

What the Bible Says About ... Dating & Relationships

Key Concepts & Scripture Verses

1. Remember your identity in Christ!
2. Know why you want to date before you actually do – make sure it's a good reason
 - a. Genesis 2:18
 - b. Genesis 2:24
 - c. Song of Solomon 2:7
3. Know what your ideal match is and don't settle
 - a. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7
 - b. 1 Corinthians 15:33
 - c. 2 Corinthians 6:14
 - d. 2 Timothy 2:22
4. Know Biblical boundaries and don't break them
 - a. Psalms 119:9-11
 - b. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20
 - c. 1 Corinthians 10:31
5. Know your boundaries before you start dating
 - a. Proverbs 15:22
6. Ask God to make it happen, rather than you
 - a. James 1:5
7. Be friends first
8. Have spiritual conversations
 - a. Philippians 1:9-10
9. Keep God first in your life
 - a. Matthew 6:33-34
10. Go slow

Small Group Questions:

Go through each of the 10 concepts to dating that are presented and read the verses for each one. Then discuss whether you would agree with the key concept or not. Use the questions below to help you.

1. Why is this an important first step?
2. In your opinion, what is the purpose of dating? What would you say is the Biblical purpose for dating? What's a good reason for dating? In your experience, do people date for "good" reasons or "bad" reasons in our culture today?
3. What are some Biblical things you should look for in someone to date/marry? What are some "have to have" things that you personally would need in a relationship?
4. What are some Biblical boundaries that should not be broken? Do you agree with these? Do you think most of our culture today would agree with these?
5. Why would it be so important to have a good accountability partner & know what your boundaries are before you start dating someone?
6. What would it look like for you to enter into a relationship without God's permission? Is that a good thing or a bad thing and why?
7. Can fulfill the purpose of dating without actually dating and by just being friends? How? What would that look like? What might be some benefits of doing that?
8. Why is it important to have spiritual conversations in a dating/marriage relationship? Do you think this is necessary? What would our culture say about the importance of doing this?
9. Once you're in a dating relationship (or marriage) why is it important to keep God first? Why is it important to seek Him and be obedient to the things God wants you to do first? Why shouldn't you worry about what tomorrow holds in the context of dating and relationships?
10. Why is it important to go slow? Is this something that our culture would agree with?