

*How blessed is the man who finds wisdom And
the man who gains understanding. For her
profit is better than the profit of silver And
her gain better than fine gold.*

Proverbs 3:13-14

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How To Choose A Worthy Mate and Find True Love by Breaking
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How To Become A Good Thing A Christian Woman's Guide to
Becoming and Choosing the Love of Her Love

Overcoming Fatal Attractions and Other Titanic Love Affairs

***How To Be
Blessed
As A Christian
Single***

*Real Life Biblical Answers for Real
Life Problems*

Michael Eaton

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This book is dedicated
to the 86 million singles
of our nation.

Table of Contents

Dedication.....	5
Acknowledgements.....	9
Introduction.....	10
Attractions.....	16
Dating.....	31
Divorce.....	54
Love.....	58
Marriage.....	64
Men.....	86
Sex.....	94
Union.....	136

Michael Eaton

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I would like to acknowledge Pastor Freddie Hayes, the singles, and married persons of Friendship West Missionary Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas for which most of the questions in this book originated. Thank you Westside!

Michael Eaton

Introduction

I was sitting in a Friendship-West Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas. This night Friendship-West was having a True Love Waits Sexual Healing Panel Discussion. There were questions that the panel was to answer that were all ready made up. These questions were made up just in case the congregation did not have any questions or were afraid to ask the hard questions. However, this discuss never got around to the made up questions. I was taken back by the questions that were asked that night. The questions for lack of a better term were real.

These inquiries were the kind of questions that most people have but do not ask. These questions were the kinds of inquiries that would not be asked in public let along in church. These questions came from both married and singles people. These questions were asked in a way that many young people say that were, "Keepin It Real." The panel with only minutes to answer did a great job at answering these questions.

Michael Eaton

That night God lay on my heart to write this book. Since the questions that night were asked from both married and singles this book is written for both. However, most of the questions that were asked that night applied to singles.

If you can be real with yourself and real with God. Your life will be blessed from applying the biblical wisdom of God's word to you life. *Proverbs 3:13-14 says, "How blessed is the man who finds wisdom And the man who gains understanding. For her profit is better than the profit of silver And her gain better than fine gold."* Reading and applying the biblical wisdom in this book to your real life problems will bless your life.

Here are a few of the questions that will be answered in this book.

- ***I am a 26 year old single man with a good spiritual foundation and a strong sex drive. My spiritual foundation can get me to about 9:30, 9:45, or 10:00pm. Then my sex drive takes***

over. How do I turn down sexual invitations? When offered I tend to accept.

- *Is it wrong to add a third person to the marriage bed, if both husband and wife agree? What about people of the bible who had more than one mate?*
- *I am a married woman and my husband is on lock down, what am I supposed to do?*
- *How can someone who is divorced resist sexual temptation despite being a costume to having sex on regular basics?*
- *If there is no penetration involved is that considered sex?*
- *I love my wife but it feel like I'm stuck in an adulterous affair and I what out so I can live?*

Michael Eaton

Attactions

1. What if you admire a person so much that you are afraid to say anything to that person? If it has been 5 years or more, how do you handle something like that?

Fear

“There are only three classes of people in the world,” an unknown preacher confessed. “Those who are afraid, those who do not know enough to be afraid, and those who know their Bibles.”

***For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.
2Timoth1:7***

You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures. James 4:2e-3

Michael Eaton

There is a passage in scripture that I think of when I read this question. It is a scripture that I have been determined that would not apply to me. This scripture says, "You do not have because you do not ask." The issue it seems that you are faced with is fear. Paul wrote Timothy to say, "God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity...." There is a fear that can motivate action and there is a fear that will paralyze. Generally, the fear that we have may play a role in our destiny. While growing up, I had a fear of speaking in public. I had to overcome that fear in order to live out my destiny as a preacher.

I do not know if this man or woman is meant for you. However, I do know that the fear that you have is not of God. Fear in this case could be low self-esteem. This could mean you have deified this person. You have made this person a god. You are involved in idolatry. You can not love a person on a pedestal. The bible says, perfect love cast out fear. I can go as far to say that you only have a crush on this person. For if there were any Godly love the bible says, "There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, be-

cause fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. 1 John 4:18 My advice for a man is to pray about it. If you feel that God is leading you, break the ice by letting her know in a Godly way that you are interested.

Machiavelli made the notorious assertion that given the choice between love and fear, a prince ought to choose the latter. You could be making a choice right now. If I were you, I would choose love.

2. *How do you handle a situation when you are attracted to someone, attend the same church, and you desire to do things right. Do you not spend alone time together?*

Purity

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

Michael Eaton

Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but rather appeal to him as a father, to the younger men as brothers, the older women as mothers, and the younger women as sisters, in all purity. 1 Timothy 5:1-2 NIV

When I think of the above question, I asked myself what is the bottom line issue. I think when you are concerned about spending time alone the bottom line issue is purity. You must ask yourself the question, “Can I spend a lot of alone time with a person that I am physically attracted and remain pure?” Or better yet, the question should be, “Should I spend a lot of alone time together with someone I am physically attracted?” Another question you must ask yourself is, “What would we be doing when we spend alone time together?” Or better yet, “What should we be doing or not doing when we are alone together?”

Paul writes Timothy a young single pastor in 1 Timothy 5:2 and tells him to treat “younger women as sisters, in all purity.” The New International Version of the Bible says to treat, “younger women as sisters, with absolute purity.” In other

words, Paul was telling Timothy to treat all women the way you would treat your natural born sister. If you came from a healthy family the way treat your sister is like a sister. Paul also tells Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:22, "Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart."

If you treat your Christian sister like a sister or a Christian brother like a brother and he or she is pursuing and calling on the Lord out of a pure heart you will not have any issue with purity whether you are alone or in public. If only one of you are pursuing and calling on God out of a pure heart your relationship will have problems with purity. Understanding this idea of absolute purity will help you to set the right boundaries (what you can and can not do together) in a courtship or dating relationship. This is really not an issue of where you are, it is an issue of whom's you are.

However, it is not a good idea for Christian couples to spend a lot of alone time together if they were sexually active before and after they were saved. I

Michael Eaton

advise brothers and sisters who had an active sexual life in the past to keep their relationship public. To keep your relationship public means that you decide to be out on a public date or with a group of friends. Setting these kinds of boundaries and praying for purity in your relationship will help you not to fall into temptation. Mark 14:38 says, "Keep watching and praying that you may not come into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." Also, Romans 13:14, "But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts." Roman 13:14 NASB

3. How do you know when you have met the right one?

Guidance

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6

The first step to knowing if you have met the right person is to know what you want in a mate. Before you meet any one be in prayer and fasting or acknowledging God. Dr. Neil Clack Warren has a book entitled, "Two Dates Or Less," that will lead you through an exercise that will help you to identify the character you are looking for in a mate. In this book you will have to identify the top ten characteristics you are looking for in a mate. Warren refers to this characteristics as a "must haves" list. What's different about Dr. Warren approach is that he will take you through an exercise that will have you list your top ten "can't stand" list. This exercise will help you to realize that the person you end up with will not be perfect. Therefore, you chose what you can live with and can't live without. This book is a must read for those who want to be married.

After you have gone through this exercise, begin to pray over this list daily. After prayer, you will have to be committed to waiting on God. You have to be committed to not compromising. Trust in the Lord with all you heart for a mate and lean not to your own understanding. If it is God's will

Michael Eaton

for you to marry, He will answer your prayers. When God sends a person with the characteristics that you are looking for, you will know because you have prayed. I do not teach or believe that God has only one person in this world that would be right for you. I believe that there are many people with the characteristics that you like and are automatically drawn to. When you marry, that person becomes “the one” ideally until death do you part.

If you do loose your mate, you are freed up to love someone else. Paul wrote Timothy in I Timothy 5:14 to advise the widows, “So I counsel younger widows to marry, to have children, to manage their homes and to give the enemy no opportunity for slander.” Paul did not say that your decease mate was the one and you shall never marry again. Therefore, you chose “the one” when you marry. Consequently, it is very important for you to identify your “must haves” and “can’t stand” list. As you pray over your list you will develop an uncanny ability to hone in on those positive and negative characteristics. This also will help those of us who are automatically draw

to people who are not in our best interest. I call these kinds of attractions, “fatal attractions” in my first book. If you do have fatal attractions every time you pray you will be praying again fatal attractions. If this is of interests to you please pick-up a copy of my first book, “How To Choose A Worthy Mate and Find True Love.”

The choice for a mate is the second most important decision of your life. After you go through these exercises, “Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart.”
Psalm 37:4

4. What's wrong with correcting a person on how they should approach me?

Biblical Protocol

“If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother

Michael Eaton

over. 16But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' Matthew 18:15-16

In a book entitled, "Dearest Brothers, Love Awaits Much Peace, Your Sisters," which is a compilation of many woman giving advice to men about sex, love, and life. One of the themes that seem to echo through this book was the way some man approach a woman. Woman complained about rude sounds, "Psssssst. Psssssssssssst!", crude remarks, and disrespectful touching. This seems to be the norm in the club scene, but in a corporate environment it would be considered sexual harassment and that person could loose a job. Sexual Assault is unwanted touching, rubbing, stroking or using any object in a sex act forced by violence or threat of violence. Also, sexual assault is considered touching, rubbing, or stroking by an adult of someone who is under the age of eighteen. If someone touches you without your consent they can be charged with sexual assault. This is an illegal act that law enforcement could be called to enforce the law.

