SEARCH185

How to Find a Good Wife/Husband

July 9, 2025 Episode 13

Thank you for joining us today for the SEARCH 185 podcast. I am here with my co-host Henry Avila, How are you doing today, Henry? . . .

In today's society, marriage has taken a toll with divorce rates in the 40 to 50% range. What can we do so that we have a better chance of keeping our marriages together?

Thank you Jody . . . Today, men and women are increasingly pessimistic about finding satisfying, lifelong love in marriage. People are postponing marriage or are hesitant about ever entering into this kind of permanent commitment. No one wants to be bound to a lifetime of unhappiness . . . Marriage is a good thing, especially for men. They tend to live longer, are healthier and happier and better of financially. Why is that? Well, the Word of God tells us in Proverbs 31:10 that "A good wife . . . is far more precious that jewels."

How did we find ourselves in this situation where it has been getting harder and harder to find a good mate, a good partner?

- My personal opinion is that it is we men that have caused this problem. We have not been the kind of men that women are looking for. Women want someone reliable with a strong character that is willing to go the extra mile to take care of what he has and for that, which he is responsible.
- Over the past centuries, men have dominated women to the point where women were manipulated and mistreated. Men used this dependency to take advantage of the relationship that God had intended to be for the mutual benefit of both the man and the woman. So what causes this clash between the sexes? SIN.
- This domination and manipulation gave rise to feminism then to radical feminism. The first wave of feminism gave women . . . the right to vote, the right to own property, the right to have a credit card in their own name, etc.
- 1st wave feminism then turned into radical feminism that sought to erase the differences between men and women. As a result, women began to enter into the workforce and children were being raised by daycare centers and government schools.

- I think we are seeing a shift of women leaving the workforce and raising children at home. If you are a working woman, I am not saying that what you are doing is wrong or bad. All I am saying is that women should have a choice if they want to be a “say at home” mother. Sometimes women don’t feel like they have a choice.

Looks like finding the right person to marry is very important . . .

I tell people that the 3 most important, life- changing decisions you will make in your life are as follows in order of importance:

1. Where you will work,

2. Who you marry, and

3. Your relationship with Jesus Christ.

Today we will focus on #2. Who you marry . . . What I would like to do is propose is a set of rules or guidelines.

- These rules or guidelines are no guarantee for a good marriage, but they are meant to give you a better chance at having a great marriage.
- I have been married for close to 40 years now and I love my wife more than ever.

Some general observations and guidelines:

Men are more visual than women and are attracted by what they see. So ladies, if you want a man to see you as a person, have modesty in your dress and behavior. Otherwise, all he is going to observe is the attractive body you present and your flirtatious behavior.

Women are also attracted to what they see, but, in general, they are more personal or relational when it comes to choosing a partner. They want to communicate and share their life stories to establish a relationship. It is in their nature to want to nurture both their man and their future children.

So what kind of criteria should we use to determine if someone is right for us to marry?

How to Find a Good Husband or Wife

Rules:

1. Ladies and men, get your act together. Be the kind of person that someone would want to marry.
    a. Be trustworthy, ethical, loyal and dependable. Does he/she steal or lie? Do they often fall short

of what they say they will do? Do they talk about others behind their back?

   b. Above all, ladies, dress modestly. Avoid plunging necklines, short skirts and revealing swim wear. You want guys to like you as a person and not as an object for their pleasure. Ladies, if you want to wear revealing clothes, just know what you are doing . . .

   c. Be willing to work hard and sacrifice for the sake of you and your future family.

2. Don't settle for second best, because that is exactly what you will get.

   a. Set high expectations. The person must be honorable, ethical and trustworthy.

   b. Keep your standards high. If you decide to marry "second best," just enter the relationship knowing that you will have to live with that.

   c. Look for shared values.

3. Don't look for a husband/wife at nightclubs

   a. Go have fun and dance, but don't seek a husband or wife in these places.

   b. There are some good guys at nightclubs, but don't set your goals to find one there. If you happen to meet a guy that is a good candidate, that is fine.

4. This next one is more for the women . . . Don't pick a "fixer upper." A fixer upper is good for cars and houses, not men.

a. A man will not be molded into the man you want them to be unless he wants to change. A woman will say something like, “if I take care of him and he sees how much I love him and that I am a great wife, he will want to change . . .”

b. I hear wives say that they have “trained” their husbands, but I am here to tell you that most of these men allowed themselves to be “trained.” If they don’t want to change, they won’t.

c. I don’t know that the opposite is true . . . In general, I think women are more likely to change on their own for the better, especially after having children. I think they feel like they have more to lose.

5. For the ladies . . . Don’t pick a guy that is lazy and has no initiative or motivation

a. He needs to have a good work ethic

b. He must be willing to sacrifice lesser goods for greater goods (e.g. give up certain hobbies for the sake of helping raise the children)

c. Watch for those that only want to be home and play video games

6. Get to know his family before committing to marriage

a. Many carry baggage from their family life into the marriage.

b. Does the family have a history of alcoholism, drug addiction; sexual, physical or verbal abuse; serious psychological problems or divorce.

7. Find a man that is willing to die for you
    a. You need to know that no matter what happens, he is not going to leave.
8. Ladies . . . Don’t marry a man that looks at pornography. Porn ruins marriages.
    a. Ask him if he views porn
    b. Don’t marry him until he overcomes this habit
9. Don’t marry a person that abuses alcohol. Alcoholism kills a marriage.
    a. Likes to get drunk with his buddies
    b. Can’t say “no” to a drink
10. Don’t marry someone that is self-centered and self-absorbed.
    a. Selfishness has no place in a marriage. Love is about gift of self to others.
    b. You don’t want to marry someone that is “high maintenance.”
11. Look for a partner with a faith that is in harmony with yours
    a. If you are a person of strong faith and are marrying someone of a different faith, you must discuss how your faiths will be lived out. In which faith are the children going to be raised?
    b. The best situation is to marry someone who shares the same faith.

What about those of us that are already married?

We covered lots of good information in Episode 8 on “how to create peace in your family,” but here are a couple of additional things to follow:

- Take care of yourself. Try to look presentable to your spouse.
    - o If you work at home, get dressed each day. Ladies, put on a little makeup.
    - o Both should brush their hair, have good hygiene, shave, shower daily, etc.
    - o If you are overweight, try to get it under control. I see men and women trim down, get braces and look younger after a divorce . . .
- Listen more than you talk. Be “present” when you talk to each other.
- Make an effort to say at least one nice thing to your spouse every day. Make a list if you need to so that you will have something nice to say each day.
    - o Say, “thank you for all you do for the family.”
    - o “You look especially nice today.”
    - o “Thanks for listening.”
- There will be difficulties in marriage, but we need to do our part to not contribute to those difficulties. We all have a cross to carry as Jesus said,

- Lk 9:23 If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

but don’t be part of the cross your spouse has to carry. Be like Simon the Cyrenean that helped Jesus carry his cross . . . help carry your partner’s cross.