

Courtship and Marriage #2

(Dating, The What and When)

Sunday, August 18, 1999

Brian Kocourek, Pastor

Last Sunday we again examined the area of dating and courtship, and thus far have looked into the WHO should I court, which we found in **II CORINTHIANS 6:14**, *Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness and what communion hath light with darkness 15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel 16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in [them]; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean [thing]; and I will receive you, 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.*

Therefore we established that you should never even consider an unbeliever. You should not ever enter a relationship thinking there are things that will change or things you will change in the other person. The odds are it will never happen. And the problem is that we enter relationships anyhow, knowing full well there are things that are wrong to begin with and we stubbornly think we can get the person to somehow change just because we marry them. This is just dreaming and will never happen.

JEREMIAH 13:22 *And if you say in your heart why have these things come upon me The answer is, For the greatness of your iniquity is your long robe pulled aside showing you as a slave who suffers much violence. Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard change his spots Then also can anyone do good who are accustomed and taught, even trained to do evil Therefore I will scatter you as chaff driven away by the desert winds. This is your lot, the portion measured to you from me, says the lord, because you have forgotten me and trusted in falsehoods and false alliances.*

We found that God tells us to train up a child when they are young because when they get old they will not depart from what training they had as youngsters. Another reason you should never marry an unbeliever is **Genesis 1: 11**, *every seed will bring forth after its kind, after its nature.* Now, take that into consideration and it will tell you a lot about that person you are planning to date. What is the mother like, How does she treat her husband Doe she respect her husband or does she not. If you want to know how the girl will respect you as her head, watch how she treats her father, watch how her mother treats her husband.

EZEKIEL 16:44 *Behold, every one that useth proverbs shall use [this] proverb against thee, saying, As [is] the mother, [so is] her daughter.*

We then looked at character, or the what of courtship. "What should I look for in the person I am going to court!"

IDENTIFICATION 64-0216 039 *Now, if you find your place, sister, don't let me hurt you, brother, but you'll find your place in the Word as a Christian. Not what the creed said, that's down here in this lower cannon fodder that's going to be destroyed. See You find your place as a Christian, because your character is molded as Christ. You're Zoe, the same as He was Zoe. Then if the Bible said for a woman not to cut her hair, how can you do it It says a man's the ruler of the house. How can you women be What's the matter with you men as sons of God See See, you don't find your place. See Watch now. You're invited to come and take His character. By having His character in you, it molds you into the same mind that He was. And His mind was always to do what the Father had ordained Him to do. He said, "Search the Scripture. They testify of Me." In other words, "If I don't do exactly what the Scripture said I'm to do, then show Me where." 040 Now, what if God stood on the platform today and said, "What's required of a Christian" Then where would we all be. See The character isn't expressing itself. His mind was to stay with the Father's Word. Their mind was to... The same mind was in them, was to be in us. And if His mind is in us, we'll do like He did. If His character's in us, we'll be as He was. Is that right*

And what was the character of the Son of God? He said, *"The Son can of Himself do nothing, what He seeth the Father do, that the Son doeth likewise John 5:19.*

JOHN 5:30 *I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.*

And how do we receive his Character? **2 Peter 1: 2-4** For it is the Word that will mold our character to be fashioned to His glorious nature.

II Timothy 3:16 *All scripture [is] given by inspiration of God, and [is] profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.* And the word correction here is a Greek word *epanorthosis {ep-an-or'-tho-sis}* which means *restoration to an upright life, improvement in life or character*, in other words, *to fashion the character.*

From the Message, **It is I be not Afraid 62-0726** *Now, spiritually when we're born of God. That changes our character.*

117-1 Smyraean CA - CH 4 *character simply is never made without suffering. Character is a VICTORY, not a gift. Peter said. Is it strange that God wants us to develop a Christ-like character that comes through suffering No sir. And we all have trials. We are all tried and chastened as sons. Not one but goes through that. The church that is not suffering, and is not being tried, hasn't got it--it isn't of God. Heb. 12:6, "For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth. But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons."*

Be Not Afraid It Is I 61-0414 057 *And I want to say something here. His followers always show courtesy to everybody in their life. You see They're ready to help somebody, ready to do something for somebody else, His true followers.*

Hear Ye Him 57-0519A *It's your character, your conduct that gives God confidence in you.*

Therefore, in finding a spouse, don't just look for a good provider, you girls, look for character. Look for the person who you love to be around, through richer or poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do you part, and remember, if you find that kind of person, you never will part for you are eternal mates, as brother Branham put it.

Now, this morning I would like to continue on in our study of Courtship and I would like to examine the next question that comes to mind and that is the WHEN question. Now, when we speak of the When Question, there is but one thought in mind and that is when should I begin courtship. I believe that you should be old enough to marry. If you are not old enough and mature enough to marry, then you are not old enough to court. We do not believe in the world's view of dating around to experience as many potential partners as you can before making up your mind. That is not God's way. That way of thinking may have began in the 50's as a way which seemed right, but it was the way of death, and has led to both spiritual death and physical death as well.

Always remember, **Proverbs 14:12** *There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof [are] the ways of death.*

And always remember, man's ways will always lead to death, because life can only come from the revealed Word of God. Man thought in his

reasoning that a person should shop around and so in the 50's dating around began to be taught and even advised, and look what has happened. The divorce rate has risen tremendously and the venereal disease rate has gone through the roof. Because the people once they left the Word, and tried to do things the world's way, kept going further and further away from the Word until they began to sleep together thinking they would try out the wares before they purchased them.

It began by "Shopping around, then it led to sleeping around,". And this led to death.

