



Biblical Principles for Dating



Growing In The Faith 2018

Guard Your Heart

*“This above all: to thine own self be true
And it must follow, as the night the day
Thou canst not then be false to any man....”*

Shakespeare – Hamlet, Act I, Scene III

- ▶ What does this mean?
 - To be true/real/honest with others we must first be true/real/honest with self.
- ▶ What does this have to do with dating?



Guard Your Heart

“Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.”

Proverbs 4:23

- ▶ “Keep”; to guard, watch over, preserve.
 - Often used in reference to maintaining something entrusted to you, especially the word of God in mind & action.
- ▶ What are the issues of life?



Great Questions of Life Dr Ward

- ▶ Does God exist?
- ▶ Who is God?
- ▶ What is God?
- ▶ What is God's purpose?
- ▶ Who is man?
- ▶ What is man?
- ▶ What is man's purpose?
- ▶ Is man free to choose?
- ▶ Man or State: which is supreme?
- ▶ Which is greater, mind or matter?
- ▶ Where do we get our ideas?
- ▶ Must be asked and answered in the heart.
- ▶ What is the heart?



The Biblical Heart

- ▶ 900 times in scripture, 130 times in the Psalms:
 - He “saves the upright in heart” (Psalm 7:10)
 - “Try my mind and my heart.” (Psalm 26:2)
 - “Your law is within my heart.” (Psalm 40:8)
 - God “knows the secrets of the heart” (Psalm 44:21) – Jeremiah 17:10
- ▶ Can you think of others?
- ▶ Not references to our fleshly chest pumps, but to the spiritual center of our being, from which “spring the issues of life.”
- ▶ What comprises our core, our spiritual center?



The Biblical Heart

- Praise; Ps 9:1
- Trust; Pv 3:5
- Obedience; Rm 6:17
- Speech; Mat 12:31–35
- Grief; Joh 14:1
- Joy; Joh 16:22
- Desire; 2Pe 2:14
- Understanding; Rm 1:21
- Purpose; 2Co 9:7
- Intention; Hb 4:12
- Imagination; Lk 1:51
- Seat of faith; Rm 10:10
- Affection; Ac 21:13
- Perception; Joh 12:40

▶ How can we summarize these?



The Biblical Heart

- ▶ **Intellect:** How we think
 - Genesis 6:5, Deuteronomy 29:4, John 12:40
- ▶ **Will:** What we want
 - Exodus 35:5, 2Chronicles 12:14, Job 11:13
- ▶ **Emotions:** How we express
 - Genesis 6:6, John 14:1
- ▶ **Conscience:** What we value
 - 1Samuel 24:5, 2 Samuel 24:10, Acts 2:37
- ▶ These comprise the core of our being.
- ▶ Why must this be guarded while dating?

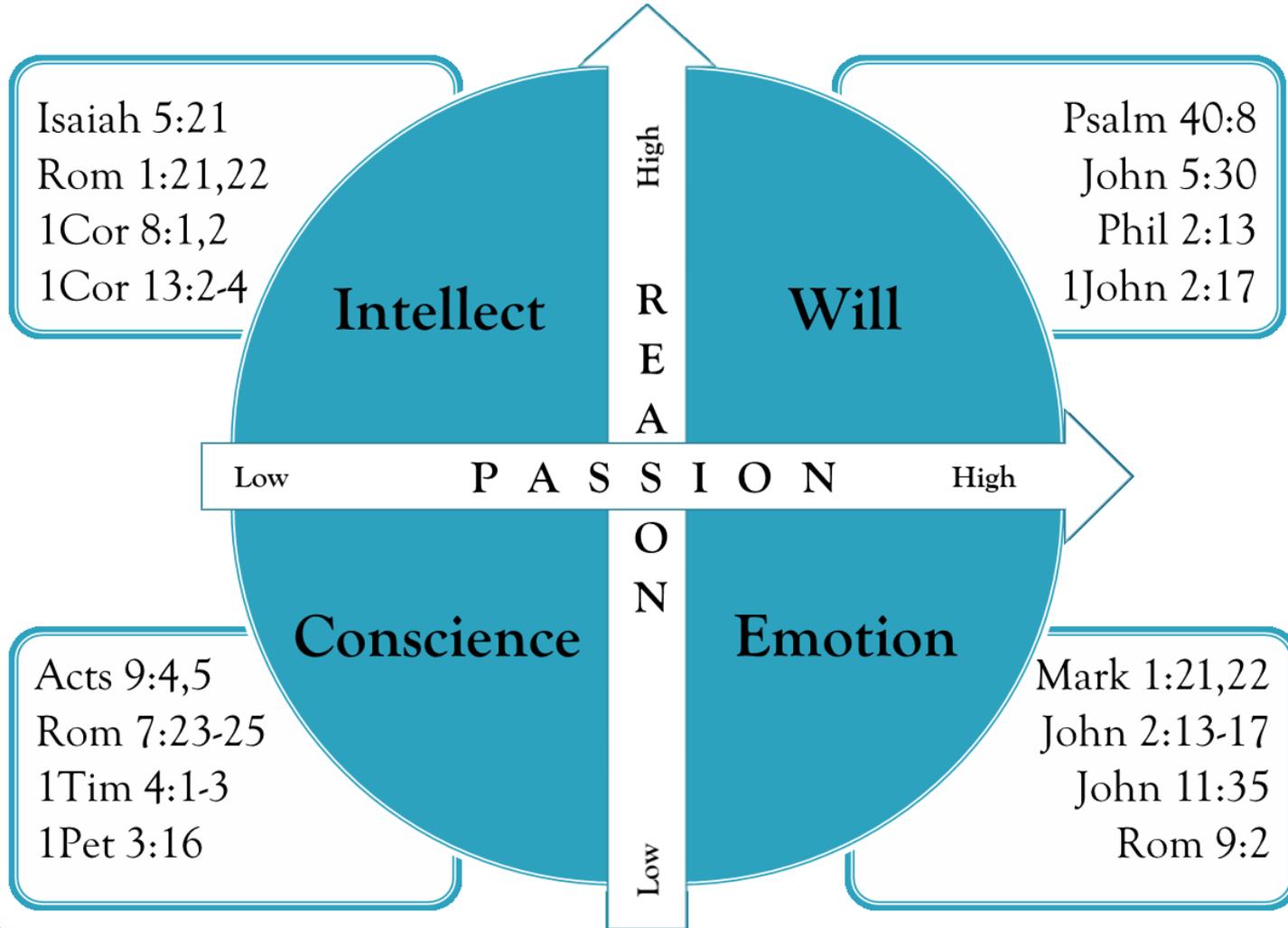


Our Core is Who we Are

- ▶ What does it mean to be self-aware?
 - How does one become self-aware?
- ▶ We are what we think, want, value, express.
 - Should these be confirmed before dating?
 - How will the dating process affect them?
- ▶ Can extremes at our core make us vulnerable while dating?
 - Like four gates into a city, each needs guarding.
 - What happens when are caught leaning?



The Biblical Heart



Workshop: Opposites Attract

- ▶ Determine the leaning of your heart.
- ▶ Break into four groups, one of each leaning.
- ▶ Within your group, describe the perfect date.



Workshop: Initiating & Ending

- ▶ Getting started
- ▶ Moving on

