



Save The Date | Shawn Johnson | 02.11.2024

Weekly Study

SHARE

As group members get settled, take a few minutes to check in with everyone and see how life is going. Share an exciting story from this week, your highs and lows, an answered prayer, or something you're struggling with. If someone is really struggling, rally the group around them and take a few moments to pray over them.

What's something weird that happened this week that made you giggle?

What's your most awkward first date story?

What couple in your life do you really look up to and why?

GROW

Welcome to week 2 of our relationship series, *Save The Date*. In today's ever-evolving world, navigating the dating scene can be quite a challenge, especially if you're trying to find someone who shares your faith and values, as we all should. God created us for relationships, both with him and with others, so it only makes sense for us to look at scripture for sound advice about dating. This week, Shawn shared four biblical strategies for dating to help us ensure that our relationships, and pursuit of them, align with our faith and values in such a way that brings us, and our relationships, closer to God. The four strategies are:

- 1. Look for God to complete you**
- 2. Look in the right places**
- 3. Pray before you look**

4. Know what you're looking for

Read Colossians 2:10 NLT

What were your biggest takeaways from this week's message?

Whether you're single, dating, or married, what would it look like to embody the four strategies above regarding relationships? What about other aspects of life?

Do you find your value, worth, and identity in Christ or in other people/things? explain

M O V E

Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 NIV, 2 Corinthians 6:14 ESV

We've all heard the saying, "Show me your friends, and I'll show you your future." The same goes for intimate relationships. The person you choose to do life with will heavily influence the trajectory of your life. In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul warned us of this when he said not to yoke ourselves to those whose lives do not share the same biblical foundation as ours. Now, this is not saying to cut people out of our lives who believe differently - we are all called to go to the ends of the earth and make disciples, which requires doing life with, and around people who think and believe differently than us - but we must carefully consider who we spend our life with and allow in our inner circle.

Do the people in your life, or the people you want in your life, pass the 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 test? Put _____'s name wherever you see "love" or "it" in the verse. You can do this with friends, significant others, or people you have an interest in pursuing. Do major red flags come up when you do this, or does this person really embody these traits?

Think of Shawn's analogy of the Yoke and oxen. Where are you trying to go in life? What are your dreams, goals, and desires? Are the people you're currently "yoked" to keeping you on track, or are they steering you in the wrong direction? Explain.

It's so easy to make a list of characteristics, traits, values, skills, etc., that we desire in other people, but very few of us ask ourselves if we would pass our own test. Is your character, faith, and integrity something others would want in their life? What are some things that you might need to work on?

P R A Y

God, thank you for designing us for relationships, both with you and with others. Would you remind us that if we desire strong, healthy, fruitful relationships with others, we must first seek those things in our relationship with you? Whether we are single, dating, engaged, married, divorced, widowed, or anything in between, will you give us the wisdom and discernment to lean into our relationships with you and your love for us at the forefront of everything we do, guiding us every step of the way.