How to find the right mate of your dreams

Choosing the Right Partner in Christian Marriage

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TOPIC:

CHOOSING THE RIGHT PARTNER IN CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

BY

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Introduction:

Life indeed was not created to be lived all alone. To be realistic, we need someone by our side to sojourn together. In the beginning of the bible, God says "It is not good for a man to be alone" (Genesis 2:18).

There is a part man has to play in a woman's life. There is also help a woman needs to offer to man.

God knows what is best for us and provides a 'helpmate'

The marriage journey is long and cannot be travelled without a partner. You need to form partnership with someone like they do in business which must be based on mutual understanding and concrete agreement between the parties involved.

In choosing the right partner for Christian marriage, we must be conscious of the fact that marriage is a gift from God. Marriage is an Institution of God. Choosing a partner affects our whole spiritual outlook- that is the more reason why it must be done rightly.

If you must profit and not regret any form of partnership, the correct blue print must be strictly followed. It is highly dangerous and sinful to rush into the unknown.

This write up exposes a pathway and guidelines according to the scriptures with proven tips that can be helpful for choosing the right partner for a Christian marriage life.

Choosing a spouse, the right partner or marriage mate is one of the most critical decisions you'll make in your adult life and for obvious reasons.

If you can strictly follow these guidelines and the treated issues raised, they are made available to help you make the right or correct decision.

It has been said emotionally that when love comes in the search for the right partner, reason flies out of the window. (That should not be). Love is never blind except when lovers decided to close their eyes. If you must get it right, you must open your eyes to reasons and the truth.

In addition, you are responsible for any choice of partner and the outcome of your steps or actions thereafter. (Genesis 24:1-42). Your future is created today, not tomorrow.

How to find the mate of your dreams

Does god want the best for me?

No doubt about that. In case you have been waiting for your dream spouse or life partner, God is ready when you are set or prepared to settle down as a boy or girl for marriage.

God wants the best for your life including chosen the right partner. You can never regret doing so. Proverb 18:22 says:

"Whosoever findeth a wife findeth a good wife and obtained favour of the Lord". When your favour level is sufficient, it attracts you to your desired marital partner. Where this favour is not strong enough, the binding force between the man and the woman in relationship will be weak. It is not by good dressing, good perfume, good make ups, good education nor good job. This favour is that one

from the Lord not of man. It is when you find God properly and abide strictly in him that he releases this favour on you.

Let us think about our God!

"All things work together for good to them that love God" (Romans 8 Vs 28)

"Let the Lord be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant" (Psalms 35 vs 27)

"Delight thyself in the Lord, and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart commit thy way unto the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring to pass (Psalms 37 vs 4 and 5)

The more you get to know and trust God, you will experience that He gives only good gifts to His children. (Gen. 21:19-21) When God make room for any mission or venture in life it will thrive and succeed.

• HOW CAN YOU KNOW THE WILL OF GOD IN CHOOSING THE RIGHT PARTNER?

As Christians, we should use the biblical formula to make a choice of our life partner. This remains the best ever. Anything sort of this is highly risky and not guaranteed. Others may do things anyhow, but a good Christian should always insist on doing or knowing the will of God. But then....

■ HOW CAN WE KNOW THE WILL OF GOD? (Psalms 32:8)

There are proven ways to compare and ascertain the will of God for your life in any facet including making the right choice.

Some of them are:

1. <u>Through the Holy Spirit</u>;- The revelation of God can be made known to you by the Holy Spirit. There can be no better counsel than what is stamped by the Holy Spirit approval. (John 16:13) (1John 4:1)

Therefore, always allow the holy spirit of God to lead you. Acknowledge your dependence on the Holy Spirit and be sensitive to his leading (Romans 8:14). The Holy Spirit will teach/guide you what is right.

What you may not see or know about a partner, be assured, the Holy Spirit can show clearly the x-ray. Submit to the Holy Spirit. Young people, you probably think that you know better, but allow the Holy Spirit to open your mind to the teachings from God's word and the reward Gog gives for obedience, faithfulness and patience would be more than you ever could have imagined.

2. *The Bible:* (Joshua 1:8) God also uses the Bible to make us know his will. Get yourself familiar with the bible.