This is becoming the norm in the every day life of the American culture.

However, the fact that this question was asked in a church setting seem to signify that this sister may have been speaking of Christian man. As much as I would like to think that it would be a difference in a church setting, I am not that naive. Also, I must take in account that when sinners want to find a mate they come to the saints in the church, typically the men. Therefore, "If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as

Michael Eaton

Dating

1. Is it better for me to live my life single and service the Lord or should I give in to the pressures of my family, friends, members of my church, and society at large who all are saying in one chorus of voices that I should be looking for “the one” to marry?

“The One”

But I want you to be free from concern. One who is unmarried is concerned about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord; but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how he may please his wife, and his interests are divided. The woman who is unmarried, and the virgin, is concerned about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and spirit; but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how she may please her husband. This I say for your own benefit; not to put a restraint upon you, but to promote what is appropriate and to secure undistracted devotion to the Lord.

I Cor. 7:32-35

Michael Eaton

First of all let me let you know the you are not alone in your singleness. The U.S. Census says the number of unmarried adults in the United States as of March 2001 is as following:

51 million had never been married. 21 million were currently divorced. 14 million were widowed. The singles of the US made up 86 million. This is almost half the U.S. pollution.

Also let me let you know that you are not alone in your frustration and discrimination with your family, society at large and sadly to say even the church. Many of the early church fathers and mothers (like Dr. Luke, Lydia, Barnabas, Timothy, Mary, Martha, Lazarus, Phoebe, Paul and Jesus Christ himself)

were single. In spite of this fact many singles in our day and time feel like they are exiles in the church. Many pastors who are single will not be considered by pastor search committees to fill a senior pastor position. I myself have had churches discriminate against me for a senior pastor position simply because I am single.

George Brana says that 94% of Senior Pastor is married. With singleness being the only reason many pastorless church disqualify would be pastors, sadly to say in our times Jesus Christ could not pastor His church. In our times Paul would not be able to pastor the churches he started. Many of the churches would be reading only half the New Testament. The reason being is because Paul wrote half the New Testament to the churches he started. With out singles in the bible there would be no salvation, no church, no New Testament, no gentile churches in America.

The Church of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is in many ways distracted by the things of this world. We would see a great harvest if your family, friends, people at the church and society at large would share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. However it seems that our whole society is sharing the gospel of married life. Marriage is not eternal. The bible says that there will be no marriage in heaven. Mark 12:25 says, "For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven." Marriage is not a destination. It is a method of travel. The best method

Michael Eaton

of travel in the servant to our Lord and Jesus Christ, the bible says is singleness. That is why so many of the early leaders of the church were single.

This bring me to answering your question. Biblical singleness is to be a time of single minded devotion to the Lord Jesus Christ. It is not to be a time of single minded distraction to finding a mate or "the one." ***If you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior you already have "The One."*** I, like Paul would want you to spend your singleness in undistracted devotion to the Lord. Be holy both in body and spirit and think of how you may please the Lord.

2. I am in love with a young man who reminds me of my father. My friends, family, and not even the pastor of my church do not like him. But, I love him. They keep telling me to look at the red flags in our relationship. I can not see any flags and to tell you the truth I do not even know what they are talking about. Is there something wrong with me because I can not see what they are talking about?

Danger! Danger!...Watch yourself...Before you get beside yourself...Danger! Danger! (Hip Hop Song: Mystikal featuring Nivea)

Danger

A prudent person foresees the danger ahead and takes precautions; the simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences. NLT Proverbs 22:3

I can truly relate to this question. It is from my own personal pilgrimage that I try to teach singles how to see danger in their relationships so you can take precaution.

You said that the young man reminds you of your father and this maybe why you can not see any “red flags.” Most likely the model of your father is not a Godly model of the kind of man you should be looking. I say this only because you have so many people in your life who love you saying that this man is not good for you. If you love your father and he was not a good image of a man for

Michael Eaton

you, you will have to get a new image of a man. Some counselors like to talk about “red flags” and “pink elephants” to describe a dysfunctional relationship or family situation.

In Dr. Susan Forward’s book, *Toxic Parents: Overcoming Their Hurtful Legacy And Reclaiming Your Life*, she shares a letter from a woman named Janet. She then gives her insight into the toxic families: “. . . what I realized was that not only was my husband abusive, but that I had come from several generations of victimized women and abusive men.” Even though the cast of characters may change, the repetitive cycle of toxic behavior can remain for generations on end. The family drama may look and sound different from generation to generation, but all toxic patterns are remarkably similar in their outcome: pain and suffering.

Maybe the reason you can not see “red flags” or “pink elephants” is because you grow up in a toxic family environment where “red flags” or “pink elephants” are the norm. I personally could not see the “red flags” of toxic relationships because

I grow up saluting those “red flags” every day. As a matter of fact, I saluted and pledge aligns to those “red flags” everyday. I could not see the big “pink elephant” because the pink elephant was the family pet. I took the pink elephant for walks every day. I feed that pink elephant every day. I clean up after the pink elephant that was not house broken. I loved the pink elephant. This was the cycle of toxic behavior that I was involved.

I loved my family. I grow up and left home. Went I decided to get married I went looking for a woman who had “red flags” and “pink elephants.” If a woman did not have these “red flags” and “pink elephants” I did not feel at home with her. How could I marry a woman who did not feel like home or family? To me these “red flags” and “pink elephants” were not warning signs. These where signs that were leading me home. However, these signs were leading me in the same kind of cycle of toxic relationships that has run in my family from generation to generation.

Michael Eaton

Please pick-up a copy of my book, “How to Choose a Worthy Mate and Find True Love by Breaking the Cycle of Generational Curses.” This book will help you acquire the insights that you need to make right choices in relationships.

3. Should singles date?

Dating vs. Courtship or Purity

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. 1 Corinthians 6:18

Generally if a person asks this question, “Should singles date?” they are referring to a book written by Joshua Harris, “I Kissed Dating Goodbye.” This book was an excellence book about purity. I do not want to make a stand on the process of dating or courtship. I have known some Christians who have dated and remained pure. I have known Christians who believed in courtship and lived

pure. I think you have to put yourself in the best place where you can live pure. Joshua Harris in his follow up book, "Boy Meets Girl," says:

...the fact that I use courtship to describe my relationship...doesn't make me holier than people who don't....Dating versus courtship "isn't the point...I've known "serial courters" who lived like the devil and "saintly daters" guided by integrity and holiness. In and of themselves, the terms they used to describe their relationship were meaningless. The way they lived is what really mattered. Terms don't define our lives; our lives define our terms.

The bible says, "I wish that all men were as I am. But each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that. Now to the unmarried and the widows I say: It is good for them to stay unmarried, as I am. But if they cannot control themselves, they should marry, for it is better to marry than to burn with passion." 1 Cor. 7:7-9

Michael Eaton

Paul wrote the Corinthian church in I Cor. 7:7-9 and suggested marriage as a deterrent to living an unholy single Christian life. Paul also suggests that it is a gift to live without sexual passion. Therefore, God wants us to get ourselves in the places where it is the most unproblematic for us to live holy. Can you live holy dating or in a courtship? Only you can answer this question.

4. If your desire is to be married is it possible God does not want you to marry? Mind you, I don't have the spirit of singleness.

Celibacy

I wish that all men were as I am. But each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that. Now to the unmarried and the widows I say: It is good for them to stay unmarried, as I am. But if they cannot control themselves, they should marry, for it is better to marry than to burn with passion. I Cor. 7:7-9

First of all there is no such thing as the spirit of singleness. The bible does talk about eunuchs and a gift. Eunuchs in some cultures were an emasculated (castration for the king's service) male who keep watch of the king's harem. Eunuch of oriental monarchs served in the palace to superintend and guard the numerous wives or harem and the women's apartment. The eunuch would provide for these women every need. For the eunuch being around all these beautiful women would have no temptation or sexual desire because they had been emasculated or castrated. That is why Jesus says of eunuch in Matt 19:12, "and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men." Jesus in Matt. 19:12 talks about the eunuch that was born, castrated, and a eunuch by choice.

"For there are eunuchs who were born that way from their mother's womb; and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men; and there are also eunuchs who made themselves eunuchs

Michael Eaton

for the sake of the kingdom of heaven.
He who is able to accept this, let him
accept it.”

