



TREASURES NATION
CONFERENCE

THY KINGDOM COME DAY 4

THE KINGDOM AND RELATIONSHIPS

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TOPIC: THY KINGDOM COME

SUB-TOPIC: The Kingdom and RELATIONSHIP

PREACHER: ODUGUWA ADEBANKEMO

KINGDOM

The Kingdom of God consists of a people driven by an authority, so much that anyone who will not follow or be subjected to that authority is counted-casted out.

Romans 14:17 “The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit”. Most importantly from this scripture, every one of the people in that kingdom has roles to play which are ensuring righteousness, peacefulness, and joyfulness amidst all the other fruits of the Holy Spirit.

The Kingdom of God consists of a people who are knitted together with certain others in patterns of Kingdom relationships.

These patterns of relationships make up Father-God’s family universally, thereby making us brothers and sisters in His household. This family is His habitation in heaven and on earth.

One purpose for these spiritual kingdom relationships is to encourage, strengthen, comfort, and build up one another in love so that we might be a people to His glory, a people among whom and in whom He can dwell in holiness. We do our part to accomplish this purpose by staying sensitive and obedient to the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 4:15-16 (NKJV) “...speaking the truth in love, may [we] grow up in all things into Him who is the head, what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.”

We need to stay sensitive and obedient to the Holy Spirit as we participate in one another's lives. So, it dawned on me that God craves me, like He didn't rest, get satisfied with all the good things He's been making and creating that He had to create me

RELATIONSHIP

Relationship is everything; companionship, friendship most of all RESPONSIBILITY.

The often asked questions like *“Do you love me?” “Are you a virgin?” “Will you provide my emotional, sensual, sexual, material, physical and financial needs?”* are usually not the questions to be asked at times.

Hard questions like *“Will you respond to, with and for me and will I do same to you”* are underrated in relationships when they should be exalted. In the chapter 1 of Genesis, it was recorded that God made man (male and female) in His own image.

Yet, in chapter 2vs18-23, God responded to the need of Adam, though he had not yet asked but God knew (remember that GOD knows our needs before we ask in the first place Matthew 6:8 in verse 18 and in verse 23, Adam responded to the gift, unvoiced request and maybe the perfect figure of a mate he could possibly not think of but wants so bad...then verse 24, says *“...therefore shall a man leave his people and cling to his wife”*.

All these things are **low-key responsibilities** but in the world we are in, we get to only think and expect the companionship especially the sexual part of communion

REMINDER if it were to be a discussion on the kingdom and (brotherly) relationships with family and friends as in Brothers and Sisters in the Lord, we may not have so much to push because Christianity is majorly about (caring for humanity) relating well and healthy with others. However, we are all related in the universal sense as His body—the general assembly of called-out-ones (ecclesia). So, each of us has our own unique pattern of relationships with whom we are personally knitted by divine appointment.

That's why we must pay keen interest and attention to the

- Concept (HOWS)
- People (WHOS)
- Reason (WHYS)

of our spiritual relationships.

NB: *Spiritual people have spiritual relationships*, no person is on your life to waste it except you defer the purpose or went dis-obedient.

Having established this, marital relationships are also bound by the same rules of a spiritual relationship, the only difference is that it requires and gives more in all forms.

*Do you know that God placed emotions in us to guide and lead us and one of the strongest weapons of warfare and Peace is OUR **EMOTIONS**?* When you wield Love, you get more, even the brain and other body

systems are active. When you wield hatred, you confuse, scatter, you fight. The devil knows this and uses it to torment us when we don't know which to wield and when to wield it. **Heb 5:14.**

THE CONCEPT

There is no doubt about it that God always has the best plans for our lives. As a matter of truth, He being the manufacturer knows the perfect module to set us on and in. His purpose in our lives is always to bless us and to guide us, to give us hope and a future (Jeremiah 29:11). The realm of friendship, dating, courting and marriage is no exception to this. In fact, I feel like God is so important in my (our) love life that He won't take the chance of allowing a mistake in it.

See, you and I know that you shouldn't think about a relationship with that girl because of her **SPECIAL** features but That God's will is physically and even martially too ugly for you.

We must be very careful and cautious in relying on our opinions, convictions and practices, as much of our natural thinking comes from the world's standards the social media, civilization, exposures, and our present culture not the Word of God. As in every area of our lives, we must ask ourselves What does God think about relationship as Christianity is concerned For example, *“What does God think about dating, courtship and marriage?”* or *“What is His concept for my marital relationship and even emotional crisis?”*

Our hearts to please God, to trust God, and seek God's will must lie at the foundation of our relationship practices and everything else we do.

THE WHOS

There is so many jokes about choosing life partners and I'm sure many of us are tired of those "Ways to know he/she is the one", "Choosing as a Christian" and other lovely books and guides to and in relationship but it looks more real in texts than in real life right? That means we must have a part to play.

In the bible and present age, we have several context and modules of choosing marital relationships.

