

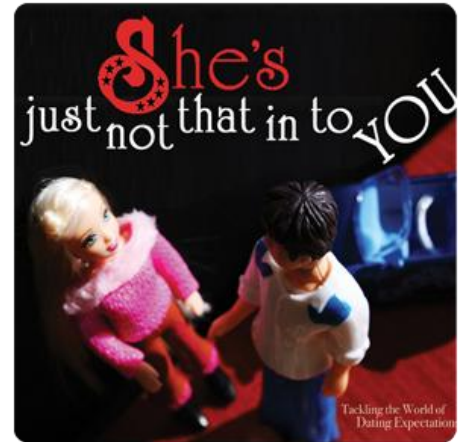
Dating Q's Night #1

GETTING IN TO DATING

QUESTION: Should a girl be straight forward and let a guy know that she is interested in him and let him initiate from there? Or just wait and not do anything and let him do it first?

ANSWER: **Not too little** – ways to let the guy know you are interested without initiating.

- a. “Lower the fence”
 - i. Engage in conversation
 - ii. Accept invites when hanging out in group
- b. If a guy is pursuing you and you are NOT interested...the best/right way...shoot him straight and be honest!!! It is a hard/awkward conversation but he will respect you more in the end!!
 - i. **Proverbs 12:22**
- c. **Not too much** – guarding your heart and not “emotionally throwing up” on a guy after the first date.
 - i. **Proverbs 4:23**



QUESTION: Is the guy always supposed to pursue the girl?

ANSWER: YES. Although women and men are equal in worth (**Galatians 3:26-28**), when it comes to relationships men are to lead (**1 Tim 2:11-13, Ephesians 5:21-29, Colossians 3:18-19**)

What does it mean to initiate? (beware how you are communicating)

- i. Not too little – with those you are pursuing
Don't be lazy. (**Prov. 19:24**) Be straight forward and have the guts to say what you are thinking in a kind, gentle and loving way. (**Prov 25:11, 12:25**)
- ii. Not too much – with those you are not pursuing
The goal here is to avoid flirting with girls in such a way that leads them believe you are into them. Be discerning and consider what you are communicating. (**19:22, 29:20**)

QUESTION What does it mean to lead (serve)?

ANSWER: The type of leadership that the Bible teaches and that Jesus modeled is Servant Leadership, which basically puts the others' needs and feelings before your own. **Mark 10** tells us that whoever wants to become great among you must be a servant and **v.46** says "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. Take that to the marriage or dating context and it looks like this: **Ephesians 5:25** says "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her..." As men, we are called to put our wives needs (or in the case of dating, the woman we are pursuing) above our own.

That means you do things like put yourself out there first (lay your cards on the table) when dealing with issues or defining the relationship, you end the relationship if you are not interested in continuing it rather than leading on, and you set boundaries - both physically and emotionally. This is somewhat contrary to guys nature - but it is Biblical manhood 101

- iii. You sometimes put yourself out there first
- iv. You end the relationship if you are not continuing
- v. Set boundaries physically and emotionally

GUYS

QUESTION: How does the World see Christian men?

ANSWER:

LEFT SET

Competence
Power
Efficiency
Achievement
Skills
Proving Oneself
Results
Accomplishments
Objects
Technology
Goal Oriented
Self-sufficiency
Success
Competition

RIGHT SET

Love
Communication
Beauty
Relationship
Support
Help
Nurturing
Feelings
Sharing
Relating
Harmony
Community
Loving Cooperation
Personal Expression

QUESTION: What should Guys Act Like

ANSWER:

- i. Reject Passivity (**James 1:13**)
- ii. Accept Responsibility (**1 Cor 16**)
- iii. Lead Courageously (**Joshua 1**)
- iv. Expect the Greater Reward (**Matt 25**)

Reject Passivity means taking the initiative, not being afraid, or worried about the outcome/result/effect on you...Accepting Responsibility is the other side of the coin. It is don't what's best for others, kindness, courtesy, giving credit to others when it goes well and taking the blame when it goes poorly...Lead Courageously is doing more than avoiding the wrong but proactively seeking the good...expect the greater reward is know whom you serve and for what purpose.

QUESTION: What Should Girls look for in a guy?

ANSWER

- i. B: Does this person have an active Bible Study and prayer life?
- ii. B: Does this person demonstrate wisdom and discernment?
- iii. B: Does this person have the approval of significant people in my life?
- iv. B: Does this person refuse to use me or others to gain status?
- v. F: Is he a servant-leader?
- vi. F: Is he someone that exhibits kindness?
- vii. F: Does he avoid laziness and reject passivity?
- viii. F: Is he authentic and known by other Christian men?

