



Biblical Principles for Dating

Growing In The Faith 2018



Biblical Principles for Dating

- ▶ Friday: What Is Dating?
- ▶ Sabbath: Stay In The Faith
- ▶ Sunday: Have Something To Give
- ▶ Sunday: Honor The Father
- ▶ Sunday: Respect Gender Differences
- ▶ Monday: Guard Your Heart



Format & Decorum

- ▶ 2-hour interactive seminars
 - 30-minute presentation
 - 30-minute discussion
 - 10-minute break
 - 50-minute workshop



What Is Dating?

- ▶ What is a date?
- ▶ What does it mean to be “dating”?
- ▶ What does dating look like?
- ▶ What is the goal of dating?
- ▶ What is successful dating?
- ▶ What is unsuccessful dating?
- ▶ What are the challenges of dating?



Part of a Bigger Process

1. Acquaint
2. Friendship
3. *Dating*
4. *Engaged*
5. *Married*
6. *Live Happily Ever After*



Friendship Vs. Dating

- ▶ Serious
- ▶ Romantic
- ▶ Exclusive
- ▶ Focus
- ▶ Exploratory
- ▶ Preparatory
- ▶ Preliminary

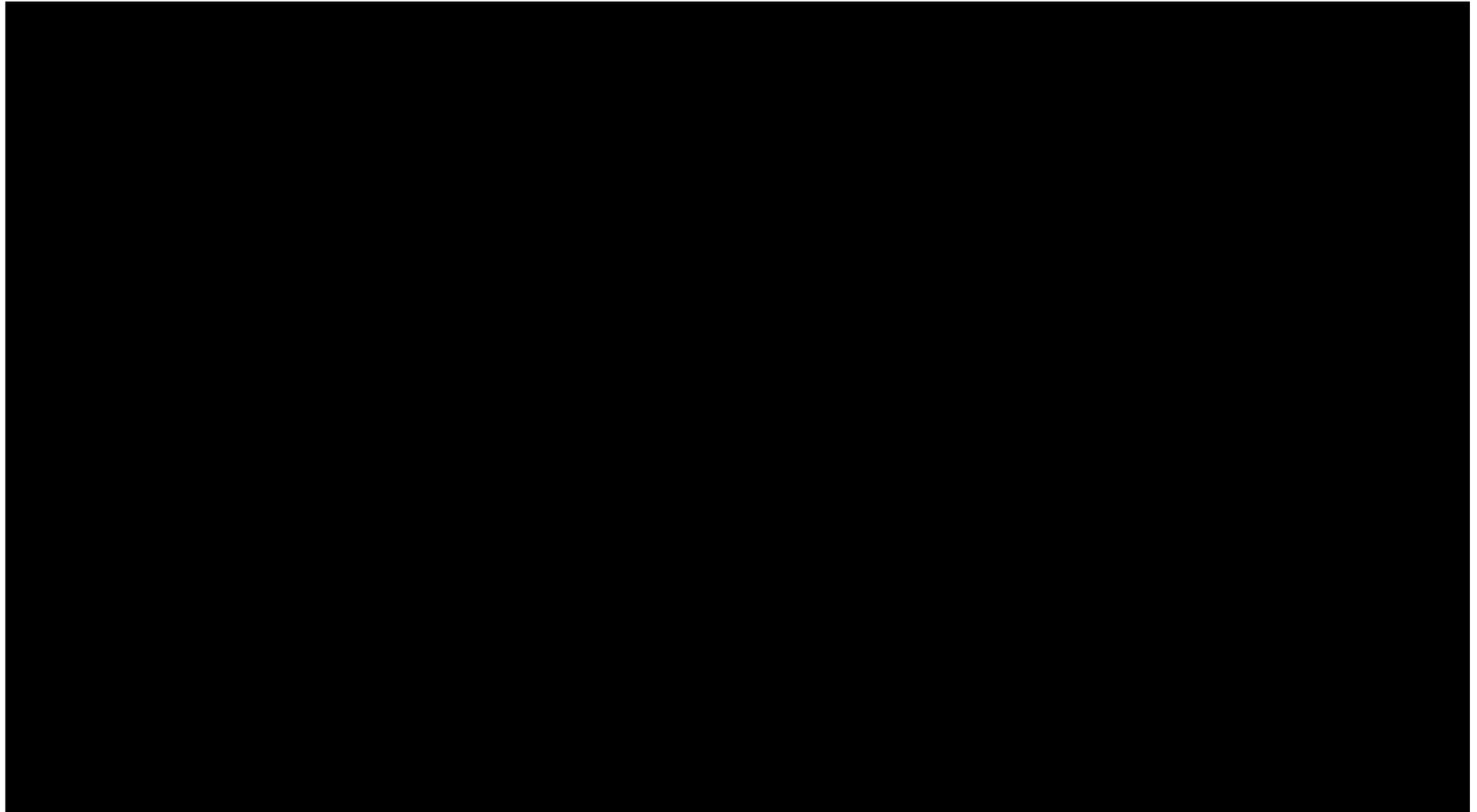


Challenges with Dating

- ▶ Who?
- ▶ Give or Get?
- ▶ Love or Lust?
- ▶ Friendly affection or mild sexual activity?
- ▶ Intimacy before commitment?
- ▶ Sufficient protections & guidance?
- ▶ Isolation from other relationships?
- ▶ Fixation distracts from preparation?
- ▶ Break-ups?



Strong Enough to Be Wrong Josh Harris



What Did Josh Learn?

- ▶ No magic formula to a healthy marriage.
- ▶ Don't have to be in a dating relationship to be a complete person.
- ▶ OK to take a break from dating to focus on personal development.
- ▶ Many selfish and harmful activities in modern dating need to be challenged.
- ▶ Dating can be a healthy way of looking at what we want long term and growing personally to achieve it.



What Did Josh Learn?

- ▶ Growth is painful
- ▶ Can't Rush the Process
- ▶ Expect Resistance
- ▶ Don't fear admitting you are wrong
- ▶ Flawed humans cannot write perfect books.
 - There is only one source that is never wrong.



Kiss Dating Goodbye?

- ▶ Is dating in the Bible?
 - Does dating then violate the word of God?
 - Are there alternatives to dating?
 - What is right/wrong dating?
- ▶ Can dating be effective?
 - Can dating be aligned with God's Word?
 - How?



Successful Dating Outcomes

- ▶ Wedding: “The I DO”
- ▶ Love: Outgoing devotion
- ▶ Marriage: Life-long commitment
- ▶ Formation of a Family
- ▶ Home-building
- ▶ Children: “Godly Offspring”

