

## Building godly relationships



### 1 Corinthians 6:19 -20

**Memory Theme Verse:** *Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.*

### Introduction

The Body is a Special Creation. It was built by the Creator to carry His Presence. This means that for Christians, we are never really alone in this alone for we carry the Presence of the Lord wherever we go. So looking at our Accountability sessions earlier on, this means that if God is in Us, then He knows all that we do. However what is important here is for us to understand that our Body as a temple of God's presence must be a sacred and honoured place where His Holy Spirit can dwell. So the steps to building godly relationship with the opposite sex must be founded in God's standards; His Word



**CP: Now that you have a fiancé, is it easier or harder to believe in the message of abstinence?**

St. James: In some ways, it's easier to, with my whole heart, believe in the absolute beauty of purity now that I'm engaged. I always knew that God's way was the best, that I wanted to wait, and that I valued purity. But now seeing the end of the story of that waiting period, and then us about to begin a whole new adventure in marriage, it's just a very exciting and fulfilling time. I'm just so thrilled to be able to see God tie that beautiful bow on this waiting story. An Interview with Rebecca Saint James: <http://www.christianpost.com/news/love-is-with-rebecca-st-james-48911/>

### A. On a journey

- ❖ At some point in your life, you will be on a love journey (if you haven't already). That love journey must begin with God.  
*Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight...Proverbs 3:5-6*

**CP: Before you go, is there one quote that you live by in regards to love that you can share with all the readers?**

St. James: I think the biggest thing that God is teaching me about loving Jacob is to love God first. And that I can only love him truly well when I love God first and foremost; then I'm free to love Jacob well. So that would be my love quote: **love God first.**

John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments

### B. Finding Love

- i. **Love God** – Matthew 22:37 - Jesus replied: *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."*
- ii. **God is a Match-Maker** – Genesis 2:18 *The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."*

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- iii. **Patience and Prayer go together:** Philippians 4:6-7 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

### C. Setting the Rules; Creating the Boundaries



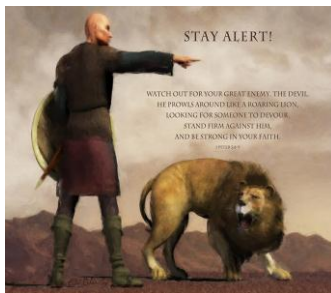
It is important that as a Christian you establish clear boundaries in your relationship. Love is not measured by just sex. Love is measured by your willingness to respect and honour one another. Commit to keeping your marriage bed holy. Remember, in establishing boundaries in your relationships, you are honouring God and each other too.

#### How far should one go in a relationship?

*Hebrews 13:4 - Marriage should be honoured by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.*

*Leviticus 11:44 for I am the LORD your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy.*

### D. Keep Watch



**I. The enemy is interested in your sexual purity: 1 Peter 5:8** Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world.

**II. Flee Sexual Immorality-** 1 Corinthians 6:18 - *Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body.*

- iv. **Resist the devil** - James 4:7 *Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*
- v. **Temptation is normal** - 1 Corinthians 10:13 : *No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.*
- vi. **You are a new Creation in Christ: Live like a Champ-** 2 Corinthians 5:17 *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

#### Facts and Figures

- 836 cases of teenage pregnancy recorded by MOH in Fiji in 2012
- 5596 teenage pregnancies between 2004-2008
- Highest record in 2005: 1358 and lowest in 2006: 631

Source:  
FBC and Predoc

### Conclusion

Boy-Girl relationships cannot be avoided. Having feelings for the opposite sex is natural, in fact its God- given, but it must be within the realms of God's holy standards. In your relationship, you must desire to glorify God in it. Otherwise, you are only glorifying the flesh and the enemy. Keep on committing this area of your life to the Lord.

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