- Some had word of knowledge
- Some saw the appealing partners
- Some were by choice (fashion and quest)

Maybe you like her FAT-pretty hot and thick but it seems your Spirit is giving you THIN-thin hot in nature...

What if she is the one and she doesn't agree?

What if you don't just love him?

Can't God understand that she's too thin or too fat?

His parents are somehow, He only has one pack and they have no car to pack there won't I suffer?

Whichever wish or style, we must always be cautious to **KNOW, RELY** and totally **TRUST** in and on **GOD'S** will...

The REASON

As earlier said, One purpose for these spiritual kingdom relationships is to encourage, strengthen, comfort, and build up one another in love so

that we might be a people to His glory, a people among whom and in whom He can dwell in holiness. You see, in the kingdom, there's always a reason for every move, always a purpose for everything.

John 3vs16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only Begotten (so) that whoever believes in Him, will have everlasting life

So, we must learn to do our part to accomplish this purpose by staying sensitive and obedient to the Holy Spirit.

Genesis 1 explains in verse 28 that we should replenish the earth, have children, control the things he made and in fact, made a Kingdom with us as the kings and queens.

I must mention that sex is a gift, beautiful gift of marriage and not just reason to get married. So, we must understand the Concept, apply it to know the Person, then keep the Reason intact

I will love to share some practical Dating practices alongside their biblical principles paraphrased from the Denver Church of Christ dating guidelines.

1. START WITH UNDIVIDED DEVOTION TO THE LORD Mark 12:29-30

The foundation of every disciple, child of God and believer is to “love the Lord with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”

Commitment and personal responsibility to God should be established individually before one can be responsible for another person or expect to fulfil another person.

Anything we do aside God's schedule and plan is a waste of time!

So, if we can have a life of devotion to Him, we are good to go in our relationships with others

Is it in your heart and possible to have undivided devotion to the Lord for the rest of your life with that person as a partner?

Some people are dating and they don't/can't pray together... Please bro/sis, how do you manage to call yourself spiritually sane? I believe this brings a picture of a big, fancy and expensive house (home) waiting to perish!

2. ENSURE A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS AMONG BRETHREN Mark 12:31

Embrace God's standards

Understand that God's will and our motivation for successful relationships between men & women/boys and girls are different than the standard which the world (movies, music, tradition, etc.) claims.

Some sister's lives have been totally hijacked by soap operas...they've reset many heads and fill it with Netflix stories while some brothers' are living the life of **007** who sleeps with every lady- enemy and friend

Is it your desire to have spiritual and healthy relationships with your brothers and sisters or partners?

3. DO NOT BE YOKED WITH AN UNBELIEVER 1 Corinthians 7:39; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1

Though 2 Corinthians 6 is not written specifically for dating or marital relationships, yet, God is expresses a consistent concern that Christians not be overly influenced by non-Christians.

A dating relationship between a Christian and a non-Christian could negatively influence the Christian's morals, convictions and priorities.

The vast majority of the time, this is indeed what happens.

Samson (strongest man), David (best hearted man), and Solomon (wisest man), all fell because of being yoked with unbelievers, which resulted in extremely negative consequences for their lives and families.

What are their convictions about salvation, Lordship, purity, and purpose? If they are not true Christians according to Scripture, you should not pursue that relationship.

Is it your desire to make sure you are not yoked together with unbelievers?

I presently know that some of us are in love but according to **1Cor13**

How can you love a pagan and be comfortable with their strange gods?

4. SEEK ADVICE Proverbs 11:14

People perish for the lack of knowledge...

It is wise and beneficial for you to seek advice in matters of dating: "Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisors they succeed." Emotions can cloud our judgment—seek advice to find objectivity.

Seek advice from people with godly examples and experience in Christian dating (parents, mentors, teen leaders, ministry staff, and mature dating couples).

Is it your heart to seek advice? I believe strongly that when you learn from others, you don't make their mistakes...instead, you get hacks on those portions and ride on their backs. Stop being "**all knowing**"

5. GODLY STANDARD FOR PURITY 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

God's standard for sexual purity is not a suggestion, but a command, and it is very clear. God's standard for purity can build deeper friendships and establish greater trust between brothers and sisters.

Know your sinful nature and establish healthy boundaries for you and those whom you date. Be open and honest with strong Christians if you do begin to struggle or compromise. Let us know when the heat have burn you. The truth is, we are all trying, No be say one person holy pass. [Never make an agreement to not be open. If there's a past hurt and related such, share them. No terrible surprises on wedding night.

If you're bald as a sister, tell him, some guys love bald sisters. If e worse, he'll buy you wigs

So, is it your heart and desire to remain absolutely pure in your dating relationships?

6. GUARD YOUR HEART (Proverbs 4:23)

Guard your heart against temptations of impurity, loneliness, bitterness, discouragement, jealousy, idolatry, worldliness, selfishness, pride, and envy.

