proceed with doubt.**



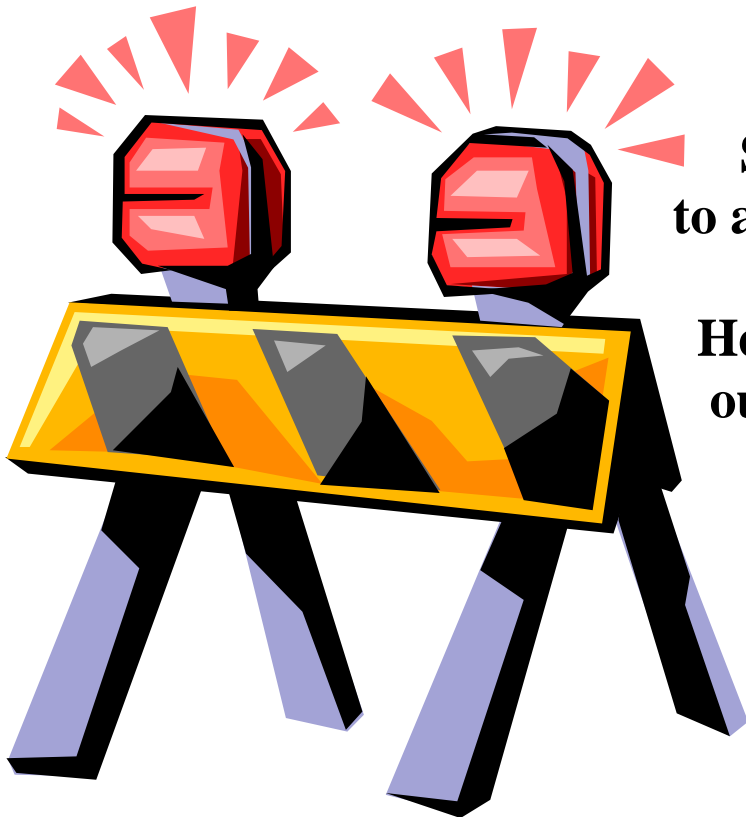
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## **Marriage – The Wedding**

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**Two people, who have an intimate relationship with God, should plan a holy occasion and Satan should not be allowed to have his design on the napkins, the food choices, the dress, the music or the vows. In fact, Satan should not be sent an invitation at all.**

**The King of Kings should be the only father attending and if the focus is on bringing glory and honor to God, his enemy should not be allowed to participate.**



**Satan is not permitted to attend our wedding or our reception. He is forbidden to live in our home or control our daily living.**

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## **The Promise**

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**I take thee to be my lawful – means now society judges that is it legitimate for you to live together.**

**The vows – the man – to have and to hold, from this day forward, to love, honor, and cherish, for better or for worse, sickness and in health, richer or poor, forsaking all others until death?**

**The bows – the woman – to have and to hold, from this day forward, to love, honor and obey, for better or for worse, sickness and in health, richer or poor, forsaking all others until death?**

**You may write your vows, or drop and /or add what you like, but this is what God expects when we stand before him.**

**When there is divorce, it divides the one flesh in half. A half is not the same as a whole.**

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# **Marriage – Until Death**

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## **REMINDERS**

- **Daily meeting with God to seek directions for yourself and the family.**
- **Lift your husband up before the Lord daily.**
- **Give him respect.**

**Example – I Samuel 25, there is a story of a woman named Abigail who was married to Nabal whose name in the Hebrew means fool. The key is she did all she could to protect and save her husband and God blessed her.**

**Look for those good points and let him know that you love those things about him. Shine on those points as much as possible. Let him know that you are thankful for those things that he does.**

**Put a love note by the dinner plate.**

**Let him know by your actions that you are that wise and virtuous woman like the one talked about in Proverbs 31.**

- **Just as you devote time to building an intimate relationship with God, you must devote time to build the relationship with each other.**

**Plan a get away if it is only for a few hours. Share you feelings but remember to keep the conversation in the spirit of God's love and giving the husband the respect.**

- **The bond of honor can only be maintained if the focus is on God. When you really love God, you will seek to do his will – that is obeying his word. – Yes Lord.**

**God's guidelines are there for our protection because He loves us.**

- **The contract ends at death.**

**When we take matter into our hands and walk away from God, the results are too gruesome to talk about.**

## **Mark 10:2-12**

**Knowing the power and awesomeness of God how can you have a desire to live outside of God's will, disobeying his commands, day after day? Can you imagine looking him in the face after he showed his love in action and say, "My will, my way Lord?"**

- The marriage is the second most important relationship – the first is your relationship to God. If your first relationship is as it should be, then you will be prepared to live your faith in God in your marriage.**

**Dissolving a relationship does not dissolve the problems you merely carry them into the future relationship.**

**This is an ongoing learning process and does not guarantee a perfect marriage. Sometimes God has another plan. (The Book of Hosea)**

**Prayer and obedience are the key elements that bring Glory and honor to God.**



## **REFERENCES**

- **Word of Life Bible – Contemporary English Version 1993**
- **Guidelines for Living – Dr. Harold J. Sala 1993**
- **The King James Bible**
- **Matthew Henry Commentary**
- **Strong’s Concordance**
- **The Revell Bible Dictionary**
- **Clip Art – Microsoft Home Publishing**

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