Therefore, you can decide not married and make yourself a eunuch because you want to serve the kingdom of heaven. (unclear) However, the bible warns in 1 Cor.7:7-9 that if you can not control your sexual desire you should plan to marry. Paul (the writer of 1 Cor.) says, “I wish that all men were as I am. But each man has his own gift from God.” There are many bible teachers that teach the idea of the “gift of singles.” However, the bible doesn’t use the words “gift of singleness.” But, Paul seems to be talking about the “gift.” Because of the context, we can naturally conclude that there is a gift of celibacy. For the Christian single there is a gift of celibacy and a choice for celibacy. C. Peter Wagner defines the gift of celibacy as “the special ability that God gives to some members of the body of Christ to remain single and enjoy it; to be unmarried and not suffer undue sexual temptations.” He says,

If you are single and know down in your heart that you would get married in an instant if a reasonable opportunity presented itself, you probably don't have the gift of celibacy. If you are single and find yourself terribly frustrated by unfulfilled sexual impulses, you probably don't have the gift. But if neither of these things seems to bother you, rejoice—you may have found one of your spiritual gifts.

Your question in short, "Does God not want me to marry? ***The truth of the matter is, God give you the choice to marry or not to marry.*** If you choose not to marry or if you are not married you should be living a gifted or not gifted celibate life. Since you have the freedom to marry, my advice to you is to study how to make the right choice for a mate. God may not have sent a God sent mate because you would reject him. Make sure you pick-up a copy of my first book, "How to Choose A Worthy Mate and Find True Love."

Michael Eaton

Jesus, in John 14:1-3, was going away to prepare a place for all Christians. It seems from Isaiah 56:3c-6 that in this place Jesus is preparing a special memorial for those who decide to be a eunuch for the kingdom of God. For those who decided to be a eunuch by choice God will prepare for you an everlasting memorial in heaven for you service here on earth. This will mean more to you than having children could ever mean.

And my blessings are also for the eunuchs. They are as much mine as anyone else. For I say this to the eunuchs who keep my Sabbath days holy, who choose to do what pleases me and commit their lives to me: I will give them – in my house, within my walls – a memorial and a name far greater than the honor they would have received by having sons and daughters. For the name I give them is an everlasting one. It will never disappear! Isa. 56:3c-6
NLT

4. *Could a Christian woman attempt to seek a Christian man and approach him first instant of waiting on him?*

Seeking

He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the LORD. Proverbs 18:22

Most teachers in Christendom who work with singles would answer this question with a resounding, “No!” based on Proverbs 18:22. Also in the secular world there is a movement stated by the writer of the book, “The Rules”, would also answer this question with a resounding “No!” They would explain that men like the chase and a challenge. And for the most part that is the truth about men.

However, most theologies would warn about building a hold view off of one verse of the bible. Most women who believe that women should be able to make the first move would mention Ruth in Ruth 3: 1-15. This was the equivalent of a woman proposing to a man.

Michael Eaton

However, we know that biblically and culturally it was the parents or guardians job to find a mate for there children. If the young man or woman came from a good family they would have a say so in whom their parents would pursue for a mate. Therefore, there would be, at the very least, 4 people other than yourself involved in your search for a mate. If you want to be biblical you would have to have your parents pursue a mate for you.

Therefore in our cultural you have the freedom to do what you want. However, you should understand the nature of a man. God has placed in men the desire to hunt, chase, or pursue. Most men do not marry easy women or women who throw themselves at him. Ungodly men will do other unbiblical things with her like have sex. You must make him think you are valuable. Anything that is valuable isn't easy to come by.

Also, in Ephesians 5: 25-31, God tells a husband to love his wife as Christ love the church. God's love is the model of a masculine love, which is a

pursuing love. If you make the first move you made sure like Boaz in Ruth 3:10-13 that he makes the next moves. A man who can not pursue will never be able to keep his wife happy in marriage. One of the biggest mistakes husbands will make is when they stop pursuing their wives.

5. Is it true that God has a special person chosen for us or does He give spiritual discernment and Godly council to make the right choice for marriage?

Insight

***...and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.
Proverbs 2:3-5***

God does not have a special person chosen for you. God has given you a free will. He does not

Michael Eaton

make your choices. However, He does work around your choices (Judges 14:1-4). If you want to be blessed make sure you are making the right choices. You have to know how to choose a special person. Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu in his book, "The Power Passion and Pain of Black Love", says of choosing a mate:

"I believe there is a science to selecting a mate. Unfortunately, most Americans spend more time choosing their cars, clothes, houses, colleges and majors than they do selecting a mate."

Therefore I have come to believe if we are left to choose a mate with our unconscious superficial thought process. We will continue to use our untrained subconscious preconceived notions in our choice for a mate. Therefore the answer to your question is, Godly council and spiritual discernment should be a part of this process.

You must have wisdom to know what you need and don't need in a mate. You must be praying and have someone intercessory praying for you in this area. When God sends a person with the characteristic that you are looking for, you will know because you have prayed. You must know what you want in a mate and be praying for that person. You have to be committed to not compromising.

6. How do you know when you have met the right one?

Guidance

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6

The first step to knowing if you have met the right person is to know what you want in a mate. Before you meet any one, be in prayer and fasting or

Michael Eaton

acknowledging God. Dr. Neil Clark Warren has a book entitled, "Two Dates Or Less," that will lead you through an exercise that will help you to identify the character you are looking for in a mate.

In this book you will have to identify the top ten characteristics you are looking for in a mate. In his book he called this exercise your "must haves" list. The difference in Dr. Warren's approach is that he will take you through an exercise that will have you list your top ten "can't stands" list. This exercise will help you to see that the person you end up with will not be perfect. Therefore, you chose what you can live with and can't live without. This book is a must read for those who want to be married.

After you have gone through this exercise begin to pray over this list daily. After this, you will have to be committed to waiting on God. You have to be committed to not compromising. Trust in the Lord with all you heart for a mate and lean not to your own understanding. If it is God's will for you to marry, He will answer your prayers. When God sends a person with the characteris-

tics that you are looking for you will know because you have prayed. I do not teach or believe that God has only one person in this world that would be right for you. I believe that there are many people with the characteristics that you like and are automatically drawn. When you marry, that person becomes “the one” ideally until death do you part.

If you do loose your mate you are free up to love another one. Paul wrote Timothy in I Timothy 5:14 to advice the widows, “So I counsel younger widows to marry, to have children, to manage their homes and to give the enemy no opportunity for slander.” Paul did not say that your decease mate was the one, so you sure never marry again. So you choose “the one” when you marry.

Consequently, it is very important for you to identify your “must haves” and “can’t stand” list. As you pray over your list you will develop an uncanny ability to hone in on those positive and negative characteristics.

Michael Eaton

This also will help those of us who are automatically drawn to people who are not in our best interest. I called these kinds of attractions, “fatal attractions” in my first book. If the term fatal attractions describe your relationship history please pick-up a copy of my first book, “How To Choose A Worthy Mate and Find True Love.”

The choice for a mate is the second most important decision of your life. After you go through these exercises, “Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart.”
Psalm 37:4

Michael Eaton

Divorce

1. How can someone who is divorced resist sexual temptation despite being accustomed to having sex on a regular basis?

Temptation

...but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.

James 1:14

“You resist temptation the same way someone who has never married resist sexual temptation. You will have to deal with your sin problem.” Right now I am tempted to worry. I am not tempted to worry because I have been worrying on a regular basis. I am tempted to worry because worry is apart of my sinful nature. The bible says, “But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust (James 1:14). The problem that you are dealing with is not a temptation problem. Temptation is a mirror. Temptation just highlights the problem you have in your sinful nature. It is your own sinful lust of the flesh for sex outside of marriage that is the problem. To put it plainly your problem is that you want sex.

Michael Eaton

The word temptation can also mean trial or test. Now that you are single again you are being put on trial by the devil and tested by God. God wants you as a single person to live holy and pure in this area. The devil want you to fail in this area so that your fellowship with God can be broken. If you are not in fellowship with God you can not know him intimately. If you are not knowing God in a intimate way you will not grow spiritually and your prayers will not be answered by God.

In Gen. 4:1 the bible says, "Now the man knew his wife." This word knew means had sexually relations. To know someone in this context mean to know them intimately. God wants you as a single person to give up sex to know him intimately. To pass this test you must conform to the lifestyle of a holy Christian single. You are being carried away and enticed by the sexual expressions you had in marriage. You are not married any more. Stop mediating or lusting after the sexual expression you use to have and press toward the mark of the up forward call that Jesus Christ has on your life now as a Christian single. Jude 1:21 says:

Live in such a way that God's love can bless you as you wait for the eternal life that our Lord Jesus Christ in his mercy is going to give you."

God wants you to pass this test. He wants to bless you now and throughout eternity.

Michael Eaton

Love

I. When can a woman trust a man when he says, "I love you?"

Truth

***Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;
Prov. 31:30***

A woman must measure what true love is by the truth of God's word. A lot of men and women will tell you what they think you would like to here to take advantage of the way they make you feel. That is why the bible says, "Charm is deceptive and beauty is fleeting." In my book, "How To Become a Good Thing" I talk about Mr. Charisma:

Mr. Charisma is suave, charming, romantic, and utterly fascinating. He easily says exactly what you want to hear. Perhaps, it is what you have longed to hear for years. He has a way

Michael Eaton

of listening to what you say and using it against you to tell you what you want to hear. In the book, "Avoiding Mr. Wrong", he is known as Mr. Wonderful, "He can con (charm) the fuzz off a peach, is very smooth, and can talk his way out of anything. However, Mr. Charisma is too good to be true. Run don't walk from this man.

