

Me to We 1

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Today, I want to start with the “ME” and the process of becoming the “WE.”

Before we tackle the subject of dating and forming relationships, let’s start with some assumptions:

1. Your marriage and relationships will be no healthier than you are internally.
 - Such as I have I give to you.
 - Single people generally think they have it somewhat together. Don’t wait for marriage to discover that you are internally broken.
 - You will either live condemned or make your spouse responsible to fix you and make you happy.
 - If you are married and internally broken, get help and fight the battle together as a couple.
 - If you don’t fight the battle together, you’re going to simply FIGHT.
2. You want to live your life according to the Word of God.

4 Kinds of Daters

1. Sexual daters – Velcro Example
2. Spiritual daters – God hasn’t chosen my spouse yet.
 - If you are going to sit at home and wait for God to bring someone to you, you are going to have to either marry the FEDX person or a Jehovah’s Witness.
3. Idealistic daters – I didn’t feel sparks and get weak in the knees.
 - I have written a list of 75 things they must have.
4. Godly daters

4 Things Parents Must Convey and Single People Must Understand About Dating

1. Why date?

- We were made for relationships.
- It is not good that man should be alone.

Genesis 2:18 - The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." *NIV*

- Everything God created ended with the statement that, "**God saw that it was good.**"
- Except when he made man, "It is not good." – (Exception: Gift of Singleness)
- Finding a mate and developing a healthy marriage will be one of the greatest determining factors in the quality and fruitfulness of your life.
 - 1950 – 22% of American adults were single
 - 2014 – 50% of American adults are single.
 - This message isn't only for teenagers!

2. When to date?

- Learning to develop relationships as friends in GROUPS during adolescence.
- Learning to DATE without DATING during high school.
- Parents must learn to place boundaries in their children's lives.
- Don't permit you children to develop deep physical and emotional intimacy during adolescence.

Ephesians 6:1-3 – ¹ Children, **obey** your parents; this is the right thing to do because God has placed them in **authority** over you. ² **Honor** your father and mother. This is the first of God's Ten Commandments that ends with a promise. ³ And this is the promise: that if you honor your father and mother, yours will be a long life, full of blessing. **TLB**

Honor means you let their directions and authority govern your life, independently of other influences.

The culture is brain dead!

3. Who to date?

II Corinthians 6:14 - Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? *NIV*

- Don't be unequally yoked together with an unbeliever.
- Don't look for dates in places that don't share your values.
- Join with people in events that share your passions and places that share your values.

4. How to date?

CAR EXAMPLE: You don't just throw your child into a car and expect them to drive. They get a learner's permit and are expected to practice with SUPERVISION until they are able to solo. Even after they solo, you continue to monitor and advice.

Gas = when to go and how fast to proceed

Steering wheel = what direction are we headed, staying within the lines

Trunk = what baggage is this person bringing and what am I bringing to the relationship

We must learn to put ourselves **out there**, without **putting out**.