

BIBLICAL DATING GUIDELINES

I.) Introduction:

Does the Bible really teach guidelines for modern day dating?

If so, where?

A.) The Ten Commandments

1.) This teaching includes Dating;

(Exodus 20:14)

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

(1Corinthians 6:18)

Flee fornication. Shun immorality and all sexual looseness-
-flee from impurity [in thought, word, or deed]. Any other
sin which a man commits is one outside the body, but he
who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

a.) Do you think fornication is a part of dating in the U.S.A.?

b.) Do you think what you do on a date will have an effect on any
one else but you?

2.) A Principle Often Overlooked In Today's "Victimless Crime" "Right to privacy" mentality.

(Exodus 20:5 NKJ)

(5) you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I,
the Lord your God, {am} a jealous God, visiting the iniquity
of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth
{generations} of those who hate Me,

3.) What you do effects your children!!!!

4.) What you decide will effect your grandchildren!!!!

5.) What you decide will effect your Great-grandchildren!

6.) Do you believe that Bible verse applies to modern dating and you?

II.) Eastern Bible Customs

- A.) Betrothal
- B.) Courtship
- C.) Marriage feast
- D.) Bride groom's voice

III.) Right Time to Arouse

A.) Solomon's Song

1.) Don't wake my love till he please'

SOL 2:7 I charge you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes, and by the hinds of the field, that ye stir not up, nor awake {my} love, till he please. (KJV)

2.) Note NKJ

SOL 2:7 I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, by the gazelles or by the does of the field, do not stir up nor awaken love until it pleases. (NKJ)

3.) Class notes Homer Haily

"I believe that Solomon was infatuated with the girl's charm and beauty, but that she was in love with a shepherd lad. In the struggle with her own heart, true love triumphs. When Solomon unwittingly revealed the sensual nature of his infatuation (7:7-9) the die was cast: her mind was completely determined to return to the shepherd. The poem is God's commendation of true mating love and His condemnation of Solomon's polygamy...!"

Three principles lead me to accept this view;
The Bible is a complete book and as such it must deal with all aspects of the human experience. Mating love is a strong factor in life and unless this poem deals with it, it is omitted from God's book.

3.) If such a virtuous girl's marriage to Solomon was the theme, then Solomon's polygamy would be tactically endorsed."

4.) Decent Exposure, Connie Marshner, p.167

back to how they first met.

Didn't most of them meet on a date?

Dating: Pros & Cons

"Most Americans have a "steady" dating relationship by age seventeen. Such frivolity is unheard of in Orthodox Jewry, whose adherents object strenuously to steady dating of any kind at any age short of preparation for matrimony. "Ethnic subculture," sociologists say, discussing the practice as quaint. Maybe. But unwed pregnancy is practically unheard of in Orthodox Jewish communities.

Actually, the restriction on dating to a preparation for matrimony is not an Orthodox Jewish idea at all. Until the post World War II generation, dating was seen throughout Europe and America as courting behavior intended to result in marriage.

Even though we tell ourselves dating has nothing to do with marriage, in fact it has. It is wise to remind ourselves of the connection for several reasons. When you go on a date with somebody, you are indicating a willingness to explore a relationship. How many marriages between Christians and Non-Christians begin with casual dates? Just for fun, ask all your married friends to think

All dates certainly don't lead to marriage, but many marriages began with dates. Thus, "Don't date anybody you would not consider marrying" is the very least ammunition with which we can send our children into the battlefield of casual dating.

Casual high school dating is basically a game to see how much sex a guy can get from a girl for the price of a movie and pizza.

In high school then, there should be NO one-on-one dating.

Period

IV.) Who is Protecting Virtue?

A.) Changing Times

□ **Decent Exposure** □, Connie Marshner, p.160

"Until the 1960's most colleges had stricter curfews, as well as rules about the hours of the dorm. But with the youth revolution and women's liberation it became "repressive" to protect women. The burden of protecting her virtue now falls on the shoulders of the young woman."

□ **Sin Sex & Self Control** □, Norman Vincent Peale, p.5

In the past, people had been kept from unwise action through commands, threats, punishments, subjugation, ostracism-even burning at the stake. Man had neglected his own inner controls. If people could realize that when such restraints were removed they would have to restrain themselves. What a challenge, What an opportunity. Maybe the parent should have the freedom to say no. In the last analysis, that was what the court had done. It had shifted the responsibility from the law to the individual.

V.) How Far To Go?

A.) Who Decides?

1.) THE PARENT

How To Teach Your Children About Sex, p.72

Teaching responsibility to your children and educating them sex □
ually is primarily your job as a parent.

2.) Not SCHOOLS

Raising Positive Kids in a Negative World, p.16 ig Ziglar

It is my firm conviction that we need not more sex information on birth control in the schools but more teaching of moral values and self-control in the home.

3.) The World's View

If it Feels Good Do It

How To Teach Your Children About Sex, p.72

Social Sexual Responsibility

"Being Sexually responsible certainly is a difficult assignment in today's Western world. From bumper stickers to major books, the

philosophy is taught that sexual freedom and pleasure are goals to pursue. One bumper sticker I see regularly says, 'if it feels good, do it!' Complete self-indulgence is a way of life that many people pursue."