You can only trust an I love you when it is reflective of God's word. In I Cor. 13:4-13 it says, "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails...And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love.

When does he say, “I love you?” Is it right before he is trying to get you to do something for him? Does he say, “I love you” right before he tries to get you to compromise your biblical belief to save sex for marriage? Does he say, “I love you” during or after he has got you to compromise your biblical belief to save sex for marriage? Does he say, “I love you” right before he asks you for a loan or to borrow your car? Does he say, “I love you” right after he has slap you in the face or after he has beat you down physically with his words or hands or both? You can only trust an “I love you” after you have seen the actions that go before and after these words. In my first book, “How to Choose a Worthy Mate” I wrote:

The Greek word used for love in this passage (1 Cor. 13) is agape. Agape’s definition is totally unselfish love that has the capacity to give and keep on giving without expecting in return. The Rev. Raoul Plus, S.J. describes the

Michael Eaton

agape element of love as follows: “Supernatural (Agape) love takes away one thing only from natural and spontaneous love - selfishness, the arch-enemy of love Supernatural love in us seeks to love in the manner and according to the desire of God.”

Therefore, only a true Christian man of God can tell a true Christian woman of God he loves her and mean it. He will be capable of loving you in a manner and according to the desire of God. Now that is true love! You can only trust a “I love you” as true love when it doesn’t have any selfish intent.

2. If true love really waits are our Christian brothers incapable of real love?

So-Called Brother

But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler—not even to eat with such a one. 1Cor. 5:11

I would not say that Christian brothers are incapable of real love. However, I would question if you are going out with real Christian brothers. The word Christian means a follower of Christ. If a brother or sister doesn't follow Christ in the area of their sexuality they are not being Christian. The bible says in 1 Cor. 5:11, "But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an (sexually) immoral person ... not even to eat with such a one."

It seem to me that you are only coming across "so-called brother". 1 Cor. 5:11 says do not even (eat) go out on a date with a "so-called brother". You should only go out with real followers of Christ. Read that question above to also help you to define "real love."

Michael Eaton

Marriage

1. I am a married woman and my husband is on lock down, what am I supposed to do?

Separated

To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband. But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife.

1 Cor. 7:10-11

I was the singles pastor of Concord Church in Dallas, Texas when one day I got a call that I had problems answering the question that was posed to me. The young lady had left a message on the phone line that went something like this:

Pastor Eaton my name is_____. I and a friend of mine are married to men in the penitentiary. I was calling you to see if it would be ok for us to be involved in the up coming singles event.

Michael Eaton

The event took place before I could get back with her. However, the question was unsettling to me. She was married and understandably separated. Married women wanted to be involved with the church singles ministry. The church single ministry is not a dating service. However, I was unsettled with them being apart of the singles ministry. Our ministry mission was: to provide a safe, wholesome, non-threatening environment where Christian single adults can gather for fellowship, fun, service, teaching, and worship. The ministry was not gear toward married single women.

Separated: Married Single Women

In 1990, African Americans constituted 12% of the U.S. population, but their men made up 47% of the prison population and 28.8% of males in psychiatric hospitals. These African American women who are married to these men in prison or in the psychiatric hospital find themselves married single women. Marriage on lock down is becoming more

and more common in the black community. Maybe we as a church should come up with a ministry for married single woman.

The above question is very easy to answer, but is hard for a person in your situation to live with. I Cor. 7:10-11 says, "A wife must not separate from her husband. But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband..." You by no fault of your own have been separated. The bible says for you to remain married and not to seek a divorce. Being separated in this case is not a biblical ground for divorce.

You are like an idea of a ghost. You are now in a state of between. You are a married person with a single person problems. We as the church should come up with a better way to minister to you. However, you should devolve a holy single lifestyle by being committed to God and wait faithfully for your husband.

Singles you can not know the future. We all have made mistakes in the pass. We must learn from our pass so that we will not repeat passed

Michael Eaton

mistakes. Without a personal and intimated relationship with God over a great point of uninstitutionalized time the best predator of our future is our pass.

It is very important that you know and respond correctly to a potential mate's pass. I would go almost as far to say that you need to do a criminal back ground check on any potential mate. If that person's record shows that they are a career criminal end the relationship. If not you will end up being in this kind of situation.

2. Is it wrong to not want to have sex with your mate if you are not happy with him or she and he or she is doing wrong?

Withholding

But since there is so much immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the

wife to her husband. The wife's body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband's body does not belong to him alone but also to his wife. Do not deprive each other except by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. 1 Cor. 7:2-5

It is not wrong to not want to have sex with your mate if you are not happy with your mate. This could be the reason why the bible says in Ephesians 4:25-27, "Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body. "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold." If you are angry with your mate you would be giving the devil a foothold in your marriage. 1 Cor. 7:2-5 says, "The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. The wife's body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same

Michael Eaton

way, the husband's body does not belong to him alone but also to her husband. Do not deprive each other except by mutual consent for a time..."

When you decided to marry you gave up the right to your body to your husband or vice versa. The key to answering this question also is how you are defining "doing wrong?" If your husband is being sexually faithful and putting you at risk for sexually transmitted disease. This kind of doing wrong along with physical violence is the only thing that gives you the right to withhold your body. With violence in your marriage relationship you need to separate from your mate (I Cor. 7:11).

God has not called anyone be a punching bag. God does not want anyone to take this pain and He does not want anyone to teach thier children by example to accept this kind of behavior. Do not if you are in this kind of situation, by any means, think you are being biblical, Godly, or religious by staying with someone who beats you. If you do think you are being religious then you need to find a new religion. This is not of God by any means.

If the two above issues are not involved in your marriage relationship, you have no right before God to withhold your body from your mate. You had the right to choose the person you have chosen. Now you have the right to love or respect the person you have chosen. If you made a bad or wrong choice you are going to have to live with the consequences of your choice and fulfill your marital duty. Stop withholding sex to manipulate or as a weapon. When you withhold your body you put your mate at risk too temptation to sin against God and against, you.

If your mate has committed adultery, than you have an option for divorce. This is an option and not a command. The greater thing to do would be to forgive and work out your problems. Marriage is for two mature adults who have the ability to disagree without being disagreeable. You must have the ability to disagree agreeably. Talitha C. Smith (a student in my How To Choose A Worthy Mate class) speaking of Mr. Right says:

Michael Eaton

“Mr. Right has to be able to debate without arguing and defiant without fighting. I value people who think “outside the box” and are able to present there opinions in a manner that will help me see it in a new way. He must not try to force his opinions on me. He must realize that different does not mean wrong. It is just that, different.”

Singles you must realize these above points in making your choice for a mate. Your body will not be your own. You may have to make love with a mate who is not being loving. Once you make your choice you will have to deal with problems like this issue. Make a wrong or bad choice and you will be trapped with the consequences of your choice. Make a right choice and you will reap happiness in this area of married life.

3. *I love my wife but I feel like I'm stuck in an adulterous affair and I what out so I can live?*

Adultery

With eyes full of adultery, they never stop sinning; they seduce the unstable; they are experts in greed—an accursed brood! 2 Peter 2:14

This does not seem like a question, but more like a statement. This statement is a false statement. You mentioned love of wife and adulterous affair in the same statement. This is a contradiction. The truth of the matter is that you do not love your wife. Asked your wife if she is being loved by you being with another woman. I am sure she would beg to differ with your mythology. She would say in the words of an old R&B song, “Love should have brought you home last night. Love should have been with you. Love should have been right by your side.”

You do not love your wife. You love your own fleshly desires. Not only do you not love your wife, you do not love God. God in His word says, “Do not commit adultery.” 2 Peter 2:14 says, “With eyes full of adultery, they never stop sinning; they seduce the unstable...” You have seduced the

Michael Eaton

unstable and now you are unstable. Any single woman who has an affair with a married man who loves his wife is unstable. When your eyes are full of adultery you will never stop sinning. The only reason you want out is, "so I can live." This is also a selfish motive.

You are committing the only sin that God gives an option for divorce. You need to repent! Ask God to forgive you for the sin of adultery. Adultery is illicit sexual relations with someone other than one's marriage partner. God will forgive you, but you have to repent. Repent means to turn and go in the opposite direction. Kick this woman to the curve. Brake up, brake out, and brake free! You do not have to pray about it, think about it, meditate on it, asked questions about it. Just do it! Cut all ties, change your numbers, take her number out of your speed dial, and do not answer your phone when she calls you.

After that go to your wife and tell her everything. This will hurt her deeper than you will be able to feel. But you have to tell her the truth and ask her to forgive you. Do not expect her to forgive

you as easily as God. If she forgives you it will take time. It may take also a time of separation. If your marriage has any hope in surviving, she has to know the whole truth. If she has questions, you must tell the truth to any questions she may have. Maybe, over a period of time, by the grace of God, your marriage can make it. I suggest marriage counseling. If she is willing to be there with you at every appointment. Your marriage will never be the same. However, I have heard that many marriages get stronger if the two are willing to do what it takes.

