

## Biblical Relationships

### **Review:**

- ⇒ While the word “dating” is not found in the Bible, we are given some principles that Christians are to go by during the time before marriage. The first is that we must separate from the world's view on dating because God's way contradicts the world's.
  
- ⇒ We should not date non-believers...
  - **[2 Corinthians 6:14-16] Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM. I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE."**
  - **[1 Corinthians 15:33] Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits."**
  
- ⇒ Everyone is valuable to God because we were created in God's image...
  - **[Genesis 1:27] So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.**
  
- ⇒ We should all set our hearts on things that are true, noble, right, pure, and admirable...
  - ⇒ **[Philippians 4:8] Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy--meditate on these things.**

### Examples of Dating/Marriages

#### ⇒ Adam & Eve

**[Genesis 2:18-24]** And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name. So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him. And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." Therefore, a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

**[Genesis 3:20]** And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

- Did they date?
- Were they married?
- What did Eve do right/wrong?
- What did Adam do right/wrong?
- Did it work out well?

#### ⇒ Marriage:

**[Ephesians 5:22-33]**

**Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.**

**Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her**

to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. So husbands ought to love their own 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 the Lord does the church. For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. **"FOR THIS REASON, A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH."** This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. Nevertheless, let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

⇒ Abraham & Sarah

**[Genesis 11:29-30]** Then Abram and Nahor took wives: the name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran the father of Milcah and the father of Iscah. But Sarai was barren; she had no child.

**[Genesis 16:1-4]** Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. And she had an Egyptian maidservant whose name was Hagar. So Sarai said to Abram, "See now, the LORD has restrained me from bearing children. Please, go in to my maid; perhaps I shall obtain children by her." And Abram heeded the voice of Sarai. Then Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar her maid, the Egyptian, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan. he went in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress became despised in her eyes.

NOTE: Ishmael is recognized as the father of Islam. Muslims believe that Ishmael was the firstborn of Abraham, born to him from his second wife Hagar. Ishmael is recognized by Muslims as the ancestor of several prominent Arab tribes and being the forefather of Muhammad. Muslims also believe that Muhammad was the descendant of Ishmael that would establish a great nation, as promised by God in the Old Testament.

- Did they date?
- Were they married?
- What did Sarah do right/wrong?

- What did Abraham do right/wrong?
- Did it work out well?

⇒ **Joseph and Mary**

**[Matthew 1:18-19] Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed (contracted for future marriage) to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly.**

- Did they date?
- Were they married?
- What did Mary do right/wrong?
- What did Joseph do right/wrong?
- Did it work out well?

⇒ **Samson & Philistine Wife & Delilah**

**[Judges 14:1-3] Now Samson went down to Timnah, and saw a woman in Timnah of the daughters of the Philistines. So he went up and told his father and mother, saying, "I have seen a woman in Timnah of the daughters of the Philistines; now therefore, get her for me as a wife." Then his father and mother said to him, "Is there no woman among the daughters of your brethren, or among all my people, that you must go and get a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" And Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she pleases me well."**

Samson posed a riddle to the philistines (30 linen garments and 30 changes of clothing) and his wife nagged and wept and pleaded for him to give the answer. he finally told the answer and lost the bet. He then killed 30 men and stole their clothing. Then his best man took his wife. Then she was burned to death because Samson tied torches to the tails of 300 foxes and they burnt all of the grain.

**[Judges 16:4-6] Afterward it happened that he loved a woman in the Valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah. And the lords of the Philistines came up to her and said to her, "Entice him, and find out where his great strength lies, and by what means we may overpower him, that we may bind him to afflict him; and every**

**one of us will give you eleven hundred pieces of silver." So Delilah said to Samson, "Please tell me where your great strength lies, and with what you may be bound to afflict you."**

- Did they date?
- Were they married?
- Did it work out well?
- What did Delilah do right/wrong?
- What did Sampson do right/wrong?

⇒ **BOTTOM LINE:**

- The only dateable person is a Christian who is walking with God.

⇒ **REMEMBER:**

- Nobody is perfect except for God.
- Don't think you are going to find someone that is exactly what you want.
- Have an idea of certain things that you will not settle for (they drink alcohol, or smoke).
- Don't think you are going to be able to change the person.

⇒ **QUESTIONS:**

- Think about your dream "dateable" person... do you think *you'd* meet the criteria on *their* list?
- Are you the "dateable" person that God wants you to be?
- What do you need to change to become a more dateable person?
- Name something that you would not want in a person that you would date.
- Name something that you think is important for a person to be like in order for you to date them.

While you wait for Mr./Ms. Right, focus on becoming the kind of person that your dream spouse would want to marry.

**NOTE:** The most important thing you can do is to continue walking with God and **PRAY** for God to help you find the right mate.