

BIBLICAL GUY-GAL RELATIONSHIPS



7 Lesson Course:

- I. Being Single is OK
- II. Biblical Definition of Marriage & Divorce
- III. Wrong Relationships & Forgiveness,
- IV. Dating or Courting? [PRE-COURTSHIP/GROUP DATING]
- V. When am I ready to Propose or Say Yes? [COURTING, ENGAGEMENT, MARRIAGE]
- VI. Marriage as a Ministry Platform
- VII. Guys Only & Gals Only (Conduct)

V. When am I ready to Propose or Say Yes?

Q: When am I ready to court? A: When I am ready to marry.

Q: When am I ready to marry? A: When 7 things are true:

- a. **YOU ARE EQUALLY YOKED.** You both are saved and of the same spiritual maturity level: **2 Cor 6:14**
1 Cor 7:39
 - i. Don't think you will win them to Christ by marrying them –
1 Cor 15:33
- b. **YOUR WALKS.** Are you personally walking with Christ and is Christ the true Center of your life? Does the other person have a heart which follows hard after Jesus Christ? Do they spend regular time in the Word? Are they known among others as a Man or Woman of the Word? Will they double your ministry or will they cut it in half?
 - i. **Matt 6:33**
 - ii. **Prov 3:5,6**
 - iii. **2 Thessalonians 3:6**
 - iv. **Phil 2:2**
 - v. **1 Kings 11:4**
- c. **TIMING.** Is the time right for him or should he wait?
 - i. **Deut 24:5**
- d. **EMPLOYMENT.** Does he have full time employment and is he earning enough to take care of himself, a wife and a child?
 - i. **Prov 24:27**
 - ii. **1 Tim 5:8**
- e. **THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS WHOM YOU KNOW.** How do they treat your family and friends? How do they treat their own family?
 - i. **Ruth 1:16**
 - ii. **Eph 6:1-3**
 - iii. **Psa 119:68**
 - iv. **Titus 2:1-8**

- f. **PRAYER.** Have you each really prayed about this individually?
 - i. **John 16:24**
 - ii. **James 5:16b**
- g. **COUNSEL.** What do people who know and love YOU the most, who have God's highest interest in mind for YOU, think about him or her, and have YOU bothered to seek godly counsel?
 - i. **1 Kings 12:6-8**
 - ii. **Prov 1:5**
 - iii. **Prov 11:14**
 - iv. **Prov 13:10**
 - v. **Prov 19:20**
- h. These seven areas are where the biggest mistakes I have ever seen people make - they do not follow the Lord - they just follow their own hearts. And they end up with a LIFETIME and a LEGACY of grief. See **Jeremiah 17:9**. On the other hand, if you men find a godly wife and marry her - you find a GOOD thing! See **Psalms 128 & Proverbs 18:22**.
- i. **PRE-COURTSHIP/GROUP DATING COULD LEAD TO COURTSHIP**

ii. **Courtship** (objective: to determine if they are the one):

1. How do we find that one? Keep your eyes open: God could very well use your observations during Pre-Courting Days to reveal a potential person to court. **Proverbs 18:22** "He who *finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the LORD." [*mä•tsä' – a verb. It means to find or to come upon.] **Proverbs 31:10** "An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels." Only God can find such a one. Live your life and let the Lord bring the right one along. **Genesis 2:18** "Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a *helper suitable for him."" – one who helps.
 - a. God identified the need for a mate for Adam - **Gen 2:18**
 - b. Adam's role was to obey God, then sleep - **Gen 2:19-21**
 - c. God brought the woman to the man - **Gen 2:22**
 - d. Man received the gift of a wife and named the woman - **Gen 2:23**
 - e. The husband leaves his parents and cleaves to his wife - **Gen 2:24a**; implied is a responsibility to her father
 - f. The husband and wife become one flesh and are unashamed about their nakedness - **Gen 2:24b-25**
 - g. What God has joined together let no man put asunder - **Matt 19:6**
 - h. God hates Divorce - **Mal 2:16**
2. Listen/look for the suggestion of the Holy Spirit (possibly through your parents or spiritual parents); follow the leading of the Holy Spirit; keep your desires between you and God – do not broadcast them (on Facebook, to the other person, etc); ultimately this will be a step of faith – **Heb 11:6**
3. When the man feels led to court a woman, he starts by seeking permission from the male spiritual leadership in the woman's life, to court her
4. Women: stay under the male spiritual leadership/protection in your life: Dad, brother, uncle, spiritual father...
5. Stay in an accountability relationship with someone from the same sex
6. Stay in the light

- a. Never go into a house or room alone with the other person; don't take "long" trips alone with them
 - b. Observe curfews
 - c. Stay in the public
 - d. Think of your romance as a future testimony to your kids
7. Treat each other like someone else's future spouse
 8. Use the time to get to know each other socially & spiritually
 9. **USUALLY ENDS IN A PROPOSAL FOR MARRIAGE (might not)**

iii. Engagement (objective: to confirm & plan the marriage):

1. Men: ask the male spiritual leadership in the woman's life for their blessing to marry her
2. Stay in an accountability relationship
3. Stay in the light
4. Use the time to get to know each other socially, spiritually & emotionally
5. **SHOULD LEAD TO A WEDDING**

iv. Marriage (objective: to become one in Christ):

1. Use the time to get to know each other socially, spiritually, emotionally & physically
2. Date!
3. **RESULTS IN ONENESS**