Look, there can be no better counsel than what is found in the word of God. This is where the right guide-lines for our direction can be rightly discovered without any compromise. Every decision made must be in commitment with the bible. (Colossian 3:16, Hosea 4:6)

3. Wise Counsel From Matured Spiritual Fathers And Mothers (Prov2:15) (Proverbs 11:14) Seek out the wisdom of other individuals. Even secular research has shown the wisdom and value of doing this. Therefore, get all the advice you can and be wise the rest of your life.

The way of a fool seems right to him but a wise man listens to advice (Prov. 12:15)

A fool spurns his father's discipline; but whoever heeds correction shows prudence (Prov. 15:15)

In your search for the right partner in Christian marriage, you must seek good counsel from the right sources most especially spiritual and matured fathers and mothers. Listen to wise advice; follow it closely for it will do your life good.

- 4. Providential and Experiential Circumstance or (coincident) Romans 8:28
- 5. Your conscience: (The God's Police of the mind) do not do anything thing against your conscience

Conscience: is the invisible you that determine the wellbeing of the visible.

Conscience is the part of your mind that tells whether your actions are right or wrong; that thing that pricks your mind as you embark on actualizing your thought be it good or bad.

Types of conscience

There are 4 types of conscience:

- i. The pure/good conscience
- ii. Weak conscience
- iii. An evil defiled conscience
- iv. Godly conscience

Operating with pure, good and godly conscience is the way out of your confusion. Desire it and go for it.

Welcome to your season to your season of blossoming.

6. Wisdom or common sense: (Proverbs 8) Do not stray away from common sense. Apply wisdom in your selection of the right partner for Christian marriage. The value of wisdom is far above rubies, nothing can be compared with it. Learn from others mistake. Always ask the question "Does it make sense?"

Choosing the right partner in Christian marriage is an enterprise that must be done with pure and genuine motives for there is no hiding place. No single voice should carry the weight of choosing a life partner if you must make the right choice. No matter what, integrate them with how you are going to build compatibility with that special person.

(Bible Passages: Luke 6:38, 1Timothy 3:9, James 1:8, 2Peter 2:14, Titus 1:15, Mark 10:45, John 17:3)

<u>Note</u>: People are only as successful as the quality of their relationships. Cheating your spouse is unethical because it is betray of one of the most spiritual bonds on earth, the bond between husband and wife.

• Always remember that the heavenly father wants to fulfill every plan and purpose. He has for your life. Avoid make your own decisions. Instead, find out God's decisions and make them yours for the best experience.

We do need to give deeper and prayerful consideration to the individual who we may choose.

HOW CAN ONE KNOW THE RIGHT PARTNER TO PICK FOR MARRIAGE?

This is the crux of the matter. The main issue and most sensitive that must be treated solemnly and wisely.

The right to anything is with God to determine. You need God seriously to solve this. With God, all things are possible.

It takes GOD to give you the right partner. If you are mindful of this with better understanding, you will have to meet God personally to bail out and provide a help mate. And the Lord said, "It isn't good for man to be alone, "I will make a companion for him, a helper suited to his needs" (Genesis 2:18-19)

Trust in the Lord. (Proverbs 3:5-6). Connect to grace for divine direction.

God knows the very best for you. He is your creator. You need to consult Him for the selection. He only can give perfect directive on what to do. You are to handle this personally. Meet your God to give you the right partner that will do your life good.

There is one thing to remember, God gives His best to those who leave the choice to Him. If you should allow God to direct you. Be assured, you can never experience the worst. God promises to guide "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shall go, I will guide thee with my eyes" (Psalms 32 vs 8). The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord (psalms 37 vs 23, Isaiah 58 vs 11). This guidance is individual. Therefore, accept the guidance of God for your life.

The Lord that you serve, and believe can give you the best if you dare, consult or get Him fully involved in the search. You are highly privileged to have God on your side.

To you are highly privileged to have God on your side.

Christian marriage is completely a personal affair and conviction between you and God, your creator! The outcome of which you must stand to bear, endure or enjoy.

