

Healthy Relationships
Wk 2
Guy/Girl Relationships

Purpose: Students to understand the guidelines God has put in place for guy girl relationships and the motives behind them.

Passage (s): Gen. 1:26-27, 2:7, 18-24, 1 Cor. 13, Eph. 5

Topic: What God expects from his creation

Ricks Devotional: We need to understand that God created man (and woman) in His image, and before sin that image was perfect. Because sin came into the picture we have a distorted view of what our relationship are supposed to be. Many times girls are looking to be wanted, needed, rescued and/or appreciated. They look for the perfect guy that can be a "father figure" because usually dad isn't there or isn't doing his job, a stud, and most of all someone who makes them feel special, usually long term. Unfortunately guys are many times looking for someone to make them look good, who meets their desires, and a short (if any commitment). As we look into these passages we see Christ unconditional and sacrificial love for the church and the churches response of love and obedience. Not because they have to but out of love.

When we understand that true love is patience, keeps no records of wrongs, and is sacrificial. The things that guys and girls so desperately believe they need are at most secondary and least not really needs at all.

This'll be a tough lesson for these students to understand, because I'm not really tackling the "true love waits" philosophy in this main devo, but rather the motive behind why we shouldn't need a philosophy. I do expect you as leaders to tackle the issues that guys and girls are looking for, pointing out why they can only be partially fulfilled in a marriage relationship and only completely fulfilled through a relationship w/ God. In other words, guys won't have such a battle with lust if Christ they find their desire in Christ and girls won't feel the need to be appreciated if they can understand themselves through God's eyes. They are appreciated and loved.

Small Group:

Guys option

1. Look up Job 31:1 and answer the following question(s)
 - a. What is a covenant?
 - b. Why is a covenant important?
 - c. What are some ways you can train your eyes to "bounce"?
 - d. How can you follow through with that sort of commitment?

Girls option

1. What are some reasons that we try and find a "knight and shining armor"?
2. Too many times we attempt to find escape or identity in a relationship, why do you think that is?
 - a. Who can we escape too when we're overwhelmed?
 - b. Who listens when no one else will?
 - c. Since we are created in the image of God, who is our identity in?
 - i. Why isn't that good enough for us many times and what can we do about it?