

Dating (a 5-week GGC Gospel Growth series)

Week 1: An Introduction with guiding principals

Opening Interaction:

- What are 2-3 goals for you attending this dating series?

- Where does the word or concept of “dating” occur in the Bible? Where do we look in Scripture for wisdom on this topic?

1. Defining Dating – What are we talking about?

Write out your definition of Dating. Write out a typical SLC definition for dating.

2. What are some Guiding Principles for dating?

- What is **the goal of dating**?

- **1 Corinthians 10:31** “So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”
- Christian dating should be more focused on **holiness and spiritual growth** than getting my needs met.
 - **Philippians 2:3-4** “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.”
- Christian dating understands that the biblical path towards sexual intimacy is **commitment that leads to covenant which leads to physical intimacy.**
 - **Song of Solomon 2:7b** “Do not arouse or awaken love until it so desires.”
 - **1 Thessalonians 4:3-7** “For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust like [those] who do not know God; { that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness.”
- Christian dating understands that biblically, **a part of being a Christian is being accountable to others and seeking counsel.**
 - **Proverbs 12:15** “The way of a fool seems right to him, but a wise man listens to advice.”
 - **Proverbs 11:14** “Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (also, Proverbs 15:22)
- Reject “**Missional Dating**” (1 Cor. 7:39, 2 Cor 6:14)
- Pursue a **Healthy Balance.**