Therefore, the choice is all yours. The game is however between you and God. If you can play it rightly, you will score a good goal. But if not, you'll be the next victim that the world will borrow a leave from. Nowhere else in the world can you find or get the right partner except in Jesus Christ. Give him your life and get the best. (Matt 6:33). If seriously you need the right partner for your Christian marriage, the best bet is to meet God in prayers and meditation.

Do it yourself and be sure of the final outcome. Do not be deceived by any vision, dream, message emotion feelings, intrusion or affection!

Therefore, find time to sit down with your creator on this matter well, well. Make your case known to God in prayers. Be patient enough. The outcome would definitely be a great surprise. You can get what you want if you can pray enough about it, God answers prayer.

God has a perfect way of working things out for those who can have the absolute trust in Him.

My friend, do not choose for yourself, instead, allow the Lord Jesus Christ to do that on your behalf. He has the very best for you if only you can make a request on your kneels.

The best principles for finding a Christian life partner is acting according to God's will. It is equally important to prayer to God, ask Him to choose the right person for you. The one most suited to your needs in life.

• IS EVERY BORN AGAIN CHRISTIAN THE RIGHT PARTNER TO SELECT FROM?

"No"! That someone is a born-again Christian does not make him or her qualify to be your right partner in the actual sense.

Wisdom is ensured in the hearts of men of common sense.

When Christians are seeking life-partner it is essential for them to seek the mind and will of God. There should be an enquiry: What saith the scripture? What is suitable for me?

In the first instant, you must marriage a born-again Christian no matter the situation or condition. The word of God says: "Do not be bound together with unbelievers. For what do righteous and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?" (2 Cor 6:14-16)

Despise God's word and find yourself in trouble obey and succeed

A sister or brother may be good, nice, educated etc, if he or she is not a Christian that is not the right partner for you.

Do not dare to consider such person for life partnership in Christian marriage. It is taking the greatest risk ever!

Do not subscribe to having an unbeliever as PARTNER in Christian marriage.

No unbeliever is the right choice for you. If you care enough. Darkness and light can't go together. Take it like that. Developing relationship with believer is highly recommended because marriage tends to develop out of existing relationship. This is a safe-guard against marrying a non-Christian.

"But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another (1 John 1:17).

Meanwhile, someone may be a born-again Christian, yet he or she may not be the right or best partner that you can have in Christian marriage.

However, not just any born-again Christian can be suitable for you as life-partner.

What is good for "A" may not be palatable to "B". We have individual differences and taste. For instance, if you visit a shoe shop in the market to make purchase. Therein you will come across shoes of different designs, colour and sizes on display. It is out of several nice shoes available that you make selection or choice that fit, perfectly the size of your foot. What fits you can go successfully with you.

The same is applicable when it comes to making the choice for who to be the right partner in Christian marriage. Your chosen partner must fit in well without too much adjustment or trimmings.

"And the Lord God said" It isn't good for man to be alone" I will make a companion for him, a helper suited to his needs" (Genesis 2:18-19)

You need a born-again Christian that perfectly fits you precisely. God can be specific. God can give you the best choice. There is someone out-there made purposely for you. You can get one if you do your home-work well. With God all things are possible including finding the right partner in Christian marriage.

However, do not rule out <u>faith</u> in your search for getting the right partner.

You need to search diligently, prayerfully and purposely.

"Seek and ye shall find" (Matthew 7:7)

To be candid, getting the right partner requires some searching. Gold is never picked on the streets but stones are everywhere to play with. If you have faith that things will work out, you will take the actions needed to make your dream a reality. Even when all signs point to failure, when you have nothing left have FAITH.

• IS IT POSSIBLE TO HAVE ROMATIC FEELINGS FOR SOMEONE WHO IS NOT A CHRISTIAN?

Yes, it is possible. Attraction is part of being a human. However, it is not an indication of God's will. God's will is clearly stated in this scriptures. (2 Cor 6:14-16).

The world says that: if you feel it, it must be legitimate. This is not true! If you feel it and it is within God's will; it is legitimate. Marrying a non-Christian is never the Lord's will. Be very careful about this. The devil will always make the stolen melons to be the sweetest or stolen apples taste the best.

Dating an unbeliever is emotionally dangerous! I have heard Christians say "I am only dating an unbeliever; I won't marry him/her". The Christian who does this is playing with emotional fire.

