

How To Marry A Loser Part Two

Falling For A Loser

Introduction

Read: 2 Samuel 11:2-5, 14-17, 26-27

1. In reality, no one wants to marry a loser. However, many of us pattern our lives according to popular culture (e.g. finding love on tinder, hooking up in clubs, living together before marriage, etc).
2. We get into relationships with people who aren't the best for us, and end up in relationship disasters.
3. On the other hand, God has given us His perfect word, the Bible, which teaches us the best standards of relationships to follow regardless of changing times and trends!
4. In today's lesson, we will examine several ways we should **not** approach relationships in order to avoid falling for losers.

I. Go Near Places We Shouldn't Be In

A. King David was looking down from a roof where he could easily see into people's houses (v.2).

B. We need to identify and avoid places in our lives that make it easy for us to make bad relationship decisions.

E.g. Clubs/bars, staying overnight with a friend of the opposite gender, travelling overseas with a guy/girl alone, etc.

Discuss!

Connect Group Leader to facilitate sharing with the Connect Group members.

- *Why do we find it hard to avoid some places or situations that were mentioned?
E.g. Everyone is doing it, fear of missing out on the fun, want to be around the guy/girl we like, curious to try new experiences, like the attention, etc.*
- *How do we ensure that we don't give in to these excuses?
Let your leaders know if there's a guy/girl you like hanging out with so they can advise you, occupy your time with other fun group activities, etc.*

C. Often times, the Holy Spirit would prompt us when we are somewhere we shouldn't be - we need to acknowledge Him and obey.

D. We should leave immediately and resist the desire to linger in such places.

II. Entertain Every Thought That Enters Our Minds

A. King David failed to guard his mind and acted upon the impure thoughts he had towards Bathsheba (v.3,4).

- B. To avoid jumping into a relationship with the wrong person, we need to first guard our minds from unhelpful thoughts.**

It's okay to be attracted someone, but if we are currently not ready for a relationship, we should not keep thinking about being in a relationship with that person right now.

- C. Filter our thoughts and give the thoughts of doing things our own way to Jesus (2 Cor 10:5)!**

- D. Fix our thoughts on things which help us to do what God says is right!**

E.g. Intentionally thinking about the word of God daily, be wise about the shows we watch, etc.

III. Let Our Feelings Lead Our Decisions

- A. King David ended up displeasing God, hurting Bathsheba (v.15), and his family was later messed up because he made decisions based on his feelings in the moment.**

- B. Similarly, when we live our lives based on what feels good, we end up hurting others and ourselves.**

- C. In the way we talk and act, we should aim for the standard of God's word, and not just do what we feel like doing.**

E.g. texting someone of the opposite gender every day until it is a habit, crossing physical boundaries, etc.

- D. We can create a list of objective criteria for our future partner based on the Bible, which we can stick to and keep ourselves from acting impulsively!**

Conclusion

1. It is unwise to linger in places which won't help us be pure, and foolish to entertain every thought that enters our minds.
2. This makes us vulnerable to give our hearts to the wrong person.
3. Instead, we should actively guard our minds against impure thoughts and avoid making decisions based on how we feel.

Prayer Points:

- a) Pray for wisdom to avoid places of temptations.
- b) Commit our hearts and minds to God, and pray against any impure thoughts and desires.

**Give opportunities for visitors to receive Christ and members to re-dedicate their lives to Jesus.*