

**WELCOME
TO**

The Bread of Life Fellowship

MARRIAGE SEMINAR

– 2016

12.03.2016 Saturday

SESSION – 1

HOW TO CHOOSE A LIFE PARTNER

HOW TO CHOOSE A LIFE- PARTNER

Gen 2:18 And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." (NKJV)

Proverb 18:22 He who finds a wife finds a good thing, And obtains favor from the LORD. (NKJV)

Pro.31:10 Who can find a virtuous wife?
For her worth is far above rubies.

HOW TO CHOOSE A LIFE- PARTNER

INTRODUCTION :- A marriage partner is an individual with whom one would live the rest of one's life. You would have to cope with his/her strengths and weaknesses till death do you part.

It is a life time choice that must not be made arbitrarily (by chance). *It should be approached with careful consideration, through planning and prevailing prayers.*

Above all, a definite assurance of God's leading must be established In one's choice.

HOW TO CHOOSE A LIFE- PARTNER

1. SOME FACTS ABOUT CHOICE:-

- **Choice is the basic foundation on which any marriage is built.**
- **The act of choosing a life partner must not be done hastily**
- **Choice should be avoid of all sentiments, lust, pity or selfish motives.**
- **There is God's perfect chosen partner for your life, (Gen24:12-14)**

HOW TO CHOOSE A LIFE- PARTNER

2. REQUIRMENTS : A successful marriage does not begin the wedding ceremony.

Its foundation is laid much earlier with careful preparation of one's character and the correct matching of a man and woman that God has ordained together.

HOW TO CHOOSE A LIFE- PARTNER

2. REQUIRMENTS :- **a. Physical Maturity**

:No age is mentioned in the Bible as a ideal marriageable age. But we hereby recommend the following based on counseling experience:

- Brothers should be 25 years and above
- Sisters should be above 21years of age.
- This is because females usually mature earlier than males.

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2. REQUIRMENTS : - b.Spiritual Maturity :

- One must be born again **2 Cor 5:17; Rom 8:14-16; 1 john 1:9)**
- Holiness and purity must be on his way of life **Heb.12:14; 1 Thes 4:3.**
- One should not be a baby Christian **Heb 5:13-14**
- One must be recognizing God's leading in other areas of one's life **Ps 25:9; Jn 10:4-5**

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- 2. REQUIRMENTS : -c. Emotional Maturity
- Marriage is not just for boys and Girls
Mat 19:5
- One must be emotionally independent;
- One must be able to Guide, Lead, Comfort and Help
- One must NOT be sentimental, but should be able to manage successes and failures in life.
- One should be capable of making independent decision of life.

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2. REQUIRMENTS

d. Readiness and preparedness :-

- There should be financial readiness; i.e ability to provide for ones household.
- Material readiness is also required like accomodation, household items etc. 1 Tim 5:8
- Social readiness – Father/Mother roles, Responsibility towards in-laws, tolerance and patience;

HOW TO CHOOSE A LIFE- PARTNER

2. REQUIRMENTS

e. God's Leading :

- There is divine entrance into marriage

Pro. 19:1

- Allow God to choose for you

Gen.2:21-25

- There is God's timing for your life

Eccl 3:1; Pro 16:25; Isa 30:21

HOW TO CHOOSE A LIFE- PARTNER

3. ROLES TO FOLLOW IN CHOOSING A MARRIAGE PARTNER

- a) LOVE **Eph.5:25,**
- b) Compatibility; **Amos 3:3.**
- c) Education: **Eccl12:1**
- d) Money: **Eccl 7:12, 1Tim 6:13**
- e) Beauty **1 Sam 16:6-7**
- f) Family background **Col 3:11; 1Cor 12:1**
- g) There is no discrimination. **2 Cor.5:17**
- h) Profession (Job) : **Deut 8:10.**
- i) Age

HOW TO CHOOSE A LIFE- PARTNER

4. HOW DO I KNOW MY PARTNER?

- This is usually the greatest question to which most singles want a practical answer.
- Using the following principle would practically establish God's will for your marriage.
- **Seek** **b.Look** **c.Wait** **d. Listen**

HOW TO CHOOSE A LIFE- PARTNER

4. HOW DO I KNOW MY PARTNER?

- **SEEK:** **Math 7:7-8, Deut 4:29)** compare good thing in **prov.18:22, Gen 2:18-23**
- Seeking demands time, energy, wisdom, discretion, consideration, strain, and patience.
- Seeking calls for careful, diligent, earnest and persistent effort of application.
- Set modest and unbiased standard **Ps 37:1-5**
- Have specific desires, but don't be right. Let God have His way.

HOW TO CHOOSE A LIFE- PARTNER

4. HOW DO I KNOW MY PARTNER?

- Listen: How to receive God's choice
- Inner witness 1 king 19:12-13, Pro 20:27
- Auditable voice 1 Sam 3:1-4, 11-14.
- Word of knowledge –Psalm 119:105-10
- Dreams Joel 2:28; mat 1:20
- Vision or revelation Acts 10:1-6
- Godly Counsels Pro 12:15
- Prophecy Luke 1:70

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4. HOW DO I KNOW MY PARTNER?

NOTE:

Take a personal and independent decision in the face of multitude of counsels.

You are responsible for your decision.

- **Faith** and agreement are necessary
- **Conviction** and **love** are fundamental.
- **Peace** is confirmatory.

HOW TO CHOOSE A LIFE- PARTNER

4. HOW DO I KNOW MY PARTNER?

CONVICTION MEANS :-

- A strong belief
- To be fully convinced
- That there is no fear
- To have inner satisfaction
- That there is no conflict
- To have your peace of mind about the brother or sister you have chosen.

HOW DO I KNOW MY PARTNER?

APPROACH : Proposals and Responses in Church

- Inform your pastor after you have prayed through.
- The pastor would then investigate/enquire, pray and counsel you appropriately.
- The pastor could call both of you together
- Be soft, polite but resolute (firm)
- Do not hurry the sister to decide fast.
- Give her enough time to confirm...
- Do not delay the brother's answer as soon as you have gotten one.
- As a sister never throw away any proposal without finding out from God.
- Leave room for refusal, but never give up if you are very sure.
- Pray and act.

THANK YOU ALL

GOD BLESS

YOU