You say, "but there are no Christians around who want to date me? That may be the case, but that does not change what is God your father's plan for you.

Trusting God in these kind of circumstances is what being a Christian is all about.

Proverbs 3:5-6 says "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he shall direct your paths". Friend, if you can permit God to direct yours ways in this matter, even if you will shed tears it will be that of joy.

• IS HE OR SHE THE RIGHT ONE?

(The determinant factors or Indicators to prove it)

God's will is that Christians marry Christians. The first priority is that he or she is a Christian. (2 Cor 6:14-16)

"Do not be bound together with unbelievers".

It means God wants Christians to marry other Christians.

However, finding the "right one" is the key to finding God's will and marital happiness over a life time. Those who married the wrong person also risk the possibility of divorce. "There are friends who pretend to be friends but there is a friend whose sticks closer than a brother" (proverbs 11 vs 24)

Is he or she the right one? Is not the question to ask? The right question, which the scripture teach is this one "Is he or she the right kind of person to marry? Proverbs 18:22 says: "He who finds a wife finds what is good, and receives favour from the Lord".

The converse is true as well. It is good for a woman to find a man and be married as well. This means that getting married is beneficial and a blessing for humans.

However, it is not just marrying any woman or man but the right kind of man or woman that matters.

(1) Proverbs 19:14 says "<u>A prudent wife is from the Lord</u>" That is, if you want a wife that is from the Lord" (i.e. the Lord's will) find a prudent one (one discernment and self control). This would apply to the husband as well.

No doubt, finding the right partner to marry is the will of God for you. This is how you will receive God's blessing.

In the Bible, it states clearly that we are to focus on choosing the right kind of person and avoiding the wrong kind of person.

Get it clear today, although Abraham and Isaac sought wives for their sons as the Lord had directed them, their experiences are not the norm. They were very significant in terms of the covenant God made with Abraham and were major figures in the line of Messiah.

Finding the right kind of partner to marry begins with his or her faith in Jesus Christ (our Lord and Savior).

However, being a Christian does not guarantee he or she has the qualities necessary to make a successful marriage.

Proverbs is very clear that men are to find women who have godly characteristics in the lives.

Besides a prudent wife, whom we have already seen, Proverbs 31:10 say:

- ❖ Find a wife of noble character. Proverbs 12:4 says "Find a wife of noble character, avoid a disgraceful wife"
- ❖ Proverbs 19:13 says, "Avoid a quarrelsome wife (women likewise are to find men with these godly characteristics).
- There are 3 kinds of people that the book of proverbs says to stay away from the *fool*, *the sluggard*_and the one who does not *control his tongue*.

A fool is one who acts foolishly, proverb 14:7 says: "Stay away from a foolish man for you will not find knowledge on his lips".

Therefore, do not marry a fool or be his/her partner. Nothing good with a fool but shame and foolishness (Prov. 12:15, Prov. 14:16, Prov. 18:2, Prov. 20:13, Prov. 28:26, Prov. 29:11)

OTHER CHARACTERS TO AVOID IN PARTNERSHIP FOR CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

- 1. Stay away from a foolish man for you will not find knowledge on his lips (Prov. 20:30
- 2. Watch out for a man who is lazy (the sluggard) Prov. 19:15, Prov. 26:15, Prov. 24:30-34)
- 3. We should avoid those who lie. (Prov. 6:17) Lying destroys any foundation of trust in a relationship. You will never know whether he or she is telling the truth or not.
 - Prov. 28:23 warns about someone who has a "flattering tongue" This kind of a person praises you when he doesn't really mean it. He just wants to get something from you.
- 4. Prov. 15:1 (shows another person to avoid engaging partnership with) A person who uses harsh words. Harsh words destroy the heart and mind of others (and make a life time relationship a life time of hurt: "If you can harm me with your words, you can destroy me with your life too".
- 5. Avoid a person who lacks self control. Prov. 25:28 says "Like a city whose walls are broken down is a man who lacks self control.
 - "A city which has no walls" is a city which has no defense against harm. Ruin and destruction will be his because he cannot keep his emotions and desires under control. Such a fellow cannot restrain his behavior.
 - **Self control** is an important quality for success in life and relationships.

God has set forth limits of behavior. Self control keeps his actions within those limits.