Singles, this is an issue many marry people will have to face. Make sure you marry someone who has proven themselves to be trustworthy. If a man cannot control his eyes when he is with you, this may be a sign of an untrustworthy man. Many singles decide to marry someone that was unfaithful to them when they were dating and think marriage will change them. This is not true. If he or she was a dog before marriage. They will be a married dog and continue to be unfaithful.

Michael Eaton

4. *Can a church address when you are struggling with your marriage? Where is the support system so that you can resist temptation?*

Struggle

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Eph. 6:12

To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband. But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife. I Cor. 7:10-11

William Congreve said, "Heaven has no rage like love to hate returned nor hell a furor like a woman scorned." I say, "Heaven has no rage like love to hate returned nor hell a furor like a marriage scorned."

Your choice for a mate will be the front lines of spiritual warfare. 50% of all marriage will end in divorce. George Barna says that the divorce rate in the church is higher than those in the world. I always tell singles that some of the loneliest people in the world are married people. Some singles believe that marriage will be the answer to all their problems. Some singles believe marriage is the answer to their loneliness, money problems, sexual fulfillment, temptations, health, and lack of purpose. The truth of the matter is that marriage has no healing power.

Because marriage has no healing power your choice for a mate is the most important part of marriage. Charles P. De Santo, in his book, "Love and Sex Are Not Enough," makes this very momentous statement, "Remember, it is the choice of a compatible mate before marriage, more than anything that one does after marriage, that will determine one's happiness in marriage." Studies have shown that the couples who have the highest chance of succeeding in making a happy marriage are those who are happy individuals and who are satisfied with their lives before marriage. Most

Michael Eaton

remember their childhood as being happy and their parents as being happy with each other.

Therefore, with this in mind the ministry that is the most prepared to address troubled marriages are singles' ministries. Of course this will have to be a proactive approach that would teach singles how to make good choices for a mate. Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu in his book, *The Power, Passion and Pain of Black Love* says of choosing a mate: "I believe there is a science to selecting a mate. Unfortunately, most Americans spend more time choosing their cars, clothes, houses, colleges and majors than they do selecting a mate."

The singles ministry of the church should have a proactive component that address the preparation for marriage. I wrote a book and teach classes on, "How To Choose A Worthy Mate and Find True Love." This book and class helps singles to prepare for marriage. The best time to prepare singles for marriage is when they are not in a relationship. Pre-engagement classes do not do a good job in preparing singles for marriage. When a couple has a marriage date in mind, they are

spending all their time preparing for the day of the marriage. Many single women spend their whole life dreaming of this one day. However, singles must put more time in preparing for marriage itself. Most of this preparation should teach singles how to make a great choice for a mate.

I tell singles the only thing that is more powerful than God are our choices. Because God give us a free will, He will never make your choices. This is why there is evil in the world. It is because of this free will that there is very little churches can do for a troubled marriage. We can pray for a mischievous mate. However that does not mean that God will change that person's mind. That person has to make a choice to do better in marriage. Some mega churches have counseling ministries. However, in order for counseling to be

effective both people in the relationship must be willing to work at the relationship. Maybe this will be another idea for pastors and churches to come up with a ministry that address people in a

Michael Eaton

marriage that are struggling. Churches can put support groups together to encourage those in troubled marriages.

5. *Is it wrong to add a third person to the marriage bed, if both husband and wife agree? What about people of the bible who had more than one mate?*

Polygamy

He must not take many wives, or his heart will be led astray.

Deuteronomy 17:17

Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,
1 Timothy 3:2

Estimates of how many people live in polygamy remain sketchy, but Utah state authorities believe there are at least 30,000 in Utah and as many as 80,000 nationwide. The largest polygamous com-

munity is in the twin border towns of Colorado City, Ariz., and Hildale, Utah,... From Insight on the News, May 07 2001 by Valerie Richardson

Tends in our culture and bad examples in the bible are not the standards set for us in dealing with polygamy or answering the question about adding a third person to your marriage bed. It is wrong and always have been biblical wrong for a marriage couple to add a third person to the marriage bed. It is wrong even if the husband and wife agree.

In a book entitled, "Hard Saying of the Bible" it states and I agree whole heartily.

Polygamy was never lawful for any of the persons in the Bible. There never existed an express biblical permission for such a deviation from the ordinance of God made at the institution of marriage in the Garden of Eden (Gen 2:21–24)... Scripture does not always pause to state the obvious. In many cases

Michael Eaton

there is no need for the reader to imagine what God thinks of such states of affairs, for the misfortune and strife that come into the domestic lives of these polygamists cannot be read as a sign of divine approval.

Therefore God does not and never has agreed with the lives of polygamists in the bible. And hence, God does not agree with adding a third person to the marriage bed.

Singles, it is imperative for you to overcome any sexually addictions or perversions before marriage. Many singles have become sexually active at a young age and have been exposed to all kinds of sexually sin. Because of the growing mixture of sexually experiences before marriage, many singles are expose to many harmful sexual experiences.

Also with the raise of pornography videos and magazines which emphasizes physical endowment and leads to comparisons, newlyweds can have an unrealistic view of sex. Many have begun the destructive practice of having sex without intimacy. Too many men and women bring sexual

residue into their relationship. They want to act out with a partner sexual scenarios they have experience or seen in x-rated videos. Most of what you have been exposed to needs to be left out of a loving Christian marriage relationship.

6. If you are married, is oral sex wrong? Is oral sex a sin? I was told as a child that it is a sin even if you are married.

Oral Sex

Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

Hebrews 13:4

The bible does not address the issue of oral sex for men (fellatio) or for women (cunnilingus). The bible does not address whether it is ok for married couples. Also, the bible does not address specifically whether oral sex would be ok for

Michael Eaton

singles as an alternative to avoid genital-to-genital intercourse. I do not feel I can come down on either side for married couples.

Since this book is really written for singles I do feel that I can say that singles should not be involved in oral sex or any form of sexual expressions. The bible says the married bed is to be held in honor and the marriage bed should be undefiled. Married people are the only people God gives the rights and privileges of sexual expression. Married people are told in I Cor. 7:3-5 to fulfill their sexual duties for one another.

In I Cor. 7:1 the bible says, "...it is good for a man not to touch a woman." If a man has an uncontrollable desire to touch a woman the bible says in I Cor. 7:2, "But because of (sexual) immoralities, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband." Therefore, the man and the woman are told that if they have a desire to touch the opposite sex to get married.

In Matthew 5:28 it says, “But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.” Singles are not even to think about sexually expression before their get marriage. Singles, guard your heart, mind, and touch against sexual sin.

Michael Eaton

Men

I. Why are men scared of commitment?

Fear

For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. 2 Tim. 1:7

I can remember attending the wedding of two friends of mine. I knew both the groom and the bride. I remember an announcement being made for all the single men to gather together to try to catch the bride's guarder. Most of the single guys were made to move to the dance floor to try to catch the guarder. Tradition has it that the man who catches the guarder of the bride would be the next man married. I can remember looking at the faces of these single guys. These brothers had the look of disgust, revulsion, abhorrence, repugnance, antipathy, loathing, hatred, repulsion, aversion, and fear. It was clear to me that none of these men were going to go up for the rebound. When the guarder was thrown the crowd shuddered and disengaged. Your question has been asked many times before. However, I begin to

Michael Eaton

wonder if your question is true. I had to also wonder if this question is true for Christian single man. Are Christian brothers afraid of commitment? Commitment is defined as:

noun: the act of binding yourself (intellectually or emotionally) to a course of action

With this definition in mind you have to find a man who can commit if you want a commitment. Many women want men who will commit to them and go out and find uncommitted men and try to get them to commit to them. These men will have no God, no church, no pass history, no job, no education, no family, no hope, no future and nothing to show that they have been committed to something. If you want a man to commit to you, he will have to be a committed man before you meet.

With this in mind, I do not believe that a man who is committed to Christ would be afraid of commitment. A man who is not commitment to Christ will not be a man who will commit. Most

of the time he will not have to commit. He can get everything from most women that he wants or need. Unchristian man only commit to causes that are greater than themselves. If he can get all his selfish needs meet by you before marriage, he will never commit to you.

Some women think having sex and moving in with a man will get him to commit. This is wrong. George Barna in his book, "Single Adults" states that, "Cohabitors have a 48% greater chance of experiencing a divorce than do individuals who did not live together prior to marriage." This does not sound like the long term commitment women seek. The old folks use to say, "Why buy the cow when you can get the milk for free." Robinne Lee's character Bethany in the movie Deliver Us From Eva says it this way. "Why should a man buy the software when he can download for free."

Real christian men have Christ as their cause. If you are willing to join a man in his cause, he will commit to you. However, make sure you are not playing the dating game. When you play this game you become something that you are not to de-

Michael Eaton

ceive a man into committing to you. Also, asked yourself this question, "Am I going out with men who have the spirit of power, love, and self-discipline?" As I said before, if you want a man to commit to you, he will have to be a man who is committed to things other than you before you meet him.

