

the who, when, & how of Godly romance

Discussion Questions for the week of February 25

BIG IDEA:

Nobody wants to be lonely. We all have a God-given desire for romance and companionship. Just as God has given us these desires, He also has plan for their fulfillment. *How does a person find godly romance?* A person discovers godly romance by giving ourselves fully to the work of the Lord, resting and waiting for his provision, and then receiving what he offers when the "who" and the "when" are right.

DISCUSSION:

- 1. Look up and read Genesis 2:15-24 together as a group. What was Adam doing before Eve was created for him?
- 2. What could Adam's example teach us about what we could be doing while we wait for God to provide romance and companionship in our lives?
- 3. Look up and read 1 Corinthians 7:32-25 together as a group. What does Paul think unmarried people should spend their time doing?
- 4. What do you think it means for a person to be devoted to the Lord's work?
- 5. How much of your time do you devote to doing the Lord's work and thinking how to please Him?
- 6. How might dating or "going out" divide a person's devotion or distract someone from God?
- 7. Look back at verse 35. What do you think is the heart behind Paul's encouragement?
- 8. Look up and read 1 Corinthians 15:58. What do you think it means when it talks about the "work of the Lord". What work might God have for someone your age?
- 9. Turn back to and think about Genesis 2:15-24 again. What was Adam doing when God made Eve?
- 10. What role did Adam play in finding his companion? How is Adam's story different than the way most people today meet and fall in love?
- 11. Look up and read Psalm 127:1 and Psalm 37:7. How can these verses be applied to our desire/quest for romantic relationships? What do you think these verses tell us about how much time we should spend thinking about and searching for the right person?
- 12. Turn back to and think one more time about Genesis 2:15-24. Focus on the last 2 verses. Was it easy or difficult for Adam to know that Eve was "the one" for him?
- 13. Do you think God wants it to be easy or difficult for you to find "the one" for you?

APPLICATION:

Here's what you can do right now to be sure that the "how" of godly romance is as easy for you as it was for Adam & Eve:

- 1.Understand the "who" of godly romance and strive to be that person (not find that person).
 - a) Talk to your parents about it
 - b) Talk to wise friends and get advice
 - c) Truly follow and trust God above your own heart
- 2.Understand the "when" of godly romance and trust God enough to wait patiently for the right time.
 - a) Wait until parents (on both sides) approve of the relationship
 - b) Wait until caring friends approve of the relationship
 - c) Wait until God is the clear leader of the relationship
 - d) Wait until you're ready to fully commit to a relationship
- 3. While you wait, give yourself fully to the work of the Lord. What are ways you and give yourself more to the work of the Lord with an undivided devotion instead of giving yourself to shallow relationships that will leave you more lonely?