We found the scriptural way is one man, one woman for life. Why Because we read in **I CORINTHIANS 6:15** *Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ shall I then take the members of Christ, and make [them] the members of an harlot God forbid. 16 What know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body for two, saith he, shall be one flesh. 17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit. 18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. 19 What know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost [which is] in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*

And in the beginning God said, **Genesis 2:24** *"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh".*

Matthew 19:4 *And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made [them] at the beginning made them male and female, 5 And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh 6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.*

We found that the process of this becoming one flesh takes place through the passing back and forth of the body fluids and when body fluids are passed back and forth, they actually transfer DNA from one to the other. That is why a man who has sex with a woman who has had sex with 10 others is actually taking into his body a transfer of DNA from all 11 people. And if those 10 had sex with 10 others, now you are polluting your gene pool even greater with the DNA of 101.

Now, if the Serpent polluted the Life stream of Lamb Life in the beginning by passing his seed into Eve, and look what damage it has done to mankind, just think what damage is being done today with all the illicit running around that is being done by men and women, boys and girls.

But our government thought they could teach sex education to control venereal disease. They have succeeded all right. They have taught the young minds of mush to do whatever they please and this has led to broken homes, broken families, and a broken human gene pool.

Matthew 24:22 *And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.*

Now, this morning we are looking at when The When question. When should I court To do so, let's look again to the Word of God for our answer.

Psalms 37:9 *For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth. 10 For yet a little while, and the wicked [shall] not [be]: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it [shall] not [be]. 11 But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.*

Now, you might ask, what does this scripture have to do with dating and courtship. The answer lies in the plan of God for your life. As I stated before, you should not court until you are ready for marriage. You should begin doing things in a group setting, because that will save you and her the embarrassment and heart ache of breaking up. It will allow you to see the person in a social setting, how they conduct themselves around others. Do they hold to the Word of God or are they self centered. You can find out an awful lot about another person in a social setting.

These young kids that get together today and think they have to spend all their time together are robbing themselves of life. Even a married couple does not cut themselves off from fellowship in a group setting unless there is something wrong spiritually or some deep seated emotional problem.

Usually what this is, is the girl becomes very possessive and thinks that somehow she might lose her man, and she then begins to find

excuses to keep away from the group setting, and before you know it, she is spending all her time with the man, and he with her, and they have cut themselves off from growth which comes from interacting with others.

For you parents, the rule should be that your son or your daughter do not see each other privately and alone. And if you allow this you are asking for a hurried courtship. And one that is hurried is one that is out of control. I have seen young kids get together and because the parents have a milk bone instead of a backbone, those kids almost live at one another's home, and that is not healthy. No, it is not healthy spiritually nor is it healthy emotionally. People need time to themselves to think through these things. This is a very important step in life and if you rush it, you will most often be sorry you did. Most of the time it is the girl who has been told by society that if she isn't married at a young age, or before she's 20, her odds for marriage grow less and less with each passing year. This is plain and utter nonsense.

Isaiah 40:28 *Hast thou not known hast thou not heard, [that] the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary [there is] no searching of his understanding. 29 He giveth power to the faint (to those who have grown tired) ; and to [them that have] no strength, he increaseth strength. 30 Even the youths shall faint (become tired) and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: 31 But they that wait upon the LORD, (those that place their hope in the Lord) shall renew [their] strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; [and] they shall walk, and not faint.*

And here is the clue how we should run in this race. Hebrews 12:1 *Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset [us], and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of [our] faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.*

*Let us run with patience. How **Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of [our] faith** Now, we are told that they that hope in the Lord will wait patiently for the promise*

PSALMS 37:7 *Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him:*

Hebrews 6:13 *For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he sware by himself, 14 Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee. 15 And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.*

Psalms 40:1 *I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry.*

Ecclesiastes 7:8 *Better [is] the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: [and] the patient in spirit [is] better than the proud in spirit.*

Luke 21:19 *In your patience possess ye your souls.*

Romans 15:4 *For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. 5 Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus:*

In Hebrews 6:12, we read that through faith and patience we inherit the promises.

Romans 5:2 *By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 And not only [so], but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; 4 And patience, experience; and experience, hope: 5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.*

Romans 8:25 *But if we hope for that we see not, [then] do we with patience wait for [it]. 26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what [is] the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to [the will of] God. 28 And we know that all*

things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to [his] purpose. 29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate [to be] conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. 31 What shall we then say to these things If God [be] for us, who [can be] against us

Kinsman Redeemer 60-1002 *when a man loves a woman and marries her because she's just pretty, there'll be an end to that. But when a man finds a woman that he loves, he don't know why, but he loves her... And she finds the man that she loves, no matter what he looks like... He loves her. She loves him. That's an eternal mate in glory. They'll... Death nor nothing else can ever separate them. Because they are from eternity, and they stepped out into space of time, and will return back to eternity. Eternity has dropped down in a body called time, then it goes right back up into eternity again. It cannot perish.*

Be Certain Of God 59-0708E *We know that we have Your Word saying, "According to their faith, they shall receive." Give to them faith tonight, Lord, and may they be certain that every promise of God is true, if they'll only wait. For it is written, "**They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings as an eagle; they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.**" Lord, teach us to wait upon Thee; lay hold of Eternal Life and every promise in the Bible, and wait upon Thee for salvation of our souls, for the baptism of the Holy Spirit, for joy in our hearts, for healing of our bodies, for every redemptive blessing that You died for at Calvary. Let us have faith tonight to know that God did not cause Christ to suffer in vain. That was for all generations. For it is written, "Whosoever will, let him come." While we are coming, Lord, grant that we will receive, for we ask it in Jesus' Name, Thy Son, as we commit it to Thee. Amen.*