

Knot Ready

*Dating and Marriage in a Society
Driven by Sensuality*

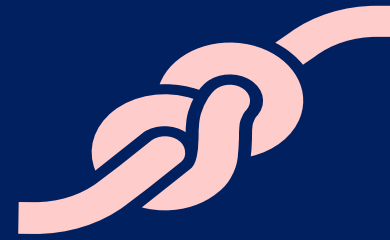


Knot Ready



- 1. Master*
- 2. Mission*
- 3. Means*
- 4. Maturity*
- 5. Mutual Affection*

1. Master



14 Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? 15 Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? 16 Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God;

2 Corinthians 6:14-16

Why would someone “Missionary Date?”

- 1. A lack of trust in God*
- 2. Arrogant pride*
- 3. Selfish lust*

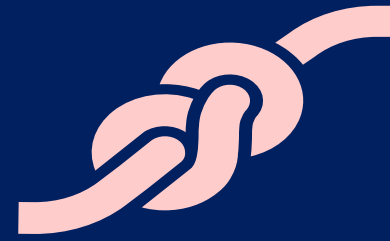


2. Mission



- The great commission ... “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations” (Matt. 28:19-20)
- 1 Corinthians 10:31, “whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”
- Matthew 5:13-16 calls us to be salt and light to the world... shining a light that others see our good works and give glory to our father.
- Ephesians 2:10... we are his workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works which God prepared beforehand to walk in them.
- Matthew 6:33... we are to seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness.
- Mark 12:30-31... love the Lord our God with all our heart and soul and mind and strength, and love our neighbor as ourselves.
- In Romans 12 we are called to present our bodies as a living sacrifice holy and acceptable to God, not be conformed to the world, but be transformed by the renewing of our mind.
- Jesus said in John 8:12, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”
- Revelation 4:11... “Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created.”

2. Mission



*Man's chief end is to glorify God,
and to enjoy Him forever.*

2. Mission



17 Only, as the Lord has assigned to each one, as God has called each, in this manner let him walk,

19 Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but what matters is the keeping of the commandments of God.

24 Brothers, each one is to remain with God in that condition in which he was called.

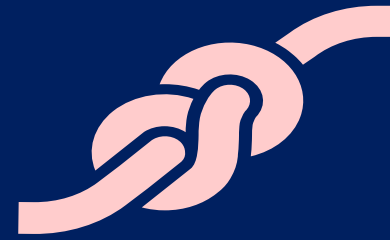
1 Cor. 7:17-24

The “Mission” of 1 Corinthians 7

- 1. Keep the commandments of God*
- 2. Remain in the calling God has you*

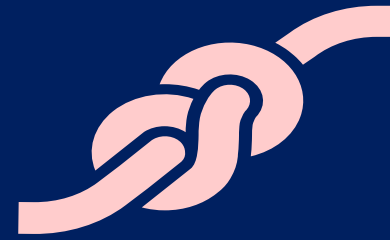


2. Mission



- *True satisfaction can only be found in your pursuit of Christ, not in a pursuit of a guy or girl.*
- *True joy can only be found in following your lord and savior Jesus Christ, not in following your crush.*
- *True peace can only be found in seeking first His kingdom and His righteousness, not in seeking someone else.*
- *True security can only be found by loving God with your heart, soul, mind, and strength and being filled with God's love for you, not in loving or being loved by him or her.*
- *True faithfulness can only be found by presenting your life as a living sacrifice to God, not by presenting yourself as the best looking girl or guy.*
- *True fulfillment can only be found in service to Christ and His church and by being salt and light to an unbelieving world, not by meeting the girl or guy of your dreams.*

3. Means



22 Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. 24 But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,

Ephesians 5:22-25

The “Means” of Ephesians 5

The wife (or prospective wife) should be living a life of submission, as a loving, encouraging helper who is content/thankful with the MEANS!

The husband (or prospective husband) should be sacrificially loving and leading and working to provide the MEANS of living for the wife.

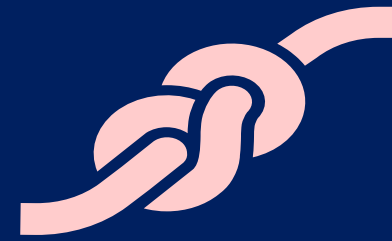
Ephesians 5:2 “and walk in love, just as Christ also loved us and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God.

John 15:12 “This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.”

