

Single & Single Again TUES NITES Meal, Message & Mixer “Landmines & Lifelines for Singleness & Dating – Part 4 Dating”

By Jane Stolz

Jane Stolz’s video teaching, handout, and audio Mp3 file of this message will be online to share with others at
www.christiansinglesindenver.com

Online Dating – Keep It Safe

Staying Anonymous for Awhile

Be Realistic

Use Common Sense

Proceed Slowly and Listen to Your Instinct

Be on the Lookout for Red Flags

Clarifying Group Dating

Song of Solomon 2: 8-17

8 Listen! My beloved! Look! Here he comes, leaping across the mountain, bounding over the hills. 9 My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look! There he stands behind our wall, gazing through the windows, peering through the lattice. 10 My beloved spoke and said to me, “Arise, my darling, my beautiful one, come with me. 11 See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. 12 Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land. 13 The fig tree forms its early fruit; the blossoming vines spread their fragrance. Arise, come, my darling; my beautiful one, come with me.” He 14 My dove in the clefts of the rock, in the hiding places on the mountainside, show me your face, let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely. 15 Catch for us the foxes, the little foxes that ruin the vineyards, our vineyards that are in bloom. She 16 My beloved is mine and I am his; he browses amount the lilies. 17 Until the day breaks and the shadows flee, turn, my beloved, and be like a gazelle or like a young stag on the rugged hills

Dating vs Courtship

Courtship takes four things:

Flexibility
Tenderness

Sensitivity
Holiness

In order to have a good courtship **4 things must occur** in the dating relationship.

1. **Wisdom** to properly evaluate the character of the person you’re going to court.
2. **Consistency** in Dating – You get along
3. **COMMUNICATION**
4. **Patience!**

We Should Bring Out The Best in One Another

You Should Feel

Desire & Life

One Time Only – You need to tell all!

Needs to be between you, your partner and God – **NO ONE ELSE!**

You can start something new and God can bless it! **God doesn’t just create, He re-creates.**

Guys, if you treat a girl like this and I conclude how that girl should feel!

He has her **Trust**

He **Cares** for her

What grows is her **TRUST, ADMIRATION and PASSION.**

She wants this man **ALL NIGHT LONG!**

Who takes the lead? **THE GUY** does. As women, we want the guy to lead. This guy takes control!

12 things to stay safe if on line dating

1. Arrange to meet

When meeting for the first time, never allow your date to pick you up from your home. In fact, your date shouldn't even know your home address yet!

2. Meet in public places.

For a first meeting, always meet in a public place where other people are in close proximity. You may also want to consider going out with a group of people, or a double date.

3. Go dutch by paying half of the bill.

It's always respectful for the man to offer to pay the bill. Unfortunately, some men ruin the gesture by expecting something in return. Therefore it may not be a bad idea for you to go dutch. Pay half the bill so that you won't feel under any obligation to "return" the favor.

4. Remember that alcohol affects your judgment.

The biggest threat to a person's judgment, when on a date, is alcohol. Not only does it affect your judgment, but alcohol also lessens your inhibitions. If you are drinking, keep your drink in sight at all times. Better yet, try to avoid alcohol on your first date.

5. Use your own mode of transportation.

Provide your own transportation to your public meeting place and make sure you have more than enough gas.

6. Don't assume they are safe.

It's important never to let your guard down when on a first date. Never assume a man/woman is safe just because they claim to be religious.

7. Don't let them know where you live.

If you want to see each other again, arrange a second date and then take it from there.

8. Avoid secluded areas.

Remember - stay in a public place for your first date and avoid secluded areas such as parks.

9. Listen to your gut.

If something doesn't feel right, it probably isn't. And if you haven't met before, and you know at the beginning of the date that something doesn't feel right, then leave immediately.

10. Always let someone else know where you're going. Be sure someone knows where you are going and who you'll be with. You might even consider arranging a time to call and check in. Or you could arrange to meet up with friends later that night.

11. Give your cell phone number.

It's safer to give out a cell phone number instead of your home phone number.

12. Always remain alert.

Even if you're having a blast and the chemistry is great, it's a good idea to remain alert the whole evening. Make sure you have a cell phone on you

Table Discussion Questions for this week:

1. What do you think of On-Line Dating?
Did you find the safety hints helpful tonight? Why?
2. With clarification of Group Dating do you see how this could be helpful in learning more about someone before dating them?
Would you now consider using this tool?
3. What are your thoughts between Dating and Courtship? Is this outdated or do you think it makes sense today?
4. Does the understanding of Courtship make better sense of how the relationship should progress?
5. Do you agree with tell all **ONCE** and that only being between you, your partner and God only?
6. What did you find helpful tonight?



HELPFUL TIPS for Great Table Discussions Each table should have a designated Table Host.

1. Use God's ear-to-mouth ratio:

Listen two times more than you speak. 1 or 2 people should not dominate the time, and EVERYONE should contribute during the discussion.

2. Smile and be friendly.

Avoid excessive complaining about people or personal problems.

3. God's grace rules the day

Recognize that everyone will not always agree – be gracious and give grace to one another. People are at different places in their spiritual walk and in their life journey.

4. Moving the discussion along.

Table host/facilitators are to move the discussion along. They have permission to limit any negative comments, to invite people to answer a question, to ask someone for their perspective, to limit the amount of time some people speak, and to move on to the next question.

5. Help for the hurting:

This is a supportive group, but it is not a support group or a therapy session. But if someone is really hurting, take a moment and have someone in the group specifically pray for them.