ADVICE: “Don’t look for a guy that can walk on water; look for someone that can swim well.”

GIRLS

QUESTION: Why do so many girls hold themselves to low standards when it comes to guys? And settle for less than they deserve?

ANSWER:

1. They have never been treated as God intends and don’t know their real worth –

Women were created to be loved by a man. Many of you may lack what a real man looks like, have never had that modeled in a father. The love that you have yearned for and that which has been lacking your whole life...you will mistake another man’s attention for that love. You have never heard someone speak truth of your worth: how beautiful and dearly loved you are. Know, what your Ultimate Father, your Heavenly Father says...

- a. You are a woman...an image bearer of God (**Gen 1:27**)
 - b. You were chosen and known before time and space and you are wholly, perfectly and dearly loved (**Psalms 139**)
 - c. You are chosen, accepted, and called blameless before Christ (**Eph 1: 4-7**)
 - d. You are beautiful...you are needed!!
- 2. They date guys that aren’t believers, thinking they can change them and “flirt to convert” (2 Cor 6:14)**
- 3. Most girls have a fear of being “alone” and never getting married (becoming the “cat lady”) so they would rather date the wrong guy than not date anyone at all...ultimately looking for their self-worth and significance in a guy. It doesn’t matter what guys say about you, it’s what the Lord says about you and who He made you to be. Your worth is found in Him and Him alone...not what a guy says. (Psalms 139)**

QUESTION: Why does the man have to be the "leader" and "unemotional one"? Believe it or not guys are interverted and emotional too...just as some women are "thinkers" and extroverted leaders.

MORE QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why can't the girl be the leader/provider?...Girls initiate dating?
- 2) Why do women not belong in leadership roles in dating or marriage? Surely modern, educated women can lead themselves.
- 3) Is it reasonable for a dating or marriage relationship to have equal leadership?
- 4) What verses are you using for superior male leadership?

ANSWER:

Read Eph 5:22-29

- The first part of **Eph. 5** Paul is telling us how to walk, and things to avoid. In **v. 21** we are told to submit to one another out of reverence for Christ this is the context for **vs. 22**. Paul writes wives submit to your husbands as to the Lord.
- Most people stop here and throw out their arguments, I am an educated woman I can lead my self....
- DON'T Stop reading, **chapter 5** goes on to say that husbands are to love the wives as Christ loved the Church, What did Christ do for the Church he died for her b/c it was what was best for her!
- He wants us to submit to men who have first submitted themselves to the Lord, men who love our lives the same way they love their own bodies.
- This is why you are so careful with who you date b/c if you marry that man some day, submitting to a man who is not himself submitting to God is not what you want to do with the next 50 years of your life.
- The question is not how can I submit to a man, it should be how do I find a man I would gladly submit to.
- True biblical submission is not an extortion of power and a suppressing of the woman so the man can do what he thinks best. Rather it is a beautiful picture of a man loving a woman so much that he desires to purify her, and pursue what is best for her life, while a woman respects honors and cherishes that man that is her life mate. When submission is done right it is something even your most ardent feminists would desire.

Unemotional?

- When a woman says the man she is dating is unemotional, I would ask them to clarify what they mean by unemotional.
- If they mean they want men like they see on movies or Greys Anatomy, or men who cry at movies, and oh and aw over puppies, this is not something that may change, this is more of a personality difference. I am sure there are some men out there like this.
- However if the reason this question is being asked is because the man is not showing tenderness in his relationships both with you, and his friends, this is something to serve as a flag.
- We just finished talking about how the man in marriage should love his wife as Christ loves the church; Christ showed much tenderness, grief, and heartache towards his bride. The man may not show it by crying but his actions, body language and the way he orders his time and days should communicate his care for you. If not, time to reevaluate

QUESTION: What do you think about “Flirt to Convert”? Can you date a non-Christian in hopes that he comes to Christ?

ANSWER: Asking this questions shows a bigger issue of not trusting God to do what he has promised he would do. The heart behind this questions is “Okay God, this is taking to long so I am going to try to figure out a way to make this happen” God has told us time and time again in scripture to guard our hearts for they are the well spring of life. (**Proverbs 4:23**)

We also can see God giving us warnings about with whom we spend tons of time, we are to invest and love on people who do not profess belief in Christ but they should not be our most intimate relationships.....

**Proverbs 13:20 Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise,
but the companion of fools will suffer harm.**

Proverbs 27:12 A prudent person foresees danger and takes precautions. The simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences.

Also it is clearly stated in scripture that we are not to date someone who is not a Christ follower. God is not trying to rip us off he wants what is best for us.

