

How To Marry A Loser Part One

How To Attract A Loser

Introduction

Read: John 4:7-18

1. In reality, no one wants to marry a loser. However, we are living in a time where people blindly pattern their lives after celebrities whose relationships end up disastrous.
2. The truth is, God's plan is for us to have strong and healthy relationships and He has given us His infallible word, the Bible, to teach us how.
3. In today's lesson, we will examine several ways we should **not** approach relationships in order to avoid attracting losers.

I. Make Little Compromises

A. The woman compromised by living with a man who was not her husband (v.18).

B. When we compromise in small things, we can get trapped in cycles of larger compromise.

E.g. secretly having long text conversations or video calls alone with a friend can lead to a complicated relationship later on.

"...and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much."

- Luke 16:10

Discuss!

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

- *What are some compromises we / our friends tend to make when it comes to relationships? Why are these compromises bad?
E.g. Convince ourselves it is okay to date casually and gain experience, get into a relationship with pre-believers just as long as they are open to coming to church, believe that there is no harm in trying out different relationships to see if it works.*

C. To avoid living a life of compromise, we need to be honest about our struggles and desires with God.

D. Ask Him for strength to resist giving in to what we want.

II. Just Rush Into It

A. The woman had a problem with commitment but went into one relationship after another anyway.

- B. To avoid attracting losers in our relationships, we need to set non-negotiable standards in our lives and be willing to stick to them.**

Discuss!

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

- *What are some non-negotiable standards you have set regarding relationships? Share them with your connect group so you can keep each other accountable. You may also decide to adopt some good standards that were shared by your peers! E.g. No sex before marriage, no dating before 21, no dating until after army, etc.*

- C. Praying about our relationships helps us to develop the patience needed to wait for the right partner God has prepared for us.**

E.g. ask God for what He wants for us in the season we are in now, for trust in Him to be able to wait, etc.

III. Resist Change And Correction

- A. Jesus is interested in changing us (v.14) so that we can attract the right person, and not losers!**

- B. When we make mistakes, we need to accept correction from our leaders and be willing to change the way we make relationship decisions.**

- C. Change is a continual process, so we have to remain accountable to our leaders and act upon their advice.**

We should actively make arrangements to keep our leaders updated about our relationships on a regular basis, e.g. meet them up monthly, drop them a text on how we are doing to keep them updated.

Conclusion

1. Making compromises, rushing into relationships and resisting correction spell relationship disasters.
2. We can make a change today by choosing to commit to the non-negotiable standards we have set and begin cultivating self-control.
3. We should also avoid hiding our struggles and seek wise counsel from our leaders.

Prayer Points:

- a) Pray and repent from the compromises we might have made in our relationships.
- b) Commit our hearts to God in prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to help us remain accountable to our leaders and stick to the non-negotiable standards we have set.

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