

A romantic image of a couple holding hands, with a soft pink overlay. The person on the left is wearing jeans and a white shirt, while the person on the right is wearing a light-colored shirt. The background is a blurred outdoor setting.

How to Attract
**YOUR PERFECT
SOUL MATE**

(MEET GOD'S BEST FOR YOU; GET MARRIED SOON...)

SEUN OLADELE

DEDICATION

To my dear husband, my best friend, my lover, my perfect soul mate.

APPRECIATION

The Lord Jesus Christ who inspires me to write every time I hold
my pen.

My darling husband, for his support, encouragement and
unflinching sacrifice to take care of the kids as I write this book.

My awesome kids for showing understanding whenever mummy
needs time to write.

I love you all.

INTRODUCTION

A great marriage is between two soul mates! You don't marry because everybody is marrying or age is no longer on your side. You marry because you have found your soul mate; you can't do without them and you want to spend the rest of your life with them.

How do you locate your perfect soul mate? How do you meet your bone and flesh? What are the things you need to do to attract your future partner? How can you avoid heartache and pains in relationship?

How can you avoid the wrong ones, connect with and marry God's perfect will for your life? That is what this book is about.

If you can apply the principles taught, you will find yourself getting married soon and enjoying unlimited bliss in your marriage!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DEDICATION.....	2
APPRECIATION	3
INTRODUCTION.....	4
CHAPTER 1	6
WHO IS YOUR SOUL MATE?	6
CHAPTER 2	15
WHERE IS YOUR SOUL MATE?.....	15
CHAPTER 3	27
HOW TO ATTRACT YOUR SOUL MATE AS A LADY.....	27
CHAPTER 4	46
HOW TO ATTRACT YOUR SOUL MATE AS A YOUNG MAN	46
CHAPTER 5	57
HAVE YOU FOUND THE RIGHT PERSON?.....	57
CHAPTER 6	64
IS IT LIKE OR LOVE?	64
CHAPTER 7	71
IS SHE THE RIGHT WOMAN FOR ME?.....	71
CHAPTER 8	78
HOW TO HANDLE COURTSHIP	78
CHAPTER 9	96
CHAPTER 10	111
NOW THAT YOU HAVE FOUND YOUR SOUL MATE.....	111
CHAPTER 11	120
WHILE YOU ARE WAITING FOR YOUR SOUL MATE.....	120
ABOUT THE AUTHOR	126
CONTACT US	127

CHAPTER 1

WHO IS YOUR SOUL MATE?

Your soul mate is that man/woman who understands you most on earth. They are your best friend. He or she is the person you are comfortable with, someone you can be yourself around. Someone you do not need to pretend to gain their acceptance. They love and accept you perfectly the way you are. Your weaknesses do not drive them mad, they rather create compassion in them. They celebrate your uniqueness. They value your friendship, they make sacrifices to make you happy.

When you meet them, it's like you met your twin sister/ brother. It's like you've known them for ages. Your lives mysteriously fit each other and you understand the rhythm in their hearts, you provide the wordings and together, you create a sweet melody with your friendship. That is your true bone and flesh, that is your best friend ever, that is your perfect husband/Wife.

Life's challenges hit everyone. When others run away due to your challenges, your soul mate will stick to you. They will never leave you nor forsake you. He is the friend that sticketh closer than a brother. She is ready to travel this world with you regardless of the challenges you face, she will be there with you all through; encouraging, motivating and spurring you on.

Your soul mate focuses more on the relationship than sex. Premarital sex is not the primary purpose of being in a relationship with you. Companionship, friendship and a godly marriage is their focus.

Your soul mate hates to see you in trouble. They are quick to help out. When you are in trouble, they are in trouble! If you are going through pain, they feel the pain and are restless till you recover. When you fall sick, they are sick, when you are in sorrow, they feel it and they are there to comfort, soothe and help you heal.

Physical appearance is not the number one reason they are in relationships with you. Your handsomeness or beauty is not the only thing they saw.

They saw beyond the physical, they dug into your soul; they saw similarities, compatibility. They saw marriage potentials, they clicked with you, held your hand and never want to let you go.