2 Corinthians 6:14 Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?

When we date someone who does not profess a desire to follow Christ or someone whose actions are inconsistent with such a profession, we are not guarding our hearts, we are inviting destruction.

QUESTION: What does it look like to be romanced/honored on a date?

ANSWER: guy initiating, planning, opening doors, paying for dinner, etc.... Ladies, if guys are called to lead – make sure you are with a guy that you want to follow! Respond and enjoy it!!

QUESTION: What does it look like to respect/honor a guy you are dating?

ANSWER: Be kind! Ask him questions, take an interest in who he is, what he likes, etc...

INTERJECTION: Girls, be careful of guarding your thoughts

ANSWER: it’s crazy how a girl’s mind can go from a simple “hi” from a really hot guy to planning a wedding and naming your 2.5 kids in 2 seconds flat. Be careful what you watch and what you surround yourself with. **ILLUSTRATION: Wedding Magazines = Girl Porn**

Proverbs 4:23 Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

2Cor. 10:5 We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,

Psalm 101:3 I will not set before my eyes anything that is worthless. I hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not cling to me.

If you are looking at it, listening to it, or talking about it, it will affect you. We are what we listen to, look at and talk about. If you find yourself always watching romance movies your perspective of normal will change. You begin to desensitize yourself to what “normal” is.

QUESTION: What Should guys look for in a girl?

ANSWER

- i. B: Does this person have an active Bible Study and prayer life?
- ii. B: Does this person demonstrate wisdom and discernment?
- iii. B: Does this person have the approval of significant people in my life?
- iv. B: Does this person refuse to use me or others to gain status?
- v. M: Does she have a positive outlook on life?
- vi. M: Does she seem to know herself? Like herself?
- vii. M: Does she interact courteously with others?
- viii. M: Does she have depth? (**Pr 31:30**)

DIFFERENCES

JIMBO

QUESTION: Why do I have to call the girl three times a day? Just to talk about the weather?

QUESTION: Why do girls cry so much?

QUESTION: Can't we work out a deal with a balance between action movies and chick-flicks?

QUESTION: Does he really think about the issues we have when it doesn't seem like he's worried.

ANSWER: Men and Women are created differently and we process things differently. Generally, Guys process logically then emotionally, while girls process emotionally then logically. That is why a guy wants to fix a girls problem as she shares it with him, while she just wants him to be sad or angry along with her before resolving the problem. In addition, guys compartmentalize while a woman's world all flows together. That is why two men can have a huge argument and then go eat lunch together while two women in a dispute may go days without being able to talk to one another. That makes communication between opposite sexes a difficult process sometimes. In addition, Gary Smalley, Marriage and Family Therapist, reports that the average woman speaks about 25,000 words a day while the average man uses about 12,000. That makes it difficult for the guy to call 3 times a day because he isn't interested in talking that much. My advice is that instead of going for quantity, go for quality and allow the woman to know she has your complete, undivided attention at least once a day.

QUESTION: Why do men always have to be right?

QUESTION: Why is it impossible for men to be with women who are smarter than they are without getting jealous and resenting them?

ANSWER: Insecure men vs. Secure men. Girls, I would say....beware of a guy that is insecure! This is a guy who finds his worth in you, expects you to be “his world” ...which will usually put more pressure and hold you to a standard you will NEVER be able to live up to. In extreme cases, insecure guys can be very jealous and controlling – which is NOT what the Bible means when it says for the man to lead.

Back to the list of things to look for in a guy to date...you want a guy that is secure in who he is and who God created him to be! When the Bible calls the guy to lead, that does NOT mean control, manipulate, or do anything the girl doesn't want to do just because he says.

JULIA

QUESTION: Why does she try to make me jealous?

QUESTION: Why does she cheat on me?

QUESTION: Why does she use me, flirt with other guys in front of me?

ANSWER: Break up with her! From what we have all said these actions are not communicating the heart of a woman who wants your best. Thinking this is a part of relationships the “chase” the games ect. Are all influenced from media. She does not have the character traits that scripture tells you to find in a woman.

Matthew 11:19 Jesus says “Wisdom is known by her deeds”

Prov. 20:11 Even a child makes himself known by his acts,
by whether his conduct is pure and upright.

DAVID

QUESTION: Why does he just want to get in my pants?

ANSWER: He wants to get in your pants because he is a jerk. There is a level of sexual attraction that is God-given and healthy (**Prov. 5:15-20**), however; if he is communicating that sex, make out sessions, or no-sex sleepovers are his number one priority or even something that will make or break your relationship he is out of bounds. You need to dump this boy and find a man that will treat you right. (**Proverbs 9:17, 6:26, 11:22, 4:23, 31, 1 Timothy 5:2**)