

# **Biblical vs Modern Dating**

# What to expect

- **What dating is**
- **Pros and cons of dating**
- **Biblical method of getting a spouse**
- **Advantages of follow**
- **5 Bible based principles to follow in finding your spouse**

**YES/NO**

**What does it  
mean when you  
say you are  
dating someone?**

**Christians  
should not  
date**

**Dating is the  
act of going  
on dates**

**It is OK to  
date several  
people at the  
same time**

**Don't date  
someone unless  
you are willing  
to marry them**

**The longer you go  
out with someone  
before you marry  
the better**

**If someone has all  
qualities you want  
but you don't love  
him/her, I will date  
him/her**

**Dating is spending  
time with a person  
(persons) in hope of  
finding a committed  
relationship**

# **Advantages with modern dating**

**Fun and  
exciting**

# Freedom of choice

**Lots of  
options**

# Problems with Modern Dating

**1. Confusing**  
**-Everybody has their  
own perception of  
what it means**

# Examples

- hanging out
- hooking up
- Chirping
- Seeing someone
- Just dating
- Going out
- Going steady

Just because you are “*dating*”  
doesn't necessarily mean you  
are “*dating someone*”,  
However if you are “*dating  
someone*”, you are definitely  
“*dating!*”

**2. Usually just about  
having fun and good  
time**

**Based on feelings of  
romance and  
happiness**

**3. Good dater**  
**-Not equal to a**  
**good spouse**

**4. Unconscious  
dating/  
sliding vs  
deciding -->  
Pseudo marriage**

**5. It emphasizes intimate  
knowledge before  
commitment  
-Emotional and sexual  
compatibility**

## **5. Leads to emotional disaster --> serial breakups:**

- Trifling of hearts**
- Dating purgatory**
- Unintentional bonding  
takes place**
- Awakens love before its  
time**

**“To trifle with the  
heart is a **crime** of no  
small magnitude in the  
sight of **God**”**

**EGW**

**6. Can be a great  
waste of time,  
years and even  
money**

# DATING

**-Process of finding,  
assessing and  
deciding if someone  
is right for you**

# Biblical process

# **Name Biblical couples**

# No boy/girl friend in Bible

- Single
- Betrothed/engaged
- Married
- Widowed

**Most marriages in  
Bible were arranged  
“How”?**

# 1. Transparent/ intentional

# **2. Commitment before “Knowing”**

Modern dating tends to assume that you need to get to know a person **more deeply than anyone else** in the world to figure out whether you should be with him or her.

The biblical approach suggests that **real commitment** to the other person should **precede** such a high level of **intimacy**.

*Scott Croft - Boundless*  
Godwantsyoumarried.com

# 4. Did it young

But were prepared

**Most marriages in  
Bible were arranged  
“How”?**

# 5 Bible Principles of Choosing a mate

# 1. Be Intentional

## 2. Don't date unless you are ready to marry

- *1 Thes 4:6*
- *6 Month rule*
- *1-2 years*
- *Scott Croft*

**2a. Date only people you are  
prepared to marry**

# 3. Be Prepared

**Emotionally**  
**Financially**  
**Functionally**

E

**Modern dating seems  
to be about "finding"  
the right person for me**

**Biblical dating is more about  
"being" the right person to  
serve my future spouse's  
needs and be a God-  
glorifying husband or wife.**

# 4. Be Informed

- Investigate
- Research prospect
  - Prayer
  - Others
  - Online
- Observation

**5. Have a timeline  
about how long you  
will want to date  
before marriage**

# 6. Be Strategic

# **7. Be clear about what you are looking for**

# 8. Involve others

- Parents
- Spiritual leaders

**Take God and your  
god-fearing parents  
into your council**

**Modern dating assumes that what I do and who I date as an adult is up to me and is private (*my family or the church has no formal or practical authority*).**

**Biblical dating  
assumes a context of  
spiritual **accountability**.**

*Scott Croft*

**6. Once you have found  
someone, pray and  
commit  
-Marry**

# **7. Ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit**