

## Series: "Me to We"

### Part 4: 4 P's of Dating – Homework

Carve out time (ALONE) and spend time with God being honest with yourself about the following questions as it relates to the relationship you're in, or thinking about entering into.

#### Purpose

- If I'm honest, why am I really dating this person? Is our goal really to get married, or are we dating for other reasons?
- How serious am I about getting married? How serious are they?
- Could I really see us getting married in the next couple of years?
- How is our relationship currently preparing us for marriage?
- What would our relationship look like if some of what's happened / is happening in our dating relationship carried over into our marriage?

#### Person

- Does he/she have a growing relationship with Jesus? How do I know?
- Have I heard their story of how and when they surrendered their life to Jesus? What evidence in their life is proof that they are a saved?
- Am I a saved follower of Jesus? What evidence is there in my life?
- Guys: Is she growing in the characteristics of a "Proverbs 31" woman?
  - Read Proverbs 31.10-31.
  - We see from this passage that a godly woman is trustworthy (v.11), provides for her family (v.15), is hard-working (v.16-17), is merciful and humble (v.20), prioritizes and takes care of her home (v.21-22), is strong, has dignity, and self-respect (v.25), and is intelligent or wise (v.26).
  - How does the woman I'm dating exemplify these qualities?
  - Am I an "Ephesians 5" guy (see below)?
- Ladies: Is he growing in the characteristics of an "Ephesians 5" guy?
  - Read Ephesians 5.25-33.
  - We see from this passage that a godly man leads in love (v.25), leads in the Word (v.26), leads in righteousness (v.27), and leads in selflessness (v.28-30).
  - Is he loving? Can he lead me and help me grow in my study of the Bible? Is he pursuing righteousness and helping me do the same? Does he put my needs above his own?
  - Am I a "Proverbs 31" woman (see above)?

- On a sheet of paper, make your list of "must haves" based on the messages in this series and these passages you just studied. On the back of the page, list your "nice to haves." How does the person you're dating match this list that you've developed?

#### Priority

- Who or what is truly the top priority in my life? Who or what gets the most of my time and attention?
- How or when have I let this relationship become too big of a priority in my life?
- Has dating this person changed my relationship with others close to me? Has it caused other important things to suffer?
- What would happen to me if this relationship ended?
- How can I continue to make sure that my relationship with Jesus is first?
- How are we pursuing Jesus together?

#### Purity

- Do we have clear boundaries in place to pursue purity?
- Are the boundaries we have in place effective? If not, what needs to change?
- In terms of words we use or physical affection, have we discussed what's OK and what's not OK?
- Who holds me accountable to these boundaries? How often are they asking me about how I'm doing in this area?
- What else am I putting into my mind that impacts my purity? Is the music I listen to pure? Movies? Books? TV show? Internet?
- If we've not been pure, what needs to change? What steps can we take to start over and begin to talk or act in this relationship in a way that honors God?