Really, no one can be perfect but these are some guide lines that God gave each of us in selecting a wife and husband or life partner.

❖ Be wise, if you find a partner that has these kinds of personal fault that destroy relationship, trying to build a life time relationship together will be like building a house on sinking sand.

<u>Note:</u> However, if you find a partner that has the personal qualities that can develop and sustain a life time relationship in the Lord, you have followed what the Lord desires in finding a mate. Then, if you both desire to marry and live together as husband and wife, then assume it is the Lord's will unless the Lord clearly prevents it.

The Lord wants to bless you as you seek a godly mate. If it doesn't work out trust that the Lord will work all things out for your good.

❖ Find your life partner from the right places or sources (Gen. 24:1-4) for goodness sake. Do not be like Samson that yielded not the warnings of his parent. Do not allow the present urge, desires, or lust be-clouds your sense of reasoning. Shine your eyes well. Not all that glitters are gold. What is behind figure six is more than figure seven .

You need to be guided by God to choose right. By prayer, you can get it right. You have what it takes to find the right partner for your Christian marriage. You can have the very best if only you can prepare well, pray and do what is right before the search for whom to marry.

***** FOR MEN ONLY

Advice to Every Man seeking partner (Secret To Getting A Good Woman As Partner)

1. <u>Get a Job.</u> Proverbs 10:3 -4 Lazy men are soon poor; hard workers get rich. A wise youth makes hay while the sun shines; but what a shame to see a lad who sleeps away his hour of opportunity.

A busy man is very attractive kind. When you have a good job doing for a living, it gives you certain kind of confidence that completes your

masculinity. As a man, you want to be in control. Financial strength gives you the actual ability to be in-charge.

For any partnership to be effective, you must take good care of your personal finance.

Really, women do not take jobless men seriously and having a job doesn't necessarily man you are lockup in an office. You could run your business no matter how small initially as long as there are prospects of growth and a healthy sense of ambition (Prov. 24:3,4 and 27).

2. Be A Gentle Man

A gentleman means you do not hit a woman; you do not lose your temper unnecessarily. You do not get drunk. You do not act out your frustration in appropriately. A gentleman walks out of a relationship with the lessons he has learnt and his head held high. He attends to the emotions of women with care and high consideration. He does not act like a tout or make certain decisions that would harm another person.

Nature always honours a man of that kind because they are rare species.

- 3. **Look good always**. Dress well all the time. Be neat, healthy and have sense of humor. Exercise, lose the tummy fat, wear cologne; dress appropriately. Keep your breath fresh. Cut your nails and smile like bees to honey, women will run towards you.
- 4. Be spiritual. have the fear of God

Have the covering of God upon your life. There is just something sublime about a man that is spiritual and knows God. It's in eyes, his thought, the words that comes out of his month, his attention to details, the way he attends to crisis. There is a glow to presence. "it takes a magnet that pulls the right people to him. And with God he has a discerning spirit to make the right choice out of life

5. Be active in the service of God

- 6. Be approachable and accommodating
- 7. Prepare to be a head as a man: A man who can fix things, solve problems, run his life properly and those in his care shows great maturity and he becomes wanted by women.

Learn how to be useful. Men want women who can cook and take charge domestically, and women want men who can fix appliances and make lasting decisions that they (women) can put their trust in.

No woman wants a boy who isn't sure where his next meal is coming from or what the nearest future holds.

Look, women want to submit to men who can direct their path towards a course that leads to promise.

❖ For Ladies Only 7 Secret Ways A Christian Lady Can Attract A Godly Man For Marriage

- 1. Love God
- 2. Decency in dressing
- 3. Have confident: confidence is very attractive
- 4. Put on friendly disposition
- 5. Kingdom service involvement: Be active in the church service. There is always an opportunity for you to serve God in the local church. By genuinely working in God's vineyard, He will work in your own vineyard too. That is His promise.
- 6. Treat men well, be kind, approachable and accommodating.
- 7. Have respect for people.

The love and fear of God should be the silent guiding principle for Christian ladies seeking to attract Godly men for partnership in marriage.

If everything is done beginning with God, it will surely end well with God taking centre-stage of the relationship and eventual marriage.

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