

## Relationships

Are your relationships being defined by culture and what the World says...or what the Word of God says?

I want to let you in on the book in the Bible called Song of Songs

### **Song of Songs 2:1**

I am a rose of Sharon, a lily of the valleys.

### **Song of Songs 1:2**

Let him lead me to the banquet hall, and let his banner over me be love.

### **Song of Songs 2:3**

Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth – for your love is more delightful than wine.

### **Song of Songs 4:1-6**

Like an apple tree among the trees of the forest is my beloved among the young men. I delight to sit in his shade, and his fruit is sweet to my taste. - How beautiful you are, my darling! Oh, how beautiful! Your eyes behind your veil are doves. Your hair is like a flock of goats descending from the hills of Gilead. Your teeth are like a flock of sheep just shorn, coming up from the washing. Each has its twin; not one of them is alone. Your lips are like a scarlet ribbon; your mouth is lovely. Your temples behind your veil are like the halves of a pomegranate. Your neck is like the tower of David... Your breasts are like two fawns, like twin fawns of a gazelle that browse among the lilies. Until the day breaks and the shadows flee...

THIS IS IN THE BIBLE PEOPLE!!!!

We are called to be different!

Nobody gets into a relationship thinking I can't wait for this relationship to end

Divorce might be the right decision depending on the situation, but no matter what, it always involves hurt.

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world... let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think!

### **Romans 12:2**

Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

**Proverbs 14:12**

There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.

My heart is not to judge you or ridicule you!

I HAVE MADE MISTAKES TOO!!!

How many of you have relationship goals?

-Friends, family, mentors?

Goal - the result or achievement toward which effort is directed; aim; end

-God wants you to have successful relationships!!

- If we are blinded by what culture says....we can lose our aim !!

**Hosea 4:6**

my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge.

-Lack of knowledge for successful relationships!!

Relationship

Do you have AIM?

-Is your aim focused on what your friends say, what the Kardashians say, what culture says, or is it what God says?

**Matt 22:37-39**

37 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.

SINGLE

LOVE GOD!!!!

We must first Love God, then Love yourself, then love others.

Some see singleness as a trap

Some wish you were dating... if you don't figure out yourself first you will always be looking for someone else to complete you.....they can't!!

Some might have a passion for others and would help them

-If you don't love yourself, you don't know how to accept love from others.

## DATING/ENGAGED

Dating should be our Level 2.....don't be in a rush!

- God created us to be in relationship with people

### **1 Corinthians 15:33-4**

33 Don't be fooled by those who say such things, for "bad company corrupts good character."

34 Think carefully about what is right, and stop sinning. For to your shame I say that some of you don't know God at all.

### **Proverbs 4.23**

Above all else, guard your heart, for it affects EVERYTHING that you do and is the wellspring of your life.

### **2 Corinthians 6:14**

There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death. - "Don't be unequally yoked with those who are unbelievers. How can goodness be a partner with evil? How can light live with darkness?

- 46% of marriages end in Divorce
- The best way to date is when God releases you to marry.
- Dating with no intent to marry is like going to the grocery store with no money.
  - You either leave unhappy or take something that is not yours.

It's so important to gain God's perspective on what it means to date!

### **Proverbs 4.23**

Above all else, guard your heart, for it affects EVERYTHING that you do and is the wellspring of your life.

Dating is not wrong and there is no one right person out there for you...but let's say you found someone that you think you could spend the rest of your life with.

- Wrong Time + Wrong Person = Wrong Thing
- Right Time + Wrong Person = Wrong Thing
- Wrong Time + Right Person = Wrong Thing
- Right Time + Right Person = Right Thing

Should I date someone who doesn't want anything to do with God?

### **1 Corinthians 15:33-34**

Don't be fooled by those who say such things, for "bad company corrupts good character." Think carefully about what is right, and stop sinning. For to your shame I say that some of you don't know God at all.

### **2 Corinthians 6:14**

"Don't be unequally yoked with those who are unbelievers. How can goodness be a partner with evil? How can light live with darkness?"

Marriage was suppose to be a reflection of God's love for the church

-When marriage is done God's way, it leads people closer to God

Marriage was never meant to be about 2 people...God was always supposed to be involved!!

### **Ephesians 5:25**

For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her

- Real Marriage definition = Dying to self
- You can't do real good marriage without God
- All of our relationships are going to be affected by our relationship with God
- Emotional place, needs to be a spiritual place

### **Ephesians 4:31-32**

Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

- Triangle of pursuing God
- the bottom line is the connect that Husband and Wife start off with
- it is not a competition or a race, not a pull system
- Now, this doesn't mean that just because your spouse doesn't believe right now, doesn't mean they never will.
- The bible talks about the faith of 1 person in the household, can save the whole house

## CHOOSE TO HAVE A GODLY MARRIAGE

- Crack open the bible - pray, talk to God
- times of worship

God has to be the center of your life

Only God can give you

- Identity
- Purpose
- Acceptance

Three things wives need

- Security, affection, community

1. Security  
Be a safe place.
2. Affection  
looks different for different ladies

5 love languages (Words, gifts, physical touch, Quality Time, Acts of service)

- Communication - empathize and relate
- We as men want to fix problems, but your wife doesn't always need you to fix the problem.
- what can I do to help you at this moment?

**A car doesn't want gas, it needs gas!**

3 things Husbands need

- Honor/respect, Support, Sex

1. Honor/Respect  
Lift him up, encourage him, tell him what he does great  
Allow him to fail  
Help them accomplish their goals - Honor the man you want him to be
2. Support  
The first adjective that God describes of Eve is a helper
3. Sex  
In the context of Marriage

Words are powerful!!

- your words are either building up your spouse to who you want them to be...  
...or your words are tearing down the person you have to be with

Get rid of your unspoken expectations

Never Stop pursuing your spouse!

- Leave your father and Mother and cleave to you wife
- The Destination is not marriage, it is til death do us part
  - Marriage is the starting line!!