

Dating and Courtship

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Proverbs 30:18-29.

B. The relationship of a man and a woman is beautiful.

II. Dating in a Navigator context.

A. There are some problems in this area.

B. Our position is sometimes unclear so it causes confusion and a stigma is placed on the act of a date.

C. We need to develop a new context and new customs for dating. (Jeremiah 10:2)

D. Some standards are in place for unknown reasons because it is easier to lay down a rule than train a person to handle a situation.

E. It is possible for a woman and man to have a healthy friendship.

III. The manner in which some romances are handled.

A. You can only get to know whether marrying someone is wise by spending time with a person.

B. There is a personal, public and physical aspect to the marriage relationship. (Genesis 2:24)

1. This is entered through many ways.

2. The dating relationship should be approached through love manifested through faithfulness and responsibility. (Ephesians 5, 1 Corinthians 13)

3. The ministry has sometimes made a spouse enter a marriage relationship through the marriage angle instead of the love angle.

4. Time needs to be spent to develop responsibility, love and tenderness to avoid frustration and guilt.

C. Things engaged people should talk about.

Application questions:

1. How can ministry sometimes create a stigma about healthy dating?

2. What does it look like for Christians to date in a healthy way?

3. How can we communicate healthy dating principles to other Christians in a way that breaks the stigma? Explain.