A committed Godly man will be looking for a committed Godly woman. He will have the spirit of power which means he is not timid about believing God can give him the woman he wants in the future. The man who has the spirit of love will know how to love his God, himself, family, job, his church, and community. A man who is self-disciplined will not try to get his selfish sexual need met by you before marriage. He would have self-disciplined himself into a lifestyle of holiness. This is the kind of man you should be looking. Also you have to asked yourself this question, "Am I a woman worth committing too?" In Matt. 13:45-46 it says, "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it." A worthy Godly

woman is like those fine pearls. A worthy Godly man will give all he has to commit to her for life in marriage. Pick-up a copy of my book, "How To Become A Good Thing." Being a woman worth committing to will take preparation. Even pearls of great value have to be prepare for their purpose.

2. Why are Christian brothers afraid of virgins?

Virginity

An unmarried woman or virgin is concerned about the Lord's affairs: Her aim is to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit. 1Cor. 7:34

WASHINGTON, DC (July 26, 2001) Virginity is much more prevalent on college campuses than conventional wisdom holds, reports a new study released today by SheThinks.org, the campus project of the Independent Women's Forum (IWF). Almost one-third (31%) of female college seniors

Michael Eaton

who responded to the survey reported that they had never had sexual intercourse. Of the national survey respondents, 39% said they were virgins.

Culture, society, and the church are important factors in the view of a woman's and man's virginity. What is sad about your question is that you are asking about a "Christian" brother's view of virginity. You asked the question why are "Christian brothers afraid of virgins?" Once again, I have to question the behavior of any "Christian" brother who is afraid of a holy woman of God who has committed her life to purity. However, my advice to you is be concerned about the Lord's affairs and not about what any man thinks of you.

If a man is afraid to be in a relationship with you it means that he himself is not living holy. He also knows that he will not be able to get from you what he really wants, which is sex. He is afraid that with you he will have to live without sex. Just because a brother says he is "Christian" does not mean he is Christian. A Christian should be deeded Christian by the way he lives his life. Many

“Christian” brothers or any unsaved man will try to pressure woman into thinking that they can not live without sex. Ray Short in his book “Sex Dating and Love” says:

... there’s one thing strange about sex. It is the only major human drive that we do not have to satisfy. No person has to have sex. We can live perfectly normal, happy lives without it. Who ever heard of a person dying form lack of sex? People die of hunger. People die of thirst. Some die from heat or from cold. Some even die from lack of love. But I don’t know of a single case on record where a person has died from lack of sex. Sex isn’t a required course; it’s an elective. You can take it, or you can leave it alone.”

However, many women who are not virgins can and will fall to this kind of pressure. On the other hand, a woman who has never had sex will not fall as easy. Most men with sex on their mind know

Michael Eaton

this and will not waste their time with a woman who is pure. That is why some men are afraid of virgins.

You continue to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit . You are not alone in your choice to save yourself for marriage as the above survey states. You are not alone as A.C. Green (Male virgin NBA star) states in an article he wrote for Ebony Magazine entitled, "Why I Have Refused Sex."

I'm a virgin because, first of all, that's what God has designated for me at this time, being a single man. I have committed my life to let Him make the decisions, not me. I'm following His Rules...

When a highly favored holy man of God, like A.C. Green, who has committed his life to God comes along he will be able to value the gift that you will be able to give him on the honeymoon night. Prayerfully, he will be able to give you the same gift. In the newspaper column, "Dear Abby" once

stated, “Intimacy between man and woman is God’s wedding gift to the newlyweds, and this gift is not to be opened early.”

Michael Eaton

Sex

1. *How do you let your past sexual mistakes go?*

Mistakes

But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. Phil. 3:13-14

Everybody makes mistakes. Anyone who has lived for any length of time knows this is true. What matters is what one does with those mistakes. You must learn from your mistakes. If you are wise, you will also learn from the mistakes of others to hopefully avoid making these blunders yourself.

I think this question would apply in any of the how to let go areas. In other words, how can I let go of any past mistake? The bible says in Phil. 3:13-14, "to forget what is behind and strain toward what is ahead." Also we have to call mistakes in the area of sexuality what they really are

Michael Eaton

which is sin. To sin means “to miss the mark” that God has set for us in His word. In 1 Cor. 6:13&18-20 it says:

“...The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body...Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your body.

If you are single and you were involved in a sexually relationship then you were involved in sin. You missed the mark with God in this area. Once we miss the mark with God we have to get right with God. The bible tells us in 1 John 1:9, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” If you what to forget that what

is behind and strain toward what is ahead, confess your sins to God and ask him to forgive you. God will be faithful. God will forgive you and purify you from all unrighteousness. Once you are purified you will be able to live guilt free from your past sin (mistakes).

2. How do you reveal your sexual skeletons from your sexual past to your current love one?

Past

For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame. Gen. 2:24-25

Skeletons are symbols of that which was once alive but now is dead. Skeletons are not put in a closet but are buried in a grave. Unless a skeleton has something of value, graves are not unusually dug up. If something is dead let it stay dead. Your past sexual sins have no value to God. Sexual

Michael Eaton

sin should be confessed and turned away from. The sexual sins of a predator need to be forgiven if you were a victim of child molestation or rape.

However, sin can be forgiven but a person may still have to deal with the consequences. For instance, a sexual predator should be forgiven, but they should also have to do the jail time for their crime. Your sexually pass should not be shared with anyone. However, the consequence (if any) should be shared with during or right before the engagement period. No graphic sexual discussions will be needed. Just share the consequences.

Some consequences:

AIDS or Herpes or any other kind of incurable or manageable sexually decreases.

According to a recent report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Black women account for almost two-thirds (64 percent) of

new HIV/AIDS cases among all women in the United States, and that number is growing.

Aids is the second leading cause of death for Black women aged 25 to 44, eclipsed only by cancer, according to the National Center for Health Statistics.

Genital herpes is a common sexually transmitted infection affecting about one in five adults. There is no cure for herpes. There are antiviral drugs available.

Rape: One out of every six American women have been the victims of an attempted or completed rape in their lifetime (14.8% completed rape; 2.8% attempted rape). A total of 17.7 million women have been victims of these crimes. In 2002, one in every eight

Michael Eaton

rape victims were male. The Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN)

Rape is a consequence of a sexual sin by the person who did the rape. Rape also has consequence on the victim. You should seek counseling for this issue. If you do not you may not have a healthy sex drive in marriage. This could effect the happiness of you and your mate more than you know. This kind of issue is best dealt with while you are single.

Incest / Child Molestation: 93% of juvenile sexual assault victims knew their attacker; 34.2% were family members and 58.7% acquaintances. Only seven percent of the perpetrators were strangers to the victim. [Sexual Assault of Young Children as Reported to Law Enforcement. Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2000]

Abortion: You should seek counseling for this issue. This kind of issue is best dealt with while you are single.

Thirty to fifty percent of aborted women reported experiencing sexual dysfunctions, of both short and long duration, beginning immediately after their abortions. These problems may include one or more of the following: loss of pleasure from intercourse, increased pain, an aversion to sex and/or males in general, or the development of a promiscuous life-style. Elliot Institute

You have a child: You should let a person know this up front. However, your child should not meet this person until 6 to 8 months later.

You can't have children.

Michael Eaton

Sex-Change: You should let a person know this up front. A Christian should not marry someone who has had a sex change operation. (Romans 1:24-27)

Cocoa Beach, Florida (AP)—A Cocoa Beach waitress filed a divorce suit against a woman who is legally her husband and father of her five-year-old son. Carolyn Ann Earthorne said the seven-year marriage was “irretrievably broken” after her husband, Gordon Dale Earthorne, went to Morocco for a sex-change operation and became Kathy Ann Earthorne. Kathy said she has a boyfriend now and hoped someday to remarry. Kathy Earthorne said she would not contest the suit.

Again, it is best to keep your past sexual sins in the past. However, a future mate should know the consequences, if any, that you have to live with as a result of your past sin. This should be shared only because a future mate would have to

choose to live with you and the consequences of past sin. The bible says in Gen. 2:24, "...and they will become one flesh."

3. How do you deal with temptation when you are faced with it everywhere; your family, friends, MTV?

Temptation

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. Matthew 6:13

You are right in your assessment that temptation can be where ever you go. In the model prayer we are to pray. "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." However, what's disturbing about your question is that it seems that you are going places, being with people, and

Michael Eaton

watching TV programs that can lead you into temptations. You must learn to put boundaries in your life. There are some people you should not hang around. There are just some TV programs that you should not watch. And at times in your life there are just some family members you should not be around. In Matt. 10:34-39 it says:

“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household. Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. (Matt 10:34-39)

This sounds to me that you will have to lose your lifestyle. You can no longer have close friendships with family and friends that lead you into temptation. You will have to find some programs that you can watch on TV (if any) that will not lead you into temptation. You have to take up your cross in those areas and follow Jesus.

In an article on Crosswalk.com entitled, “Men: Beware of Temptation,” it says:

No man sets out to succumb to temptation on purpose. Yet every day we learn of men, Christian men, who fail. Unless a man remains perpetually vigilant, his own evil desires carry him into temptation and sin.

Also as I said in an earlier question, the bible says, “But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust (James 1:14). The problem that you are dealing with is not a temptation problem. Temptation is a mirror. Temptation just highlights the problem you have in your sinful nature.