Your physical flaws do not scare them. You may be small breasted, short or have huge tribal marks, it does not reduce their attraction for you, infact, it endears them the more.

Your skin colour does not affect them. Being extremely beautiful or handsome does not reduce their love, affection or make them feel insecure or jealous. They love you just the way you are. No matter your defects, you are just attractive, appealing and admirable to them.

Your soul mate is your life partner: your husband, your wife. When you meet one hold them tight and do not let them go...

TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE?

Some people believe marrying one's soul mate is a complete fallacy. It is an emotional hype to get singles feel good momentarily. It's something that simply does not exist.

Some guys believe good ladies are scarce. If you are lucky to have one, then, you must be a rare specie. Some ladies believe good men are almost non-existent. If you are lucky to find a good man whether soul mate or not, jump at it!

Not every good person is meant for you. Someone can be good but not good for you. That is one of the problems most prophecy seekers face. The prophet/prophetess tells them the person they came to pray about is good, the lady/guy jumps at it, rushes into the arms of the proposer/ proposee, rushes into marriage, only to realize later they've made the greatest mistake of their lives!

This is not just about getting married. It is getting married to your soul mate, your real bone and flesh, your better half, your best

friend, your personal person, your husband or wife. That is what this book is about.

Many marriages are suffering because people are getting married to strangers they have no single feeling or affection for in the name of God's will. Romance, friendship, passion and affection are dying very fast in many marriages because religion has blinded so many people's eyes from picking the man/woman who fit, suit and agrees with their destiny!

Your perfect soul mate exists. The man/woman who will cherish, love and totally adore you is on this planet earth, waiting, desiring and yearning to meet you. How do you locate each other? Where can you find them? You will find out in the next chapter.

MUST YOU MARRY YOUR SOUL MATE?

Yes, you must. Marrying your best friend is what will make your marriage a heaven on earth experience for you. There is nothing like living with your best friend. Someone you can be yourself around, laugh easily with, play with, have fun with and feel no hang up towards. Your soul mate makes life wonderful for you. They accept and love you the way you are: your flaws, your idiosyncrasies, your weaknesses and all.

Most marriages are in shambles today because many are living with strangers not a husband or wife. The wife can't be herself around her husband likewise the man around his wife. That is why you should not be desperate for marriage or settle down with just anybody because you feel you are getting old, feel pressured or all your mates and siblings are getting married.

Secrecy which leads to emotional and sexual affairs is increasing daily because more singles are getting married to strangers whom they cannot reveal their hearts to. The only time they are naked is when they want to have sex, nothing more.

For a marriage to succeed, you must be naked in every area of your life with nothing to hide. "And they were both naked and not ashamed." (Genesis 2:25) Secrecy, lies, pretense is not allowed in a marriage that will last. For more information on openness, honest communication and how to build a heart to heart relationship with your spouse, read my e-book: LIES THAT BREAK MAREIAGES, it will help a lot.

You need a solid, sound, self-esteem to succeed in life. Because your soul mate accepts you completely, celebrates you and admires you despite your flaws, you develop a sound, strong, healthy self-esteem which helps you gain confidence and succeed in life. Marrying your soul mate will help you achieve spiritual, physical and financial success in life.

What's more? Your sexual life in marriage will be bliss. Many married women have been married for years without experiencing a single orgasm, no sexual enjoyment. They erroneously thought what makes you enjoy sex is talking dirty, trying different styles and positions, large manhood or big breasts size, that is far from the truth.

What makes you really enjoy love making as a man is your level of intimacy and deep friendship with her, you will want to merge, have sex over and over again and give her orgasm every time you have intercourse (Note: sex is strictly for the married).

Some couples hate having sex with each other because there is no chemistry, no emotional intimacy, no connection. They are just two strangers living under one roof. When there is no emotional connection, sex is the last thing you want to have with your spouse.

You will grow spiritually. You will have peace, joy and inner strength to serve God. Because you share the same spiritual beliefs, it is easy to encourage each other, motivate, inspire and challenge each other to have a deeper relationship with Christ.

You will succeed in life. Because they are your best pal, ally, cheer leader and partner, you will find it easy to succeed; you develop the confidence for exploits and end up becoming an international super star.

