

The Dating Plan

(A Summery)

The dating plan was designed by a local Christian Singles Pastor for his singles group of about 600 active members. It was created in response to the question, "Where are all the good men/women?" His response, "Sitting right next to you." Designed to offer "ground rules" for dating, it's purpose is not to find a mate for a person to marry, but rather to expand the social circles of single people in a safe way, emotionally, spiritually, sexually, physically, socially and mentally. If you follow these rules and insist that whomever you are dating follows these rules, you will find that you will have an opportunity to meet a lot of people, make a bunch of friends, and you might even find the mate of your dreams. Remember, the goal of the plan is to develop relationships without the baggage that often is associated with modern dating.

Enjoy!

Some simple things to make this work better:

1. Be honest.
2. Communicate weekly on how you feel and if your feelings toward the other person has changed.
3. Know that either person in the dating relationship may be at a different level emotionally.
4. If there is a difference between the levels of a couple dating. I.e., one person is at level 2, while the other is ready for level 3, the level of the relationship that the couple is at is based upon the lower level until both parties agree to go to a higher level.
5. The person at the higher level cannot /should not pressure the other to come to a higher level. It must be free choice.
6. Be aware that sometimes, the best thing for a relationship is to end it.
7. No relationship should have any elements of abuse, disrespect, or attempts to control the other.

	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>Level 4</u>	<u>Marriage</u>
Name	Dating for something to do	Dating because it is you.	Dating with a future in view	Engagement	Marriage
Objective	To have fun and make friends in a safe, non-sexually threatening environment	To have fun, make friends, and get to better know people to whom one is attracted.	To develop a lifelong friendship which may or may not develop into a lifelong romantic relationship	To prepare to be married to the person you are dating and to determine that marriage is definitely the correct choice for you both.	To be your marriage partner's life long mate, lover, best friend, fellow parent, and witness to and for God.
Risk level (on a scale of 1-10 w/ 10 being the greatest risk)	0-1	3-6	5-8	7-10	7-10
Physical Contact	1. Eye to Body 2. Voice to Voice 3. Eye to Eye	(Leave) 4. Hand to Hand 2. Hand to shoulder 3. Hand to Waist	(Cleave) 5. Hand to face 6. Hand to body 7. Mouth to Mouth	5-7 again	(Naked and Unashamed) 8. Mouth to breast. 9. Hand to Genitals 10. Genitals to Genitals (oral sex to happen after first having genital to genital contact)
Emphasis of Date	Activity Centered	Socially centered - 50% of social time spent w/ friend 50% of time spent w/ each other	Relationship centered - need to learn as much about the other as possible	Future Centered - Determine how the long term romantic relationship will work	Relationship/ Family Centered - to build and maintain a God-fearing, loving relationship and home.
Nature of date	NON - exclusive. One time event. It begins at a specific time and ends at a specific time. There is no requirement that either party date the other again.	Non-exclusive. Assumes that both parties find something in the other attractive and that both are interested in learning more about the other. Akin to comparison shopping.	Exclusive relationship. Assumes that both parties have decided to create and maintain a life long friendship regardless of the outcome of the dating relationship.	Exclusive relationship. Assumes that both parties are have decided that their relationship should be a permanent, romantic one and both work to verify this decision and calling.	One Flesh under God.
Begins	When either the male or the female asks a member of the opposite sex out for a "Date for	When Either the male or female informs the other that he/she is attracted to the other and that he/she	When both members of the couple decide that each wants to pursue a relationship that has a	When both Members of the couple agree that they are convinced that they should be	On their wedding day.

	something to do” giving the time, date and specific suggested activity of the date.	wants to start dating as a “date because it is you”□	“future in View” □	married.□	
Response to the Dating Question	1. Yes (now work out the details 2. No, but thank-you for asking (and don’t ever ask me again) 3. I can’t ... (Because of some kind of conflict, but I’d be willing to go out with you for some other night or event)	Same as Level 1, however, #2 requires a short explanation	Same as Level 1, however #2 requires a willingness to field any questions that the rejected party may have for the next 4-6 weeks.	Same as Level 3	N/A
Date Ends	At the end of the date. There is no guarantee that another date will be forthcoming. ++ No explanation for why there is not another date is needed ++	When one or both of the members of the couple decide that he/she is not interested in a long-term romantic relationship ++ a short explanation is expected, but excessive details are not necessary. ++	When one or both members of the couple determine that a long-term romantic relationship between them is not appropriate. ++ a detailed explanation is necessary and all questions must be answered for a reasonable amount of time (4-6 weeks)	Same as level 3	When one partner or the other dies, except in situations of abuse.
Who pays	Both parties go Dutch unless both parties agree that one partner will pay for the other for a particular event.	The person who asks the other out pays for the date	Both members of the couple work together on the expenses	Same as level 3	Same as Level 3
Transportation	Each provides his or her own transportation to the date	The person asking provides the transportation	Both members work together on the transportation	Same as level 3	Same as level 3
Percentage of Focus of the Five Areas of Growth (Social Mental	Social 75% Mental 5% Emotional 5% Spiritual 10% Physical 5%	Social 50% Mental 15% Emotional 10% Spiritual 15% Physical 10%	Social 20% Mental 20% Emotional 20% Spiritual 20% Physical 20%	Same as level 3	Same as level 3

Emotional Spiritual Physical)					
Recommended Length of Time to Spend at Each Level	3-6 weeks	3-4 months	3-6 months	4 months-1yr (Must see each other through all four seasons)	Till Jesus comes back again..