Dr. Grace H. Ketterman M.D. (Recommended by Dr. James Dobson)

B.) Dating Age;

Raising Positive Kids in a Negative World, p.175

Zig Ziglar

To begin with, a girl should at least sixteen before she is
permitted to date alone with a boy and fifteen before she is
permitted to double date.

Supervise them, parents, keep them busy, channel their energy

into healthy outlets.

C.) Petting: the limits

How To Teach Your Children About Sex, p.72

Guidelines For Social Situations

"In your social interactions outside the home, you may well think

of these guidelines:

a.) Act in social or business situations as you would act if your
spouse or even your parents/children were present.

b.) Protect your self-respect and that of your family, and be
responsible enough to help protect others from their own sexual
impulses. It takes great sensitivity to one's own feelings as
well as other's to know where to set limits-and self-control to
stick to these limits. Knowing how to be friendly with out being
cheap. What a problem it is to find and keep that fine balance.

c.) Avoid categorizing people sexually or in any other way. □
Whether male or female, respect them and accept them as individuals.

D.) Petting: the natural progression to sex.

How To Teach Your Children About Sex, p.133

Sexual Curiosity

It is important for boys and girls who are dating to know the natural biological progression that takes place in "petting" or "making out." Usually this starts with hand holding, walking arm in arm, and perhaps a good night hug and kiss. Depending upon the values and viewpoint of the couple, the physical relationship may progress to long periods of kissing, embracing, and touching or caressing of each other's bodies. At some time in this sequence, one or both may reach a point of no return, when the urge to complete sexual intercourse becomes almost uncontrollable."

Each person needs to assume the responsibility not only for himself but also for the other person, so their relationship does not reach this point until they are ready for marriage. A girl needs to understand that she can arouse a boy's sexual feelings by the way she acts and dresses. A boy needs to realize that girls, too, have intense sexual feelings. To tease and play to the point of this intensity and then suddenly cut off the interaction is painfully frustrating. To allow the progression to end in intercourse is risky at best and may totally spoil a relationship.

Love For A Lifetime, James Dobson, p.32

Bonding

"How does this bonding occur? According to Drs. Joy & Desmond Morris, bonding is most likely to

develop among those who have moved systematically and slowly through twelve steps during their courtship and early marriage. These stages represent a progression of physical intimacy from which permanent commitment evolves.

1.) Eye to Body--A Glance reveals much about a person; sex, size, shape, age, personality & status. The importance people place on these criteria determines whether or not they will be attracted to each other.

2.) Eye to eye--When a man & woman who are strangers to each other exchange glances, their most natural reaction is to look away, usually with embarrassment. If their eyes meet again, they may smile, which signals that they might like to become better acquainted.

3.) Voice to voice--Their initial conversations are trivial & include questions like "What is your name?" or "What do you do for a living?" During this long stage the two people learn much about each other's opinions, pastimes, activities, habits, hobbies, likes & dislikes. If they are compatible, they become friends.

4.) Hand to hand--The first instance of physical contact between the couple is usually a non-romantic occasion such as when a man helps a woman descend a high step or aids her across an obstacle. At this point either of the individuals can withdraw from the relationship without rejecting the other. If continued, however, hand-to-hand contact will eventually become an evidence of the couple's romantic attachment to each other.

5.) Hand to Shoulder--This affectionate embrace is still noncommittal. It is a buddy type position in which a man and a woman are side by side. They are more concerned with the world in front of them than they are with each other. The hand-to-shoulder contact reveals a relationship that is more than a close friendship, but probably not real love.

6.) Hand to waist--Because this is something that two people of the same sex would not ordinarily do it is clearly romantic. They are close enough to be sharing secrets or intimate language with each other. Yet, as they walk side by side with hand to waist, they are still facing forward

7.) Face to face--This level of contact involves gazing into one another's

eyes, hugging and kissing. If none of the previous steps were skipped, the man and woman will have developed a special code from experience that enables them to engage in deep communication with very few words. At this point, sexual desire becomes an important factor in the relationship.

8.) Hand to Face--This is an extension of the previous stage. The man & woman tend to cradle or stroke each other's head while kissing or talking. Rarely do individuals in our culture touch the head of another person unless they are romantically involved or are family members. It is a designation of emotional closeness.

9-12 The final steps-- The last four levels of involvement are distinctly sexual & private. They are (9) hand to body (10) mouth to breast (11) touching below the waist (12) Intercourse. Obviously the final steps of physical contact should be reserved for the marital relationship, since they are progressively sexual and intensely personal.

Intimacy must proceed slowly if a relationship is to achieve it's full potential.

How To Teach Your Children About Sex, p.133

I know it sounds old fashion to make a plea for abstinence (not having sexual intercourse) before marriage. But so many physical, emotional, social, spiritual problems are involved that I believe every couple should avoid premarital intercourse.

Sex is designed by God to happen naturally and beautifully, when husband and wife are ready. It is not a way of proving manhood or womanliness. When sexual acts are based on efforts to prove oneself instead of expressing mature, unselfish, mutual love, they will bring heartache and disappointment rather than fulfillment and joy.

Problems in the Child's Personality

How To Teach Your Children About Sex, p.141

Counteracting Adolescent Problems

1. Competition or power struggles that may be fought through sexual issues.
2. Acting out rebelliousness against parental strictness

3. Testing the limits of parental inconsistency or seeming indifference.

4. Loneliness or a sense of inferiority that reach out at any cost for friendship and affection

5 Joining the crowd or the " everybody's doing it" routine.