You will make heaven. It's easier to live a holy life with a spouse who believes in holiness and encourages you to do same.

CHAPTER 2

WHERE IS YOUR SOUL MATE?

If you are a Christian, the first thing you may think is church. Some soul mates are not even found in church. Don't limit meeting your soul mate to a church. Many devils are in church today, many Jezebels are in the choir looking for a man to pull down. There are many incarnated demons climbing the pulpit to preach today. Marrying them means marrying the devil himself.

Countless stories abound of so called Christian brothers beating their wives to death. Some Pastors are mentally, psychologically, emotionally, financially, socially abusing their wives, divorcing or maiming them! Your husband doesn't have to wear a Pastor's suit before they can be good husbands, she doesn't need to speak in tongues before you approve them as your soul mate. "God looks at the heart but man looks at the outward appearance." (I Samuel 6:17).

There is a difference between looking holy and being holy. Marry someone who has God at the center of their hearts, they have character, genuinely love you and are decent regardless of where you meet them.

You may meet them in church and you may not. You may meet them in school, at work, at a social function, in a gym, at a seminar, conference or symposium. Always be sensitive to God's leading. You can meet them anywhere.

WHERE YOU SHOULD NOT LOOK FOR A SOUL MATE

1. IN A CLUB: You don't expect to meet a responsible man/woman in a beer filled, massive drinking, cigarette smoking club filled with strippers, whores and pimps, who do you intend to marry? A prostitute? A play boy? A pimp? You will marry your kind though. If you are an addicted clubber with no vision of a bright future, you may meet your soul mate there. This book is for serious minded singles who want to marry gloriously and settle down to a life of bliss, joy and prosperity not for strippers and clubbers so a club is a no-no to get a soul mate.

2. AMONG UNBELIEVERS.

God states it clearly in 2 Corinthians 6:14-18, "do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers, for what has light got to do with darkness..." light and darkness don't mix, you already know that. Don't waste your time, your soul mate is not there. A person who is not born again like you are will show you hell in marriage.

3. AMONG YOUR ENEMIES

This is obvious. No one wants to marry his enemy. But more people are getting married to their enemies than they realize.

There are some people who appear like friends but they are destroying you behind your back. They are called frenemy (friendly enemies). They are people who ridicule you, make fun of you, never believe in your future or always push you into trouble yet they appear loving and caring.

Your soul mate will never betray you! They are not Judas the Iscariot. They will not push you into evil and watch you cry for their help. Your soul mate will never leave you nor forsake you. They stand by you, regardless of the challenges you face.

The fair weather friends are only in your life for what to gain. When you start having challenges, they will disappear into thin air! You can't marry this type of person.

4. AMONG YOUR COMPETITORS.

You can't find a soul mate among your competitors. Your soul mate is not out to compete with you but complement, complete and perfect your life.

Your success does not threaten them, it rather gives them pleasure. They see no reason to fight for attention on your stage. They like to see you perform on your stage.

If your fiancé is always competing with you and they are jealous of your success, you are with someone else's bone and flesh!

If these are not the right places to find your soul mate, where then can you find them?

WHERE TO FIND YOUR SOUL MATE

1. CHURCH: Yes, satan himself now attend churches and there are demons in the choirs. Even some pastors can't be trusted with the opposite sex in this 21st century. Notwithstanding, there are still godly ones in church and yes, you can find your soul mate among them. As you go to church and serve the Lord, God may lead you to your soul mate and your life will take a 360 degree positive turn from that time forward.

However, we should be careful not to turn church to a dating site where you go pick a husband/wife then disappear into thin air!

God is not a hit and run puppet whose brain can be twisted with a few dollars in the offering bowl. He is a principled, unchanging God who rules the affairs of men.

If you want Him to lead you to your soul mate, you must give your life to Him, stay committed to Him, serve Him and seek His interest first then He will bring your true bone and flesh to you.

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness, all other things shall be added to you" (Matthew 6:33) is what the Bible says. Your wife or husband is an addition of God's blessings after you have served Him faithfully.

