

# It's A Date!

Interpersonal relationships with members of the opposite sex can only be blessed by God as they stay within the guidelines of God's Word. Apply each of the following verses to your relationships while dating. What can you do to make sure that the counsel given in these Scriptures is followed in dating as well as in other relationships in your life?

“Let love be without dissimulation [hypocrisy]. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord.” — Romans 12:9-11

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“I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation [work] wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”  
— Ephesians 4:1-3

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“Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned [genuine] love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently.”  
— 1 Peter 1:22

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When it comes to dating, which of the following traits do you look for in a person?  
Of the ones you check, circle the three that are most important to you.

I want to date someone who . . .

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> is very popular.             | <input type="checkbox"/> attends my church.          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> likes drama, music, and art. | <input type="checkbox"/> has a good sense of humor.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> is open and honest.          | <input type="checkbox"/> will date only me.          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> is a good conversationalist. | <input type="checkbox"/> is tactful and considerate. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> is very kind.                | <input type="checkbox"/> is a strong Christian.      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> treats me with respect.      | <input type="checkbox"/> is good looking.            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> likes sports.                | <input type="checkbox"/> will listen to me.          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> is very intelligent.         | <input type="checkbox"/> is well groomed.            |

# What Does That Mean?

Some of the words used when talking about the relationships, could be confusing. Here is a list of some of the words you might hear in this lesson. Read through the multiple choices, and see if you can choose the right definition for each word.

1. DATE ..... a) someone of the opposite sex you can enjoy a good time with. b) the first step to being engaged. c) the fruit of a certain cactus. d) a Hebrew word for calendar.
2. MARRIAGE ..... a) the state of being depressed. b) the holy union of two people for life. c) a small flower found in Israel. d) a supper in Cana of Galilee.
3. FELLOWSHIP ..... a) a boat of the type on which Paul was shipwrecked. b) restitution money. c) the man bearing armor in front of a Roman soldier. d) a mutual sharing of spiritual experiences.
4. CONCORD ..... a) having the same mind on a matter. b) being in complete disagreement. c) a state of war between two nations. d) a type of grape common in Egypt.
5. BELIAL ..... a) was talked to by a mule. b) to deny the faith. c) a tower that was built to reach to Heaven. d) the spirit of evil personified; the devil.
6. FRIENDSHIP ..... a) the same as fellowship. b) the type of boat Jonah was thrown from. c) the fond but loose attachment between two people who know each other well. d) the companionship best illustrated by King Saul and David.
7. LOVE ..... a) the bird that returned to the Ark with an olive branch. b) a deep feeling of attachment between two people. c) a devilish feeling. d) another word for impure or unholy.
8. ADULTERY ..... a) the natural maturing process of human life. b) the art of cooking loaves and fishes. c) the defilement of a marriage. d) the sin that killed Ananias and Sapphira.
9. FRIEND ..... a) the person to become your spouse. b) someone you are fond of. c) the one who stabs you in the back. d) a type of spear.
10. VOCATION ..... a) a time of rest. b) a section of Rome. c) a small measure of corn or wheat. d) God's specific work for you.
11. YOKED ..... a) being persecuted by the throwing of eggs. b) being restrained for misbehavior. c) being joined together with someone. d) a type of singing in Central Europe

# RELATIONSHIPS-TO BE OR NOT TO BE

What happens if you try to mix oil and water?

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If you're a Christian, why is it important that your closest relationships be with other Christians?

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## Check the best reasons for dating someone.

- They've dated a lot of other people.
- You're friends and communicate well.
- There is a strong physical attraction.
- You both feel the same about spiritual things.
- Because they're available.
- You look good together.



## True or False Love is...

- always showing each other respect.
- compromising your beliefs to prove your love.
- being able to bring your problems together to the Lord.
- knowing the other person will change in time.
- trusting each other completely.

Solve the code to reveal God's blessing on Relationships

$\overline{\Omega}$   $\overline{\nabla}$   $\overline{\leftrightarrow}$      $\overline{\square}$   $\overline{\textcircled{/}}$   $\overline{\uparrow}$      $\overline{\textcircled{/}}$   $\overline{\nabla}$   $\overline{\Pi}$   $\overline{\infty}$   
 $\overline{\square}$   $\overline{\uparrow}$   $\overline{\Psi}$   $\overline{\Phi}$   $\overline{\square}$   $\overline{\oplus}$   $\overline{\Phi}$   $\overline{\blacklozenge}$      $\overline{\Phi}$   $\overline{\downarrow}$   $\overline{\Omega}$   $\overline{\Phi}$   $\overline{\lambda}$   $\overline{\square}$  **?**  
 $\overline{\square}$   $\overline{\oplus}$   $\overline{\Phi}$   $\overline{\heartsuit}$      $\overline{\omega}$   $\overline{\Phi}$      $\overline{\nabla}$   $\overline{\Psi}$   $\overline{\blacklozenge}$   $\overline{\Phi}$   $\overline{\Phi}$   $\overline{*}$

A =  $\nabla$   
 E =  $\Phi$   
 L =  $\Pi$   
 R =  $\blacklozenge$   
 Y =  $\heartsuit$

B =  $\omega$   
 G =  $\Psi$   
 N =  $\leftrightarrow$   
 T =  $\square$

C =  $\Omega$   
 H =  $\oplus$   
 O =  $\uparrow$   
 W =  $\textcircled{/}$

D =  $*$   
 K =  $\infty$   
 P =  $\lambda$   
 X =  $\downarrow$

What do you like in a friend? \_\_\_\_\_

Check the box that best describes your friends:

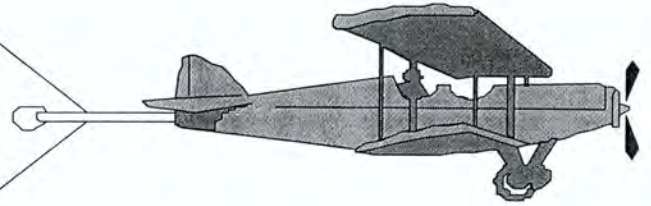
- most of my friends are Christians
- some of my friends are Christians
- most of my friends are not Christians

Why is it important that your closest friends are Christians?

\_\_\_\_\_

# OBJECT LESSON

## Relationships — 87



### Opener:

“Can two walk together, except they be agreed?”

Needed: a piece of rope

With another adult (not your size) or a student, tie one leg together (as in a three-legged race). Disagree with each other about which way to go, how fast to walk, what size steps to take.

Illustrates that when we enter into relationships with others: friendships, business, or in dating or marriage, we must be in agreement, be of the same mind, have the same goals.