

# Who Should You Marry?

## Lordship Check:

1) Am I committed TO FOLLOWING JESUS as a true disciple?

(Y/N)

2) Am I committed to doing it the Kingdom way, not the way of this world, nor my way? (Y/N)

3) Am I committed to obeying God over my emotion or natural passion? (Y/N)

4) Am I committed to doing what is best for the other person in the sight of God? (Y/N)

# What biblical qualities are non-negotiable?

- > For a husband (MAN) potential > For a wife (Woman) potential

(Genesis 2:17-19), (v. 18) “The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.”

## **Faithful Man with a Call!**

- A man of God who has a clear Call from God (Gen. 2:17,18).
- A man who will be faithful to obey God’s command, not listen to the voice of his wife (Gen. 3:17).
- A man who will leave his home to cleave to his wife. (Gen. 2:24)

## **Committed Woman to support!**

- A woman of God who is committed to support her husband’s God-given Calling.
- A woman who will refuse to act independently from God and her husband.
- A woman who will leave her family to cleave to her husband.

> For a husband (MAN) potential > For a wife (Woman) potential

## **“Proven Character of Self Control”! Over the...**

### **Fallen nature of man: (Gen. 3:17-19)**

- From self-gratifying passion, lust and immorality
- From misplaced hope of self-worth in ambition, accomplishments, fame and recognition from people.
- From reacting with pride, self-defensiveness, protecting of self-worth, and idolatry of self when challenged

### **Fallen nature of woman: (Gen. 3:16)**

- From “marriage” and “man’s affection” idolatry
- From emotional dependency, sensuality, and natural passion
- From being self-protective, demanding and wanting to control man and the environment

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(1 Corinthians 7:35) “I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in **undivided devotion to the Lord.**” (NIV) “to promote what is appropriate to secure **undistracted devotion to the Lord**” (NASB)

## Undistracted devotion to Christ!

- To be restored to a “YADA” relationship with God, as He originally intended, and enjoy the resurrection life over a life of fallen nature.
- To come into a personal relationship with God and be deeply satisfied with His living water (abundant life in Christ), not seek substitutes that do not satisfy!
- To be better spiritually and devotionally ready for any relationship, not to make the person of interest an object of idolatry. Otherwise, that person can become an unhealthy object of devotion, enter into competition with Jesus, which can turn into emotional co-dependency or relational addiction.

> For a husband (MAN) potential > For a wife (Woman) potential

### **Godly spiritual leader who will love his wife! (Eph. 5:25-29)**

- Who is committed to love his wife as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. Also, to love her as his own body.
- Who is able to teach and to make his wife holy and blameless, and to cleanse her with the Word of God.
- Who desires to present his wife before God as a radiant member of Christ's church, without stain, wrinkle, blemish, but holy and blameless.

### **Godly supporter who will submit to her husband! (Eph. 5:22-24)**

- Who is joyfully willing to submit to her husband's authority
- Who acknowledges, according to God's sovereign order, the headship of man over her and her family.
- Who will submit to her husband as the church submits to Christ, the head of the church, the body.

> For a husband (MAN) potential > For a wife (Woman) potential

## **Elder and Deacon Qualifications!** (1 Tim. 3:1-13; Tit. 1:5-9)

- **Essential qualification for Elders:** above reproach, husband of one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, an able teacher, not a drunkard, not violent, but gentle, not contentious, free from love of money. Manages his own household well, controls his children with dignity, must not be recent converts, well thought of by outsiders, not someone who would potentially fall to disgrace and be caught in the devil's trap.
- **Qualificaton for Deacons:** Must be dignified, not two faced, not given to excessive drinking, not greedy for gain, holding to mystery of faith with good conscience. They must be tested to be blameless before serving. Husband of one wife, good manager of their children and their households. Good standing and great boldness in the faith that is in Jesus Christ. **Their wives be dignified, not slanderous, temperate, faithful in every respect.**

> For a husband (MAN) potential > For a wife (Woman) potential

## Godly wives must...

### Be a Book of Titus woman!

- (Titus 2:3-5) “Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. <sup>4</sup> Then they can urge the younger women to love their husbands and children, <sup>5</sup> to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.”

> For a husband (MAN) potential

**Godly husbands must...**

**Have “a different spirit to follow God wholeheartedly”!**

- (Number 14:24) “But because my servant Caleb **has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly**, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it.”
- **To claim God’s promises**
- **To conquer our own “Canaan” with faith and courage!**
- **To mature as singles is more doable than after marriage**

> For a wife (Woman) potential

**Be a noble/excellent, wise, and a woman who fears the Lord!**

- (Proverb 31:10-11, 26-27, 30) “**A wife of noble character** who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. **Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value...She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness...**” “Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.” Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but **a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.**”



> For a husband (MAN) potential

**He is respectful, considerate and loves his wife!**

- (Colossians 3:19) “Husbands, **love your wives** and **do not be harsh** with them.”
- (1 Peter 2:7) “Husbands, in the same way **be considerate** as you live with your wives, and **treat them with respect** as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.”

> For a wife (Woman) potential

**Have a teachable heart to learn from her husband in full submission!**

- (1 Timothy 2:11-15) “A woman should **learn in quietness and full submission**.<sup>12</sup> I do not permit a woman to teach or to assume authority over a man; she must be quiet.<sup>13</sup> For Adam was formed first, then Eve.<sup>14</sup> And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner.<sup>15</sup> But women will be saved through childbearing—if they **continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety**.”

> For a husband (MAN) potential > For a wife (Woman) potential

**He is a sacrificial and selfless servant, more concerned about others' distress!**

- (Philippians 2:25-27) "But I think it is necessary to send back to you **Epaphroditus**, my brother, co-worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs. For he longs for all of you **and is distressed because you heard he was ill.** <sup>27</sup> **Indeed he was ill, and almost died."**

**Have the inner beauty of a quiet and gentle spirit!**

- (1 Peter 3:4-6) "Rather, it should be that of **your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit**, which is of great worth in God's sight. <sup>5\</sup> For this is the way **the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to adorn themselves. They submitted themselves to their own husbands**, like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and **called him her lord**. You are her daughters if you do what is right and **do not give way to fear."**

## Further food for thought and processing!

- 1) How much should one mature before considering a life-time partner?
- 2) What could be the non-negotiable minimum in spiritual and emotional maturity prior to dating?
- 3) What should be the ultimate deciding factors in going forth with marrying someone?
- 4) What other questions do you have regarding choosing your life-time partner?