

sex and dating

introduction

Divide the club into one small group of guys and one small group of girls. Then read the following letter to introduce today's message from 1 Corinthians 6:18-20.

I'm 16 years old, and I've been dating this guy for about six months. I like him a lot, but I'm not sure if he's "the one" for me. I want to spend time with him, but I'm not sure if I should get more serious than I already am. I'm a little afraid. Many of my friends have already had sex and usually their relationships don't last long after they do. Can you help me? What should I do?
Tara

If you had to respond to this letter, what would you say? What are some guidelines on sex and dating that this girl needs to hear? (Have someone read 1 Corinthians 6:18-20.)

message

1. The Bible says to flee from all sexual immorality. When we sin sexually, we sin against our own body, and the Bible calls the body of a Christian the temple of the Holy Spirit. So to sin against our body is the same as to sin against the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit.
2. Every person we date should be viewed as a potential spouse. We should carefully choose our dates.
3. In today's world it might be wiser to "group date." You are much safer with a group, and a group lets you develop more than the physical aspects of a relationship. Remember, long-term relationships are built on the ability to communicate and enjoy another person as a friend.
4. The idea of taking a stand for what you believe because "you have been bought with a price" seems a little out of place today, but we must do so. Check out 1 Corinthians 6:19-20: "You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body."

salvation appeal

If, after hearing this devotional, you sense a need to start over, you can make that choice right now. Ask Jesus Christ to cleanse you and make you whole. Ask Him to be the Lord of your relationships.

challenge

Tara's questions and concerns were legitimate and real. The most important thing is to know our limits. Our bodies are a physical extension of a spiritual commitment. Don't view these principals as rules but rather as the loving hand of our Father who knows what is best for us.

