

Choosing a Life Partner

What to look for when choosing a spouse

Behind the face of every person you meet are character traits that come with the package. When looking for a partner in marriage you want to make sure you date only those who have the potential to be your life partner. This requires you to discover more about that person than just what you see on the outside. Take a good look at their character traits and discover if they are marriage potential. Use the following guidelines to base your decision when choosing a mate.

Love

- Love for the Lord/Christian - **2 Corinthians 6:14-18**
- Love for others - **1 Corinthians 13**
- Love for God's Word - **Luke 8:21**

Purity – Psalm 119:9

- Do they indulge in the passion of lust? NOT do they *struggle* with their passion of lust. Most men struggle with lust but are they acting out, can they control their passion with and for you?
- Do they *flee* or *entertain* them?

Integrity – 1 Kings 9:4, Matthew 5:3-12, 16

- What you see is what you get. You need to see up close and personal. It is hard to see integrity from a distance and over a short period of time. It's not wrong to meet someone on the internet, but be sure to get to know them (in close proximity and over enough time to get to know them)
- Do they walk blamelessly, above reproach? **Proverbs 13:16**
- Do they do what is right? **Proverbs 13:6**
- Are they genuine? **Proverbs 13:9**
- Do they keep their word? **Proverbs 12:22**
- Are they honest? **Proverbs 11:1, Proverbs 11:3, Proverbs 12:19**

Kindness (compassion, meekness, gentleness) – Proverbs 11:17

- Do they slander others? **Leviticus 19:16**
- Are they quick to criticize? **Proverbs 12:18, Proverbs 15:1, 4,**
- Do they gossip about others? **Proverbs 11:13, Proverbs 16:28**
- Are they quick to get angry? **Proverbs 12:16**

Humility – Proverbs 18:12, Proverbs 22:4, Zephaniah 2:3, Philippians 2:3

- A prerequisite for anything good. **Proverbs 11:2, Proverbs 16:18**
- A prerequisite for leading – if absent, people don't want to follow a person who is arrogant - **Proverbs 13:13**
- A prerequisite for following – if absent they are too proud to follow - **Proverbs 12:15**
- You need to humble yourself to be able to serve your spouse - **Proverbs 16:5**

Diligence – Hebrews 6:9-12

- Are they hard working or lazy? **Proverbs 12:11, Proverbs 13:4**
- Do they do what it takes to get things done or do they just do what it takes to get by.

DON'T LOOK FOR PERFECTION, LOOK FOR POTENTIAL.
If you look for perfection, you will never find a mate.