2. AT SCHOOL

I'm talking about the higher institution not secondary school. Some people met their soul mates at the university, polytechnic or college of education and their lives never remained the same. E.g, Late Pastor Bimbo Odukoya met Pastor Taiwo Odukoya at University of Ibadan. Mike Bamiloye of Mount Zion films met his wife at the college of education they both attended back then. Dr. Ben Carson met his wife at Yale University. I met my husband at school too. Always be sensitive to God's leading, He can bring your soul mate to where you least expect.

However, God will not give his precious son/daughter to an irresponsible, unserious and sex addicted person who will ruin his child. No one gets attracted to an idle, boyfriend / girlfriend seeking, lazy, spiritually down students and build any meaningful relationship with them. Your primary aim of being in school is to

study, face it squarely and serve the Lord with all your heart in your fellowship as you do so.

Pastor Bimbo was busy serving God with all her heart when Pastor Taiwo showed up. Dr. Ben Carson was an A student at the university. He was passionate about God and committed to his life's vision when his wife saw him.

Mike Bamiloye was very busy running his God-given drama ministry when Gloria Bamiloye met him and instantly fell in love with his personality. I was busy with my academics and serving the Lord with all my heart when hubby saw me. A word of prophecy was delivered to my younger sister in Lagos while I was away at school that "God has seen your sister's service and commitment to Him. He will bless her with a good husband." I wasn't aware any prophecy went ahead in Lagos. I was busy serving the Lord and he sure gave me the best man in the world.

We met at school, courted beautifully while scoring 'As' in our different departments. We were very serious, highly responsible, passionate about our vision, gave our academics the best shot and

served the Lord with all our hearts while pursuing holiness every single day we were on campus. Seek God and not a boyfriend/girlfriend and He will surely surprise you (Matthew 6:33).

3. AT WORK

Some have met their soul mates at work. If you are sensitive to God and your inner self, you will notice one of your colleagues is picking you out from the rest, spending time with you and showing you special interest.

However, no one gets attracted to a lazy, complaining, idle, dull, passive, laid back, gossiping and critical staff. If you want a quality man/woman to be attracted to you, you must live a quality life worth emulating and admiring.

Soul mates have same things in common; they share core values and principles. They respect each other's philosophy and ideology. If you want must marry a quality man you must be a correct woman yourself, vice versa.

Be serious at your job. Make friends with positive people. Take your job seriously. Never be caught dead gossiping or loafing around. Do not steal company's time and resources for personal gain, it will backfire one day. Be honest, truthful, sincere and hardworking, your soul mate will discover you are different and seek to have a special relationship with you.

4. AT SEMINARS OR SPECIAL PROGRAMMES: God works in mysterious ways. You may meet your soul mate at a programme, conference, symposium or seminar. Someone may walk up to you and strike up a conversation, ask a question or an observation may bring you together.

Always be friendly, open minded and sensitive, you may meet your soul mate where you least expect.

5. ON THE ROAD

It sounds funny but it is possible. Bishop David Oyedepo met his wife at the bus top. Always wear good character like a badge. Stop dressing like a whore, stop looking like an 'area boy'. Have a

smiling face. Treat people right, be cautious. You may meet your future partner on the road.

Ladies who are hot tempered and like to fight dirty with bus conductors, Okada men and strangers are simply working against their marital destiny.

People are watching you. Your potential suitor is watching you. News spread faster than you think.

Someone somewhere who may know the man who has your interest at heart may be at the scene of the fight.

The driver or conductor you are fighting may somehow be related to your potential suitor.

I read the story of a lady who abused and washed an elderly woman with her sharp tongue in a bus.

The lady refused to be pacified. She was short tempered, abrasive and rude. She satisfied herself thoroughly till she alighted.

She later got engaged and her excited fiancé took her home to his mother, the moment she stepped in, she came face to face with the woman she abused in the bus. She couldn't say anything. She left the place quietly and that was the end of her courtship to that man. May you not offend your destiny helper.

Same for men who are very proud because of their education, social position or job that they look down on potentially great women because they are not their match today, not knowing the woman has the potential to multiply his life into untold wealth few months/years after marriage. Again, may you not miss your destiny helper in Jesus' name.