Help guard the hearts of others as well the one, we have to set a table before ourselves because, if you truly loves someone, YOU WILL

ALWAYS want to be around them, touch them, play with them and all sorts with them but crossing the line is the red flag. You MUST be vigilant. The devil likes fishing people when they're most vulnerable

Is it your heart to guard your heart through prayer, application of God's word and openness?

7. ACCEPT ONE ANOTHER (Romans 14:1-23; 15:7; Colossians 3:12-14)

Accept one another as Christ has accepted you—accept differences of age, life experiences, temperaments, socioeconomics, ministries, dating circumstances, convictions, and interests: One size does not fit all.

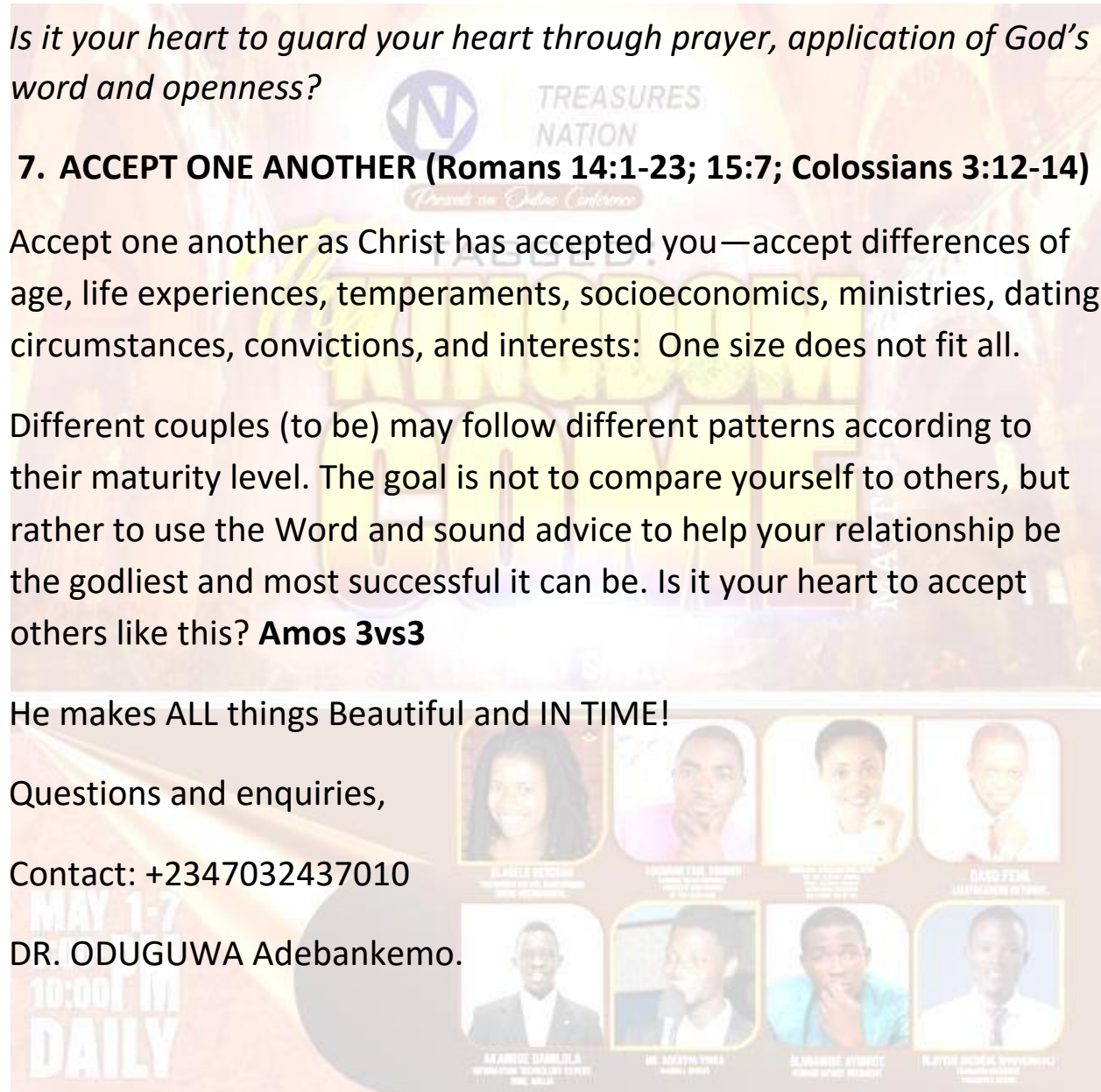
Different couples (to be) may follow different patterns according to their maturity level. The goal is not to compare yourself to others, but rather to use the Word and sound advice to help your relationship be the godliest and most successful it can be. Is it your heart to accept others like this? **Amos 3vs3**

He makes ALL things Beautiful and IN TIME!

Questions and enquiries,

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SHALOM.