

# **Principles of Dating**

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## **Why Dating is a Big Deal!**

The decision to be married is second only to the decision to place my faith in Jesus Christ as my savior and lord; therefore, dating relationships must

1. enhance my relationship with Christ and
2. preserve the honor of my future marriage.

## **Guiding Principles:**

**Dating should always...**

1. Strengthen my faith and my commitment to Christ (1Cor. 10:31).
2. Be according to the truths of the Bible (2Tim. 3:14-17).
3. Enhance my family relationships; especially with my parents (Prov. 23:22-25).
4. Encourage the continuation of old and the development of new friendships (Heb. 10:24-25).
5. Challenge me to mature both in life and character (Col. 1:10-12).
6. Preserve the purity of marriage (Heb. 13:4).

## **The Ten Commandments of Dating:**

1. I will pray before every date.
2. I will talk openly and honestly with my parents.
3. I will not become physically involved.
4. I will avoid compromising environments.
5. I will only date guys whom my family and friends approve.
6. I will listen and follow the counsel of my parents and mentors.
7. I will limit my dating to respectable activities.
8. I will not talk about the future with my dates.
9. I will make ministry and serving a consistent focus of the relationship.
10. I will be quick to confess any failures.

***I will promptly end the relationship if any of these commandments are being violated.***