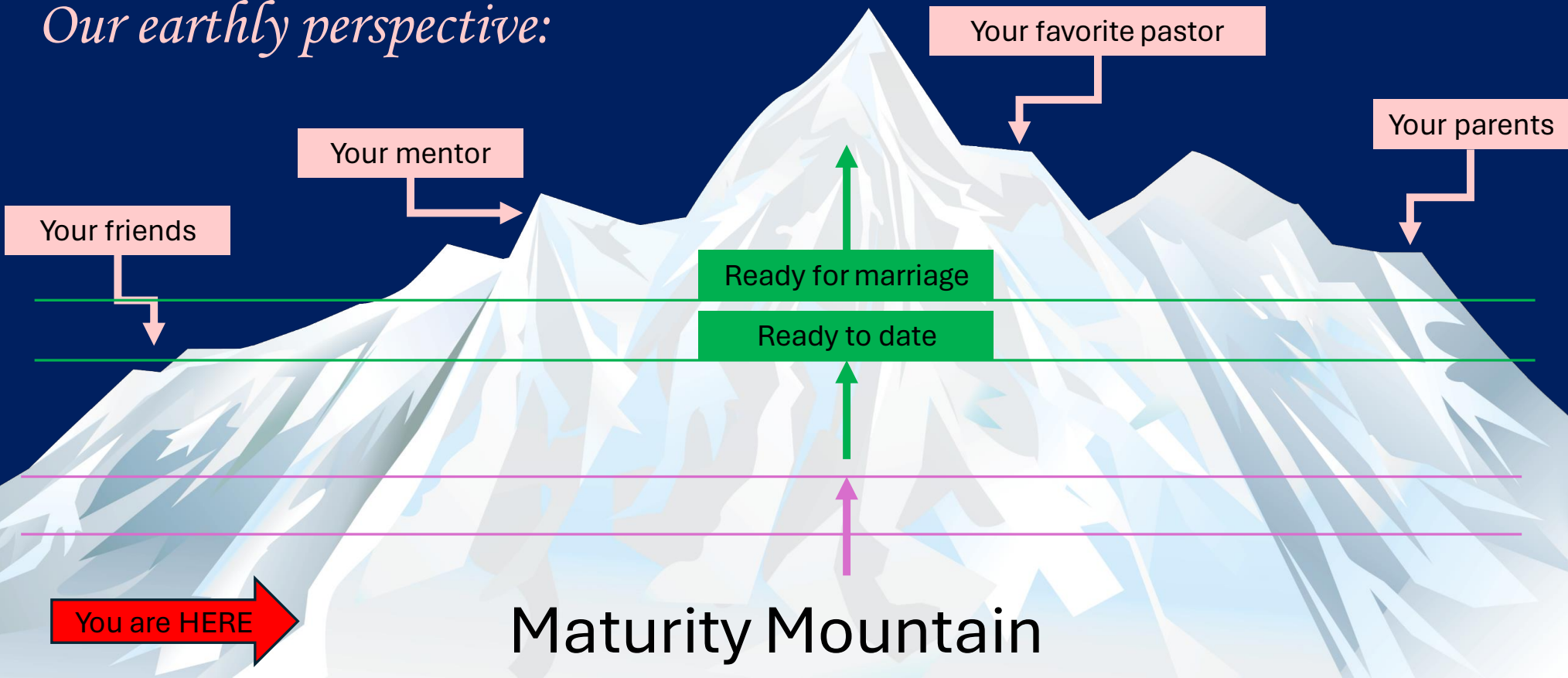
1 John 3:16 “By this we have known love, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.”

LOVE = SACRIFICE

4. Maturity



Our earthly perspective:



You are HERE

Your mentor

Your friends

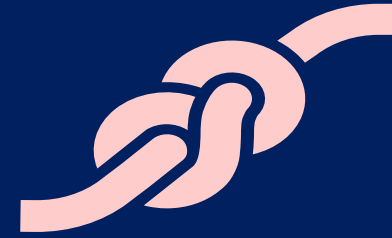
Your favorite pastor

Your parents

Ready for marriage

Ready to date

Maturity Mountain



4. Maturity

God's heavenly perspective:

Maturity is not about a level/position

Maturity is:

1. *Accurate Perspective*
2. *Humble Submission*
3. *Active Dependence*
4. *Right Direction*
5. *Consistent Growth*
6. *Pattern of Life*
7. *Leading Others*



God's Standard

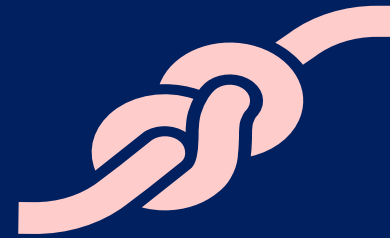
- The perfect law
- Be Holy as I am Holy
- Christlikeness
- Faithfulness



2. MISSION

1. Keep the commandments of God
2. Remain in the calling God has you

4. *Maturity*



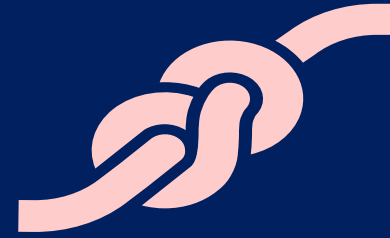
- 1. Spiritual maturity sufficient to lead a wife and children.**
- 2. Personal maturity sufficient to be a responsible husband and father.**
- 3. Economic maturity sufficient to hold an adult job and handle money.**
- 4. Physical maturity sufficient to work and protect a family.**
- 5. Sexual maturity sufficient to marry and fulfill God's purposes.**
- 6. Moral maturity sufficient to lead as an example of righteousness.**

- 7. Ethical maturity sufficient to make responsible decisions.**
- 8. Worldview maturity sufficient to understand what is really important.**
- 9. Relational maturity sufficient to understand and respect other.**
- 10. Social maturity sufficient to make a contribution to society.**
- 11. Verbal maturity sufficient to communicate and articulate as a man.**
- 12. Character maturity sufficient to demonstrate courage under fire.**
- 13. Biblical maturity sufficient to lead at some level in the church.**

[From Boy to Man-the Marks of Manhood, Part One - AlbertMohler.com](http://AlbertMohler.com)

[From Boy to Man-the Marks of Manhood, Part Two - AlbertMohler.com](http://AlbertMohler.com)

5. Mutual Affection



- *“Strong feelings of passion do not matter if the first four qualities are not present in your lives.”*
- *Feelings of affection are important, but not biblically essential.*

Advice if you don't have feelings:

- *“Right feelings are produced in the laboratory of responsibility and duty, to one another and before God.”*
- *Spend time away from each other and evaluate. Growing fonder or wander?*
- *Cultivate the friendship aspect. Do things that you can enjoy together.*
- *Be patient and slow the relationship down, you may be able to cultivate feelings or it may become clear that it is best not to pursue marriage.*

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