6. AT A SOCIAL FUNCTION: like wedding, naming ceremony or birthday. You may meet your soul mate there.

Always dress decently to any social function. Take time to dress well, look good and smell nice brother.

Lots of people met their spouses at a wedding or social function. Don't hang around unserious singles at social functions.

Dress maturely, talk maturely, relate with people maturely. Your soul mate may be there watching you, monitoring you.

Always live your life as if you are being watched as a single lady because men are really watching you.

No man will jump from the moon to propose. It will be among your acquaintances, friends or colleagues who have been watching you over a period of time.

Don't be known for being rude and rash as a young man. If news spread around that you are a lazy, gossiping, proud, pompous fellow, no woman will show interest in you talk less of accepting your marriage proposal, be decent, mature and well behaved always.

CHAPTER 3

HOW TO ATTRACT YOUR SOUL MATE AS A LADY

Here are the things you need to do as a lady to attract your perfect soul mate and get married soon. If you are lagging behind in any area listed, you seriously need to work on it.

APPEARANCE

It is there in the bible: "Man looks at the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart." Someone said, "A good appearance is at premium everywhere, it announces you before you speak."

Abraham knew his wife was very beautiful. Jacob saw Rachael and concluded she was beautiful in every way while Leah only had beautiful eyes. When Adam SAW Eve, he exclaimed! You must give men something good to SEE before they approach you.

Yes, you must have good character. We are going to talk extensively on that but he has to see you first before he knows

you are a responsible young woman. When a man looks at you, what does he SEE?

1. YOUR HAIR

Will he see rough, smelling, dandruff filled, tangled, long overdue hair or well combed, well arranged, neatly done hair?

All these sisters who are going to heaven and refuse to make their hair need to go alone, no need to get married. If you must marry before the trumpet sounds, you must take good care of your looks before the trumpet sounds!

Get a good hair dresser who knows how to do hairstyles that fits the shape of your head.

You don't just do what is in vogue, you do what fits you. There are different styles that fit different head shapes and sizes. Make your hair as soon as it is due; don't wait till it becomes a nuisance to everyone around you.

Set aside money weekly, bi-weekly or monthly for your hair do, it's the first thing people notice about you. It's worth the investment. If your hectic and busy schedule at the office won't spare you time to make your hair, either cut it low or invest in good wigs, braids and styles that last at least a month.

Ensure you look good and clean always. Investment in a positive, attractive image is never a wasted investment.

2. YOUR FACE

How does it look like? Check it in the mirror. Eczema, rashes, pimples, discoloration and what else? You need to get rid of these things if you want your prince charming to get attracted to you and marry you. Invest in good cream that clear rashes and upgrade your hygiene. Dirt among other things is responsible for eczema.

You will do well to clean your face at least twice daily with facial cleanser and apply appropriate (not bleaching) cream to clear all the rashes. Always have a smooth, silk, supple face, it's attractive, it's endearing.

3. YOUR MOUTH

Avoid mouth odour at all cost. Brush your teeth at least twice daily. Morning and night. Your teeth should be sparkling clean, your breath fresh. If you have serious issues with mouth odour despite regular hygiene, you may need to see a dentist. If your job requires closing your mouth for a long time, you may need to chew mint gum occasionally to keep the mouth fresh. Use good toothpaste like 'close up' to brush your teeth. Some toothpastes cause mouth odour, tooth ache and decay.

Avoid going about with cracked lips. Apply lip gloss to keep it soft and succulent. Your lipstick should be something that suits your complexion not bizarre.

Make up should be done in moderation. Real men want to marry real women not ghosts or fake, Barbie dolls.

Avoid heavy, outrageous make up, keep it modest and decent. It shouldn't be something that cloud your real face completely that you are barely recognized without it.

You must love yourself for who you are. Celebrate yourself, appreciate yourself, admire yourself.

When you have a good self-esteem, you won't need to colour or discolour your face for some man who doesn't care you even exist.

4. YOUR DRESSING

Men love smart women. Always appear smart not like grandma Moses or an aged, depressed woman nearing her grave.

Your clothes should be neat and well ironed.

