

Disciples Church

Marriage & Singleness Series - Session 7 -

A Single’s Pursuit of Marriage: Dating or Courting

Week of February 21, 2018

**DISCUSSION GUIDE**

Pastor said in his intro that the two questions we are aiming to answer are:

- How does a single person who is eligible and ready for marriage pursue a spouse in a God-honoring way?

- How should we as parents of young adults or those who will one day be young adults shape the economy of our homes to prepare and walk with our children rightly if God gives the gift of marriage to them?

1. Before tonight’s lesson, how much time and/or investment have you put into a God-honoring and accountable practice in the area of dating/courting in your own life and/or in your parenting of your children/grandchildren?

2. What stood out to you in the hundred-year recap of the history of dating?

***Dating*** *in our modern landscape is essentially a casual to committed relationship where two people spend an increased amount of time together (much or all being in unaccountable situations) in the pursuit of romantic connection and relationship.*

3. While dating can be fun, memorable, and meaningful, what about the “problems with the practice of dating” stuck out to you the most?(Look at your handout for the four main areas that were covered in the lesson)

4. Why is it problematic for a person to feel incomplete and therefore look to dating to fill that gap?

**Read Philippians 3:8 and 4:11-13.**

5. Talk about what Paul has in Christ that causes him to engage in life in such a content way.

6. Why is friendship a better way to get to know someone than romantic dating?

**Read Proverbs 1:8-9 and Hebrews 13:17.**

7. Why is it so valuable to heed the counsel of parents and pastors when evaluating your and the other person’s readiness and fit to pursue courtship unto marriage?

8. Scripture is clear that physical intimacy is for marriage and not for any other context including love or commitment. Why is it so important that couples are diligent and accountable in their practice of accountable space and God-honoring engagement?

9. How does it help to see a person you are courting as a brother or a sister-in-Christ and not more until you are married?

10. Why is it so important we are willing to make adjustments in our practices both for those looking to be married and for those who are raising children in this area?

\*Spend some time in prayer together as you close.