

# Dating God's Way

2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5; Proverbs 4:23

singleness

February 22, 2026

## DAY 1: IDENTITY BEFORE INTIMACY

**READING: GENESIS 2:15-25; 1 THESSALONIANS 4:3-5**

Before Adam knew Eve, he knew God. This sequence matters profoundly. In our search for romantic connection, we often reverse God's order, seeking identity through intimacy rather than finding intimacy through identity. When you don't know who you are in Christ, you'll ask another human to provide what only God can give: security, worth, purpose, and completion. God's will for you isn't primarily about finding your soulmate; it's about pursuing holiness. When your identity is rooted in Him, dating stops being desperate and starts becoming discerning. Before looking for "the one," know the One who created you, calls you chosen, and declares you loved. Wholeness in Christ precedes healthy relationships with others.

**Reflection:** Am I seeking someone to complete me, or am I allowing God to make me whole first?

## DAY 2: GUARDING YOUR HEART

**READING: PROVERBS 4:23; 2 CORINTHIANS 6:14-18**

"Above all else, guard your heart"—these aren't casual words but urgent instruction. Everything in your life flows from your heart: decisions, direction, desires, and devotion. Our culture treats hearts as disposable, encouraging us to give them away quickly and casually. But God calls your heart sacred. When you know you're loved by God, redeemed and called by Him, you treat your heart with reverence. Being unequally yoked isn't about superiority but about direction. A yoke ties two together to pull the same way. If you tie your life to someone moving in a different spiritual direction, there will always be tension. God's boundaries aren't restrictions on your joy; they're protection for your future. Guarding your heart isn't being cold; it's being wise.

**Reflection:** Am I giving my heart away seeking to feel chosen, or am I protecting what God calls sacred?

## DAY 3: PURPOSE OVER PLEASURE

**READING: PROVERBS 19:21; EPHESIANS 5:1-3**

Our culture screams that if it feels good, pursue it. But pleasure was never meant to be your compass; purpose was. Many plans fill our minds, but only God's purpose will stand. Dating isn't a destination or experimentation; it's discernment toward covenant. God designed sexual intimacy as covenant renewal, not curiosity fulfillment—sacred, not casual. Godly love doesn't ask, "How far can we go before it's technically sin?" It asks, "How holy can we remain while we wait?" This requires a completely different spirit. Walking in love is intentional, not accidental. Real love protects the future by honouring boundaries now. What dishonours God will never deeply satisfy you. Pleasure without purpose always leaves emptiness, but purpose produces lasting peace.

**Reflection:** Am I dating to fulfill my desires, or to pursue God's design?

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### DAY 4: COVENANT OVER CULTURE

**READING: MALACHI 2:13-16; MATTHEW 19:4-6**

God didn't design a dating system; He designed covenant between one man and one woman. For most of history, relationships weren't private recreational activities but community-supported commitments with eternity in view. Biblical betrothal was legally binding before physical closeness—covenant before cohabitation. Today's dating culture, shaped by individualism and mobility, has removed accountability and oversight. But we can bring biblical covenant principles into modern dating. This means integrity, sexual purity, honour, kindness, self-control, and pursuing holiness. Dating God's way means understanding that marriage isn't the conclusion of a romantic journey but the beginning of a sacred covenant. In a culture that doesn't honour covenant, you can. Let your relationships reflect God's faithfulness, not the world's fickleness.

**Reflection:** Does this relationship draw me closer to holiness, or does it quietly compromise it?

### DAY 5: GRACE FOR THE JOURNEY

**READING: ROMANS 8:1; LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23**

Perhaps you've crossed lines. Maybe you've chased relationships that left you empty. Maybe you're realizing you didn't understand God's design. Hear this clearly: there is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus. The enemy shames; God restores. The world may have perverted what's sacred, but God's grace is stronger than your past. Grace doesn't ignore sin—it redeems it. Grace doesn't pretend lines weren't crossed—it rebuilds from the ruins. Today isn't about replaying regret; it's about rewriting direction. Maybe your next step isn't finding "the one" but finding wholeness in the One. Surrender your relationships, desires, and future to Him. Dating God's way isn't about perfection; it's about surrender. And surrender is where freedom begins.

**Reflection:** What do I need to surrender to God today regarding my relationships and future?