Wear clothes that fit your body shape. Don't force yourself to wear clothes designed for women with large hips if your hip is small or moderate, it will look funny on you. Google the Internet and find out about your body shape and the kind of clothes you can wear.

Avoid indecent dressing please if you must attract your soul mate. Know the type of clothes to wear indoors, the type to wear in your compound and the one to wear to an occasion.

There are some dresses that are okay for indoors only. You shouldn't be caught dead wearing it in your compound talk less of wearing it on the street. A good example is bum short. How you appear determines how you are addressed. If you are always attracting play boys whose major interest in you is to have sex and dump you, you need to check your dress and your attitude towards the opposite sex.

Some ladies rush out of their apartments in tubes, strapless and transparent clothes with no bra or pant underneath with the excuse they want to quickly buy something across the street, it doesn't dignify you sister. It adds no respect to you. It makes you look immature and repulsive.

No godly, responsible man gets attracted to that kind of lady. He wants a wife material with dignity and self honour not an immature, lousy thinking/dressing young woman.

Watch how you dress, you can meet your soul mate unexpectedly anywhere. Always dress in preparation to meet your king. When

God sees your readiness and decency, he will send the godly, responsible man across your way.

5. YOUR FOOT WEAR: must fit the occasion. Don't wear Dunlop slippers to where you should wear stiletto. Wear something that makes you comfortable though. Don't wear high heels if it will break your ankles and heels. Tight shoes can bruise your feet.

If you must compulsorily wear an high heel to the occasion, you can leave home in flats or slip-ons, when you are almost at the venue, change to high heels, remove after the event and go back home in slip-on, that's better.

Some ladies are used to high heels all their lives. Don't copy them and even try their 'swag', you may fall in the middle of an express road!

I see ladies in church who look like they are going through labour pain. The shoes were high and they were sweating hard to lift one foot after the other.

Your soul mate will still admire you without the high heels. You can go for middle heels if you must wear high heels because of your short stature so you can smile freely at people.

I rarely see ladies in extremely high heels smile. They are too much in pain to recognize the human beings all around them.

Wear something comfortable. Be at peace and smile at people.

6. SMILE...

Smiling ladies are always attractive. You can't be looking for a soul mate and be frowning. No one wants to hang around a depressed, sad, frustrated, angry, bitter person.

There are some ladies who look three times older than their age because of their constant bitter look. It takes lots of facial muscles to frown but very few to smile. That is why smiling ladies look younger, fresher, prettier and attractive.

Stop looking like you are carrying the problem of the whole world on your head. Learn to smile from your eyes not the fake smile that begins from the mouth.

Genuine smile make you look approachable. It depicts you as a friendly, kind hearted person people can easily relate with. Smiling makes you look more attractive and prettier. Potential suitors find you admirable.

Smiling makes you appear friendly. You will easily make friends with people including the opposite sex and your future husband may eventually show up among your friends.

Smiling dissipates worry, clears depression, gives way to joy and multiplies your peace.

When you ooze these qualities, men will want to associate with you, right, left and center.

7. BE FRIENDLY

The Bible states it clearly: "A man who hath friends must himself be friendly."

No one associates with an anti-social lady. If you want men to be drawn to you like magnet, you must be very friendly.

Approach people with a beautiful smile on your face. Show interest in people. Be fun to hang around with. Learn how to engage in good conversations. Be a good listener and an excellent conversationalist. Know how to start and end conversations when necessary. Learn to make intelligent, logical, meaningful and wise contributions to discussions. Read **HOW TO WIN FRIENDS AND INFLUENCE PEOPLE** by **Dale Carnegie**. It will help a lot.

8. BE HUMBLE

Humble ladies attract suitors the way sugar attract ants. Humility is scarce and no man can do without a humble woman. When you humble yourself before God and all men, potential suitors will run after you.

Humility is not about kneeling in the dust to greet people. Many fake ladies can kneel for anything to get a husband but inside they are proud, rude, malicious and very bitter.

Genuine humility manifests in kindness, thoughtfulness, respect for others and those in authority. Teachability, meekness, self-control and putting others' welfare ahead of yours. Humble ladies are also good listeners; they do not cut others off in the middle of sentences. They respect others' opinion. Ladies like this are rare. They are the real wife materials who have the capacity to submit to their husbands in marriage.