Michael Eaton

4. *Why do homosexuals say, "I was born that way?"*

Homosexuality:

noun: a sexual attraction to (or sexual relations with) persons of the same sex

In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion. Rom. 1:26-27

In Laurel Richardson book, "The New Other Woman", she estimated that 14% of single men and 4% of single women were homosexual.

This is a good question in which I am having a hard time answering. This question is hard to answer because I do not want to sound insensitive or homophobic. Some Christians struggle with homosexuality the same way most men struggle with lust of women. Yet the key is that they are

struggling and some have overcome homosexuality. These men will tell you that they were not born that way.

However, I will tell you that the bible says that they were not born that way and that is not the truth. Romans 1:25-27 says:

They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen. Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion.

The Creator says that it is unnatural to be homosexual. When you decide to exchange the truth for a lie and worship the creation instead of the

Michael Eaton

Creator you will be turned over to the shameful lust of the lie that “I was born homosexual”. Your sexuality was given to you by the Creator when you were born male or female. It is one of the most simple or natural truths to be noticed or understood in creation. Whenever you want to find out the meaning of something start your research at the Genesis. Genesis means beginnings in the bible. Genesis chapters one and two tell us the beginning of the first man (Adam) and the first woman (Eve). I have heard it said many times before that in the beginning God created Adam and Eve not Adam and Steve.. However, let it be known that the bible in I Corinthians 6:9-11 opposes any sinful lifestyle.

Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sancti-

fied, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

I Corinthians 6:9-11

If you are struggling with any one of the above sinful lifestyle you can washed, sanctified, justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

5. *Is internet sex really sex?*

Lust

But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. Matthew 5:28

November 2001 article from the Journal of Sex Research, Mark Griffiths wrote an article entitled, "Sex on the Internet: observations and implications for Internet sex addiction". He made observations about the internet and sex.

Michael Eaton

...sex is the most frequently searched-for topic on the Internet (Freeman-Longo & Blanchard, 1998). Pornographers have always been the first to exploit new publishing technologies (e.g., photography, videotape, Internet etc.). It is estimated that the online pornography industry will reach \$366 million by 2001 (Sprenger, 1999) although other estimates suggest it is already worth \$1 billion ("Blue Money," 1999). In addition, the research company Datamonitor reported that over half of all spending on the Internet is related to sexual activity ("Blue Money," 1999).

The truth of the matter is that the internet is being used for pornographic magazines (like Playboy), hardcore pornographic magazines, XXX Videos clips, live strip-shows, live sex shows, and voyeuristic Web-Cam sites. Because these sites can be reach in the convenient and privacy of your own home and work. Singles and married Christian are undergoing sexual temptation like no other time in history. In the pass to get these kinds of

materials one would have to leave home and go to the adult book or strip club. Now access to these kinds of materials can be had in minutes at the click of a mouse and seconds for those who have DSL.

However, your question was, "Is internet sex really sex?" I think the best way to answer this question would be to ask another question. Is internet sex sinful behavior? With those two questions in mind I can say that internet sex is really sex that is sinful behavior. Mark Griffiths in his observations note that use of internet sex include:

seeking out material for entertainment/masturbatory purposes for use online... sexual partners for a transitory relationship (i.e., escorts, prostitutes, swingers) via online personal advertisements/"lonely hearts" columns, escort agencies, and/or chat rooms; seeking out individuals who then become victims of sexually related Internet crime (online sexual harassment, cyberstalking, pedophilic

Michael Eaton

“grooming” of children)... and digitally manipulating images on the Internet for entertainment and/or masturbatory purposes (e.g., celebrity fake photographs where heads of famous people are superimposed onto someone else’s naked body)... The most likely behaviors include the use of online pornography for masturbatory purposes...and sexually related Internet crime (e.g., cyberstalking).

Internet sex would be consider real sex and sinful behavior because the bible says in Matthew 5:28, “But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.” This means that people are looking at pornographic web sites and lusting in their hearts. This is indeed the sinful behavior that makes internet sex real.

6. Is touching and feeling really a sin?

Touching

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. 1 Corinthians 6:18

First of all I believe touching and feeling are to difference things. Also, because you use these two terms as one I think you are asking about heavy petting. This type of heavy petting the bible addresses in 1 Cor. 7:1-2 (NASB), “ Now concerning the things about which you wrote, it is good for a man not to touch a woman. But because of immoralities, each man is to have his own wife, and each woman is to have her own husband.” These verses indicate that if you want to touch the opposite sex in a sexual way you should get married. Harold Ivan Smith in his book, “Singles Ask” says:

The Bible establishes a strong connection between sexual intimacy and commitment. God wants to protect us from unnecessary pain and suffering by plac-

Michael Eaton

ing sex within the marriage relationship. Only when sexual intercourse takes place in the context of a lifelong commitment between two people is it consistent with God's will. Complete physical intimacy requires a complete commitment between husband and wife.

Any type of sensual and sexual touching should be reserved for the married couple who would not be concern about how far is too far. If you are asking this question, "How far is too far?" You have already gone too far. God is calling singles to live an absolute pure life.

The bible says to Timothy a young single pastor in I Timothy 5:1b-2 (NIV) to, "Treat younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity." Treat younger single women as sister in or with absolute purity. You are to treat your sisters and brothers in Christ like your blood sister or brother.

Would you be touching or feeling own your blood sister or brother? Most people would answer this question with a resounding “No!”

However, it is time for Christian singles to stop trying to play with sexual sin. The bible tells us in I Cor. 6:18 to “Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.” This is one of two sins that you bible says to run and not stand. You must flee sexual sin not resist. Many singles have “fallen” into sexual intercourse trying to enjoy the touch or feeling while trying to resist going all the way at the same time. No! May that never be! Many Christian singles asked “How can I resist sexual temptation?” You do not resist sexual temptation. You flee sexual temptation. You flee sexual temptation by not touching. Sensual and sexual touch should be reserve for marriage.

7. Is sexually thought or dreams a sin?

Thoughts

Michael Eaton

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.
Philippians 4:8

Definitions of lust:

- noun: self-indulgent sexual desire (personified as one of the deadly sins)

There may be a difference between sexually thoughts and lust. Lust is defined as a self-indulgent sexual desire being fulfilled in your fantasy or sexually thoughts. If so, you are lusting and the bible warns about lusting. “But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. Matthew 5:28, “When your sexual thoughts leads you to fantasy sensual or sexual fulfillment of you own self indulgent sexual desires that this is sin.”

Some people believe there is no harm in fantasizing about sexual fulfillment with a movie star, music star, or the beautiful woman next door. For instance, some wives may lay with there husbands and fantasize about being with Tom or Denzel sensually or sexually. This is lust. In addition, some husbands may lay with their wives and fantasize about being with JLo or Halley Berry sexually. This too is lust. If a single person fantasizes about anyone sensually or sexually, this is lust or sinful behavior.

Therefore, these kinds of thoughts and fantasies will lead to self indulgent sexual dreams. Lustful thoughts will produce lustful dreams. These dreams are sinful.

Martin Luther once said, "I cannot stop a bird from flying over my head, but I can stop it from building a nest on my head." The bible says, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things

Michael Eaton

are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

8. *I am a 26 year old single man with a good spiritual foundation and a strong sex drive. My spiritual foundation can get me to about 9:30, 9:45, or 10:00pm. Then my sex drive takes over. How do I turn down sexual invitations? When offered I tend to accept.*

Foundation

The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. Matthew 7:25

If this was just an issue of time I would suggest that you go to sleep at 9:00pm. However, I think that this is a foundation problem. You say that you have a good spiritual foundation but I beg to differ with your definition of “good spiritual foundation.” The bible says that something with a

foundation built on the rock would be able to withstand the rain, wind, and waters of temptation. You say that after a certain time that you have no foundation whatsoever. It seems that you have conditioned yourself to sin at certain times and you have no resistance if a woman throws herself at you.

You strong sex drive could be a sign that something is out of balance in your life. There could be a pain in your heart that you are trying to fill with sex. The hours between 5:00pm to 10:00pm can be the most lonely hours of the day for singles. This is why many singles go to the happy hour after work to drink their loneliness away. You seem to sex your loneliness away. You may also be a functional sexual addict because you say you have no self-control. Just like functional alcoholics condition themselves to only get drunk after office hours or only on the weekends.

You asked how to turn down sexual invitation. It seems that the women who will have sex with you are too easily accessible. You are to decide that this is something that you do not want to do. We know what God word has to say. The bible says

Michael Eaton

in I Cor. 6:18 to “Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.” It does not seem that you have any fleeing in you.

Fleeing means saying No! Look at the caller ID and do not answer the call. As a matter of fact, flee by changing home and cell numbers. Flee by throwing your black book away and deleting the numbers you need to out of your cell phone. Move if you have to move. You flee by finding some good and Godly friends to hang out with after 9:00pm or flee by starting to go the sleep early at 9:00pm. You flee by fasting and praying for sexual purity.

Flee by using the insight gained by fasting and prayer to avoid sexual invitation. In the same way alcoholics must avoid the liquor store you must avoid the places or women who give out these kinds of invitations. The bible does not speak well of this kind of woman.

