



Shepherd Care®

To Care for People Where They Live and Work

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COMMUNITY Care TOPIC

How to Find Mr. or Ms. Right

There is the line from a country music song that talks about “looking for love in all the wrong places.” Unfortunately, that is so common today. The results are also so common. Let’s look at the math: “Me + the wrong person + at the wrong time = Big Trouble!” This subject is very important, and hundreds of books have been written about it, but people continue to struggle in their search for Mr. and Ms. Right. Here is some well-meaning practical advice.

First Things First

It all starts with a relationship with Jesus Christ. A correct understanding of the basic problem with every life is *sin* is necessary. Sin corrupts and distorts. God sent his son Jesus into this world to fix this problem. This is also so we do not bring “the right person” into our already messed up lives.

Romans 3:23

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Romans 5:8

“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

Where to Go from Here

After the life gets on the right track, we establish life’s priorities. This period may take a little time, as normally a person needs to get some understanding about how to live like a Christian. The source for instruction is the Bible and the place is a healthy local church. A church is like a bucket of apples. Sure, there may be some bad apples in the bucket, but there are more good apples than people would find in other random places.

What Not to Look For

The vast majority of people follow this path to finding a mate:

1. Physical- how do they look?
2. Emotional- It feels good; We have common interests; They have money; They make me laugh, etc.
3. Maybe we should live together and try things out to see if we are compatible?
4. Try a match making connection and cross their fingers.

Following these steps can lead to many heart breaks. Rarely does it go deeper to a “spiritual” level. If it does, it is usually only as deep as finding out about where they had a religious affiliation to determine where they will get married or asking God to bless something that

is already broken. This foundation of the relationship is based more on the aspects of people that are subject to change.

The Place to Start

If someone is a Christian or concerned about character and virtue, then the guidelines should be different. The place to start is opposite from the list above.

1. Spiritual- both people share a deep commitment and mutual faith in Jesus Christ. This is rooted in eternity.
2. Emotional- living from the heart with compatibility, security, shared values, and character.
3. Physical- more than just the physical appearance. Intimacy is only enjoyed after marriage.

Following these steps helps ensure finding a person that shares a common solid foundation for both sharing fulfillment and to face life’s many challenges that wreck many relationships. Also, following these steps brings God into the marriage instead of trying to stuff him into something that is already broken. The Lord specializes in restoring broken things...it just saves a lot of pain by doing things God’s way the first time.

God’s Math

As opposed to the world’s math in the first section above, God’s math promises better results: “Me + the right person (God’s will) + God’s Timing = Something Beautiful!”

Proverbs 14:12

“There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”

Deuteronomy 30:19

“I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore, choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.”

God’s way is not always easy, but He gives grace, and His promises are true! If something is worth doing, it is worth doing right. **Which way will you choose?**

Introducing your Community Chaplain

Eric Kieselbach

(pronounced “key-sill-
baa”)

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“In what places are you looking in for love?”

“Therefore, whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And everyone that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.” **Matthew 7:24-28**

All Scripture quotations, except otherwise noted, are from the King James Version of the Holy Bible, (Cambridge: Cambridge) 1769. Public Domain.

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