

# Courtship Principles for Lifelong Oneness

## Singleness and marriage series Part 3

### Matthew 19:1-12

6/2/13

#### Principles for courtship with oneness as the goal:

##### 1. Repentance, renewing, prayer, worship and fellowship

**Ephesians 4:17** This I say therefore, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind,

<sup>18</sup> being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart;

<sup>19</sup> and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality, for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.

<sup>20</sup> But you did not learn Christ in this way,

<sup>21</sup> if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus,

<sup>22</sup> that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit,

<sup>23</sup> and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

<sup>24</sup> and put on the new self, which in *the likeness of God* has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

**Galatians 5:13** For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do not turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

<sup>14</sup> For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the *statement*, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

<sup>15</sup> But if you bite and devour one another, take care lest you be consumed by one another.

<sup>16</sup> But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

<sup>17</sup> For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.

<sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.

<sup>19</sup> Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality,

##### 2. Make sure you're ready to marry

**Song of Solomon 8:8** "We have a little sister, And she has no breasts; What shall we do for our sister On the day when she is spoken for?"

<sup>9</sup> "If she is a wall, We shall build on her a battlement of silver; But if she is a door, We shall barricade her with planks of cedar."

<sup>10</sup> "I was a wall, and my breasts were like towers; Then I became in his eyes as one who finds peace.

##### 3. Court only a Christian

**2 Corinthians 6:14** Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?

<sup>15</sup> Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?

<sup>16</sup> Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I will dwell in them and walk among them; And I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

<sup>17</sup> "Therefore, come out from their midst and be separate," says the Lord. "And do not touch what is unclean; And I will welcome you.

<sup>18</sup> "And I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me," Says the Lord Almighty.

##### 4. Court only a Christian you'd marry (Example lists for ladies: Proverbs; Ephesians 5; 1 and 2 Timothy; for men: Proverbs 31; 1 Peter 3)

## 5. Watch, pray and seek council

**Philippians 1:9** And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment,

**Proverbs 15:22** Without consultation, plans are frustrated, But with many counselors they succeed.

## 6. Ask her parent's permission to court

**Deuteronomy 5:16** 'Honor your father and your mother,...

## 7. Set intimacy boundaries

**1 Corinthians 6:9** Or do you not know that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,

<sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor *the* covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>11</sup> And such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God.

<sup>12</sup> All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be mastered by anything.

<sup>13</sup> Food is for the stomach, and the stomach is for food; but God will do away with both of them. Yet the body is not for immorality, but for the Lord; and the Lord is for the body.

<sup>14</sup> Now God has not only raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power.

<sup>15</sup> Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take away the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? May it never be!

<sup>16</sup> Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a harlot is one body *with her*? For He says, "The two will become one flesh."

<sup>17</sup> But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*.

<sup>18</sup> Flee immorality. Every *other* sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.

<sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

<sup>20</sup> For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

**1 Corinthians 10:8** Nor let us act immorally, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in one day.

**Galatians 5:19** Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality,

<sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,

<sup>21</sup> envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you just as I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

**Ephesians 5:3** But do not let immorality or any impurity or greed even be named among you, as is proper among saints;

<sup>4</sup> and *there must be no* filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

<sup>5</sup> For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

<sup>6</sup> Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

**Colossians 3:5** Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

<sup>6</sup> For it is on account of these things that the wrath of God will come,

**1 Thessalonians 4:3** For this is the will of God, your sanctification; *that is*, that you abstain from sexual immorality;

<sup>4</sup> that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

<sup>5</sup> not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God;

<sup>6</sup> *and* that no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter because the Lord is *the* avenger in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned *you*.

<sup>7</sup> For God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification.

<sup>8</sup> Consequently, he who rejects *this* is not rejecting man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you.

**Hebrews 13:4** Let marriage *be held* in honor among all, and let the *marriage* bed *be* undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

**8. Do only what you want your future wife to do**

**9. Do only what you want done to your future wife and your daughter**

The lady you're courting is someone's future wife

The lady you're courting is someone's daughter

**10. Do only what grows future trust in your marriage.**

If the one you're courting becomes your future wife you are now teaching her about your character, sexual convictions and how much she can trust you.

**11. Treat her as God's daughter.** The lady you're courting is God's daughter.

**1 Timothy 5:2** (*treat*) the younger women as sisters, in all purity.

**12. Avoid seclusion**

**Romans 13:14** But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to *its* lusts.

**13. Stay accountable to some partners**

**Proverbs 12:15** The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But a wise man is he who listens to counsel.

**14. Focus on friendship and ministry**

**1 Corinthians 7:35** And this I say for your own benefit; not to put a restraint upon you, but to promote what is seemly, and *to secure* undistracted devotion to the Lord.

**15. Get to know each other's families**

**16. Honor each other and God.** The key to courtship is worship and honor.

All Scripture is from the NASV