For the lips of an adulteress drip honey,
and her speech is smoother than oil;
but in the end she is bitter as gall, sharp
as a double-edged sword. Her feet go
down to death; her steps lead straight
to the grave... Keep to a path far from
her, do not go near the door of her
house... Proverb 5:3-7

If you are only dealing with sinful sexual behavior, fleeing will help you to overcome sexual temptations. However, if you are dealing with a sexual addictive behavior you may need to seek emotional counseling. You may be dealing with some deeper issues other than sex. If your question is true, I believe that your deeper issues are your spiritual foundation problems.

9. Does choosing to abstain until married mean you have to abstain from hugging and kissing if you and your partner can handle it?

Proud

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Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity. 1 Timothy 5:1-2

Answer from previous question:

First of all I believe touching and feeling are to difference things. Also, because you use these two terms as one I think you are asking about heavy petting. This type of heavy petting the bible addresses in 1 Cor. 7:1-2 (NASB), “ Now concerning the things about which you wrote, it is good for a man not to touch a woman. But because of immoralities, each man is to have his own wife, and each woman is to have her own husband.”

These verses indicate that if you want to touch the opposite sex in a sexual way you should get married. Harold Ivan Smith in his book, “Singles Ask” says:

The Bible establishes a strong connection between sexual intimacy and commitment. God wants to protect us from unnecessary pain and suffering by placing sex within the marriage relationship. Only when sexual intercourse takes place in the context of a lifelong commitment between two people is it consistent with God's will. Complete physical intimacy requires a complete commitment between husband and wife.

Any type of sensual and sexual touching should be reserved for the married couple who would not be concerned about how far is too far. If you are asking this question, "How far is too far?" You have already gone too far. God is calling singles to live an absolute pure life.

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Michael Eaton

purity. You are to treat your sisters and brothers in Christ like your blood sister or brother. Would you be touching or feeling on your blood sister or brother? Most people would answer this question with a resounding “No!”

It is time for Christian singles to stop trying to play with sexual sin. The bible tells us in I Cor. 6:18 to “Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.” This is one of two sins that the bible says to run and not stand. You must flee sexual sin not resist it. Many singles have “fallen” into sexual intercourse trying to enjoy the touch or feeling while trying to resist going all the way at the same time. No! May that never be! Many Christian singles asked “How can I resist sexual temptation?” You do not resist sexual temptation. You flee sexual temptation. You flee sexual temptation by not touching. Sensual and sexual touch should be reserve for marriage.

10. *At what time should a woman let it be known to a man that she is abstaining? For example: immediately, after a few dates, or only if she is really interested in him.*

Abstaining

Do not give what is holy to dogs, and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

Matthew 7:6

It should be a given in the Christian context that you will not be involve in sexual activity until marriage. Therefore, I believe you should let a man know up front that you are abstaining from sexual activity until marriage. By telling a man up front you will be making sure that you are not casting your pearls before swine.

Michael Eaton

You should carry yourself as a virgin and govern yourself as a virgin. This is called secondary virginity. However, you will have to deal with some of the same issues as a virgin.

Answer from previous question:

Culture, society, and the church are important factors in the view of a woman's and man's virginity. What is sad about your question is you are asking about a "Christian" brother's view of virginity. You asked the question why are "Christian brothers afraid of virgins?" Once again I have to question the behavior of any "Christian" brother who is afraid of a holy woman of God who has committed her life to purity. However, my advice to you is be concerned about the Lord's affairs and not about what any man thinks of you. If a man is afraid to be in a relationship with you it means that he himself is not living holy. He also knows that he will not be able to get from you what he really wants, which is sex. He is afraid that with you he will have to live without sex. Just because a brother says he is "Christian" does not mean he is Christian. A Christian should be devoted Chris-

tian by the way he lives his life. Many so called “Christian” brothers or any unsaved man will try to pressure a woman into thinking that they can not live without sex. Ray Short in his book “Sex Dating and Love” says:

... there’s one thing strange about sex. It is the only major human drive that we do not have to satisfy. No person has to have sex. We can live perfectly normal, happy lives without it. Who ever heard of a person dying form lack of sex? People die of hunger. People die of thirst. Some die from heat or from cold. Some even die from lack of love. But I don’t know of a single case on record where a person has died from lack of sex. Sex isn’t a required course; it’s an elective. You can take it, or you can leave it alone.”

However, many women who are not virgins can fall to this kind of pressure. On the other hand, a woman who has never had sex will not fall as easy.

Michael Eaton

Most men with sex on their mind know this and will not waste their time with a woman who is pure. That is why some men are afraid of virgins. You, highly favored holy woman of God, continue to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit. You are not alone in your choice to save yourself for marriage as the above survey states. You are not alone as A.C. Green (Male virgin NBA star) states in an article he wrote for Ebony Magazine entitled, "Why I Have Refused Sex."

I'm a virgin because, first of all, that's what God has designated for me at this time, being a single man. I have committed my life to let Him make the decisions, not me. I'm following His Rules...

When a highly favored holy man of God like A.C. Green who has committed his life to God comes along, he will be able to value the gift that you will be able to give him on the honeymoon night. Prayerfully he will be able to give you the same gift.

In the newspaper column “Dear Abby” once stated, “Intimacy between man and woman is God’s wedding gift to the newlyweds, and this gift is not to be opened early.”

II. If there is no penetration involved is that considered sex?

Sex

Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

Colossians 3:5

Answer from previous question:

... This type of heavy petting I believe the bible addresses in I Cor. 7:1-2 (NASB), “ Now concerning the things about which you wrote, it is good for a man not to touch a woman. But because of immoralities, each man is to have his own wife,

Michael Eaton

and each woman is to have her own husband.” These verses are saying that if you want to touch the opposite sex in a sexual way you should be looking to get married. Harold Ivan Smith in his book, “Singles Ask” says:

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It is time for Christian singles to stop trying to play with sexual sin. The bible tells us in I Cor. 6:18 to "Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body." This is one of two sins that the bible says to run and not stand. You must flee sexual sin not resist it. Many singles have "fallen" into sexual intercourse trying to enjoy the touching or feeling while trying to resist going all the way at the same time. No! May that never be! Many Christian singles

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asked “How can I resist sexual temptation?” You do not resist sexual temptation. You flee sexual temptation. You flee sexual temptation by not touching. Sensual and sexual touch should be reserve for marriage.

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Union

1. How can I have a personal relationship with God?

Relationship

“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father (God) except through me.”

(John 14:6)

1. Realize that you are a sinner. No matter how good a life we try to live, we still fall miserably short of being a good person. That is because we are all sinners. We all fall short of God’s desire for us to be holy. The Bible says, “No one is good—not even one” (Romans 3:10 NLT). This is because we can not become who we are supposed to be without Jesus Christ.

2. Recognize that Jesus Christ died on the cross for you. The Bible tells us, “But God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners” (Romans 5:8 NLT). This is the Good News, that God loves us so much

Michael Eaton

that He sent His only Son to die in our place when we least deserved it.

3. Repent of your sin. The Bible tells us to “repent and be converted” (Acts 3:19 NKJV). The word repent means to change our direction in life. Instead of running from God, we can run toward Him.

4. Receive Jesus Christ into your life. Becoming a Christian is not merely believing some creed or going to church on Sunday. It is having God though Christ take residence in your life and heart. Jesus said, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father (God) except through me.” (John 14:6)

If you would like to have a relationship with God though Christ, simply pray this prayer and mean it in your heart.

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner. I believe you died for my sins. Right now, I turn from my sins and open the door of my heart and life. I confess you as my personal Lord and Savior. Thank you for saving me. Amen.

A Note From The Author

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To: The Church and Senior Pastors

U. S. Census

The number of households in 2000 nearly 5 in 10 (51 million households) are maintained by unmarried men and women. The number of unmarried adults in the United States as of March 2001 is as following: 51 million had never been married. 21 million were currently divorced. 14 million were widowed. With this in mind we must as a church become more aware of the singles in our churches and minister to their needs.

Marriage and Family

Many churches and pastors have because great at ministering and reaching married couples and families. However since George Barna tells us that 94% of Senior Pastor are married. For most pastors and churches the singles in their church is a after thought. Some pastors and congregates think that all God has called singles to do is to get married. Most pastors know this is not true because of the high divorce rate in the church. For most singles marriage is not the answer. Marriage has no healing power. The answer is the healing that can take place in the life of a person who has a deep personal relationship with God. When this take place in singles lives we can have better marriages.

Singles Sunday

One of the ways you can ministers to singles in your church is to sponsor a Singles Sunday. God has given me a heart and passion for singles. I would love to come to your church on Singles Sunday to impact the lives of the singles in your congregation.

For information about Singles Sunday, seminars, resources or any council I can offer please e-mail me at meaton11367@yahoo.com.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Michael Eaton is a Speaker and Author of *How To Be Blessed As A Christian Single* (Spring 2004), *How To Became A Good Thing* (Summer 2004), *How To Choose A Worthy Mate and Find True Love* (Fall 2003) and *Overcoming Fatal Attraction* (Fall 2000).

Michael is single and has a daughter, Christal, and lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado.