





# **Biblical Dating Take II:**

**Dating with a view to Biblical marriage**

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This talk assumes:

- God created us and gave us an owners manual, the Bible.
  - Bible is our ultimate guidebook and authority for all areas of life
  - Following God's design laid out in Scripture is walking in line with his order and wisdom.
  - God's design is always best and for our good--pouring from his heart of love for us.
  - We may not like or "agree with" everything God asks of us.
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The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People  
by Stephen Covey

Habit #2: Begin with the end in mind

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- Veterinary School ~ Veterinarian
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## Habit #2: Begin with the end in Mind

- Veterinary school ~ veterinarian
  - Child ~ mature, responsible adult
    - Dating ~ marriage
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Let's start at the very beginning....  
God created marriage

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for Adam no suitable helper was found. So, the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man...

Genesis 2:20-25

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Genesis 2:20-25

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And He (Jesus) answered and said to them, “Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning made them male and female, and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall cleave to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh? So then, they are no longer two but one flesh.’ Therefore what God has joined together let not man separate.” Matt. 19:4-6

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Covent Relationship

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**Seriously?!**

## Scriptural Principle #1:

### **Marriage is Built on Friendship**

Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone;  
I will make him a helper (companion) fit for him.”

Genesis 2:18 (ESV)

....vs23...Then the man said, “At last!”

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## The Four Loves

C.S.Lewis

1. Storge - Affection
2. Philia - Friendship
3. Eros – Romantic
4. Agape – God’s love

47% divorces state “mutual incompatibility” as the cause.

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## Philia/Friendship

- “What? You too? I thought I was the only one.”
  - A relationship based on sharing a common interest
  - Lovers are normally face to face, absorbed in each other; friends, side by side, their eyes looking ahead to the same horizon, absorbed in some common interest...
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Take it slow...get to know!

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Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.  
Genesis 2:20-25

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## What is emotional intimacy?

Intimacy means that I share my personal reality with you—especially my thoughts and feelings—and you do not try to “fix” me, or try to adjust my reality by telling me that I “shouldn’t feel” what I have expressed. Then you share your personal reality with me, and I do not “fix” you. When this mutual sharing of reality in a nonjudgmental and caring atmosphere is taking place, the participants are emotional equals, not teacher-student or doctor-patient.....Men in our culture seem to have an especially difficult problem with sharing feelings and being intimate. When men can’t share their intimate feelings, they often compensate and go for sex instead

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## **Scriptural Principle #2:**

Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers.  
For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness?  
Or what fellowship has light with darkness?

2 Corinthians 6:14

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**Best Friends For Life:  
Two people walking together side by side toward a common horizon.**

## Scriptural Principle #3:

### **Marriage is Built by Leaving and Cleaving**

“For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall cleave to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”

Eph 5:31

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- Spouse becomes your closest relative
  - You must leave your former homes and establish your new home
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**Scriptural Principle #4:**  
**Marriage is Built Upon the Foundation of**  
**Mutual Selflessness**

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**Marriage is Built Upon the Foundation of**  
**Mutual Selflessness**

“Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.”  
Ephesians 5:21

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Ephesians 5:21

Each one of you also must love his wife as he loves  
himself, and the wife must respect her husband.  
Eph 5:33

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  - “The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give His life a ransom for many.”
  - “Self centeredness is the cancer in the center of every marriage.”
  - When facing any problem/conflict/bump the first thing to look for is self centeredness or an unwillingness to serve or minister to the other.
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**Scriptural Principle #4:**  
**Marriage is Built Upon the Foundation of**  
**Mutual Selflessness**

“Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.”  
Ephesians 5:21

Each one of you also must love his wife as he loves  
himself, and the wife must respect her husband.  
Eph 5:33

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## Scriptural Principle #5:

**God designed sexual intimacy and limited it to the committed relationship of marriage.**

**Scripture is very clear.**

“That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.” Gen 2:24, 25

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“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” Matt 19:5,6

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Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus ....  
how you ought to walk and to please God ....  
For this is the will of God, your sanctification:  
that you abstain from sexual immorality;  
that each one of you know how to control his own body  
in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles  
who do not know God;

...

For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness.  
Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God.  
Thessalonians 4: 1–12

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Flee from sexual immorality.

Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

Or, do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God?

You are not your own, for you were bought with a price.

So glorify God in your body.

2 Cor 6:18-20

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Sexual sin is not an unpardonable sin!

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- Genuine sorrow, a sincere regret and remorse about sin because it offends God. It is agreeing with God and seeing our life/thoughts/sin from God's point of view.



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  - The desire and act of turning from sin to Christ to receive his forgiveness and strength going forward.
  - True repentance is about what is in the heart (our beliefs) not just about our words or deeds
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Believe the Gospel –

- believe that you are truly forgiven  
not damaged goods

“wash me and I shall be whiter than snow” Ps 51:7



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  - believe that the finished work of Christ is enough. Nothing you can add
  - believe He loves you just the same
  - believe that he will provide strength going forward. You canNOT live this Christian life in your own strength. Christ is your only hope.
-

You CAN Start Over!

Pray

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## Scriptural Principle #6:

**Marriage is built by meeting the needs of your spouse:**

- **husbands need respect**

“and the wife must respect her husband.”

Eph 5:33

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**Marriage is built by meeting the needs of your spouse:**

- **husbands need respect**
- **wives need unconditional love**

“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church...each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself...”

Eph 5:25-29, 33

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## Scriptural Principle #6:

### **Marriage is built by meeting the needs of your partner: wives need love**

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