









STOP: looking for "the one"

AND



START: becoming "the one"









STOP: looking to others to fix your issues

AND



START: fixing your issues with God's help









STOP: RISKING AND ADAPTING AND



START: TRUSTING AND SECURING







STOP: MODERN DATING

AND



START: BIBLICAL DATING



As Christians, we're called to be distinct in the ways we think and act about all issues that confront us and those around us. The topic of dating is no exception.

Is there such a thing as biblical dating?



# SCRIPTUAL FOUNDATION





### **DEFINITION MODERN DATING**

We define modern dating as a method of introduction and carrying out of a pre-marital relationship between a single man and a single woman.



## THREE STEP PROCESS

Step 1: Begins with either the man or the woman initiating with the other.

Step 2: Conducted outside the formal oversight or authority of either person's family or church.

Step 3: Often purely recreational or educational.



The very idea of extended romantic or sexual involvement outside of marriage doesn't even appear in Scripture unless it is described as illicit (sinful).



### **DEFINITION BIBLICAL DATING**

We define biblical dating as a method of introduction and carrying out of a pre-marital relationship between a single man and a single woman.



## THREE STEP PROCESS

Step 1: The man approaches the girl's father or family.

Step 2: The dating is conducted under the authority of the woman's father or family or church.

Step 3: The end goal is always marriage.



#### THREE BASIC DIFFERENCES

1. Modern dating seems to be about "finding" the right person for me; biblical dating is more about "being" the right person.



#### THREE BASIC DIFFERENCES

2. Modern dating, intimacy precedes commitment. In biblical dating, commitment precedes intimacy.



#### THREE BASIC DIFFERENCES

3. Modern dating tells us the way to figure out whether I want to marry someone is to act like we are married. In biblical dating, scripture guides us on how to find a mate and marry, and it teaches that we should act in a holy and pure way in all relationships.



#### **SMALL GROUP STUDY**

1 Corinthians 6:9-7:19

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

Song of Solomon 2:7

Proverbs 6:20-7:27

James 1:13-15

Romans 13:8-14

Romans 14:1-15:7

1 Timothy 5:1-2

Titus 2:1-8

John 14:15







- Q1: Do you think these biblical directives for dating are worth following
- Q2: How do you feel about telling a boy he needs to talk to your father before he can date you?
- Q3: How do you feel as a boy that you need to ask permission from the parents before you date their daughter?