If you are proud, saucy, rude, pompous, arrogant, myopic, self-opinionated, sassy, garrulous, snobbish and haughty, you will stay single for a long long time.

9. CONFIDENCE

Men are attracted to confident ladies. A lady who knows her worth, who knows what she carries, who has a big vision for her life, knows exactly why she is on earth and is doing everything in

her power to get there is an instant magnet to attractive men. Confidence is attractive any day, any time.

You show confidence when you have a good self-esteem, you respect yourself, you carry yourself with dignity, respect and honour.

You do not fidget when you want to talk. You think through and boldly say what need to be said without fidgeting. You are not confused. You do not copy others or do what is on vogue. You are in a class of your own.

You have a strong relationship with God and your trust in Him is intact." They that do know their God shall be strong and do exploits." Because you know your God, you do exploits in your studies, career, business, ministry or vision. Be a confident woman. Men will trip over themselves to marry you.

10. INTELLIGENCE

Intelligent ladies are attractive. Ladies who can contribute meaningfully to discussions and provide solutions to disturbing problems. Most ladies get scared when they hear the word "intelligence." Some believe they are not anything near those in that category. Some young ladies pathetically believe they are dull, stupid, foolish and can never ever be intelligent. They have very low self-esteem, say negative things about themselves and live a defeated life, 365 days year in, year out.

There is no big deal about intelligence. We all have basic intelligence. Your walking on 2 legs not on your hand is a measure of intelligence. If you can read and write, that is basic intelligence. If you can answer your name correctly that is intelligence. However, intelligence can be increased and to increase it is not a problem at all. All you need to do is read wide in your field or chosen interest, make research, ask questions and you will soon begin to display a high level of intelligence in that area.

The challenge of most ladies today is laziness and apathy. They don't want to read but can watch movies from morning till night. Any wonder you have low self-esteem and a battered self-image?

11. BE LOVING

The Bible says "owe no man anything but to love one another." Loving ladies always have men line up to marry them.

Love your enemies. Do good to them that despise or hate you. Do not repay evil for evil to those who hurt you. Practice Romans 12 in your daily interaction with people.

12. LEARN TO MAKE MONEY

Every man is looking for an asset, not a liability. The cost of living is high these days. Men want women who can share in the responsibility or contribute a little quota to ease the burden of running the home.

Do not spend all your single years begging men for recharge cards and money for menstrual pad.

No man wants to marry a leech, a blood sucker, a lazy, idle fellow who cannot use her brain to make a single kobo for herself.

Men love to give to the woman they love especially if it comes from their hearts and you are not pushing for it.

Learn to make money lady and stop parading yourself like a beggar!

Use your God-given brain to think of what you can do to make money, take good care of yourself and look pretty instead of waiting for weeks and months on end to collect money from a frustrated boyfriend/fiance or whatever you call him before you can do whatever needs done in your life! Work with your two hands! Men will respect you for it and will seek to marry you!

13. BE HARDWORKING

Many ladies are professional beggars today because they are too lazy to work.

Be hard working! Don't stay idle at home because you are looking for a job that pays 100k. An idle hand is the devil's workshop. Whatever is not used begins to decay.

When you refuse to use your brain, hands and legs, they start decaying! You start moving around sharing gossips instead of great ideas that will literally transform the world!

Be humble. Start somewhere and grow big. If you want to do business, work hard to raise money and invest in a profitable business.

14. KEEP RIGHT COMPANY

Countless ladies have lost their husbands because of the wrong company they keep. A man likes to do an underground work before approaching a lady for marriage.

If he notices you move with unserious elements, clubbers, prostitutes, home breakers and godless, sodomic, gossiping, idle loafers, he will conclude that is who you are and stay away from you. The adage, "show me your friend and I will tell you who you

are" is relevant till tomorrow. You will be judged by the company you keep. If you don't want to be seen as an unserious, immoral, lousy lady, stop moving with those whose character are questionable.

15. RESPECT AUTHORITIES

If you are rude to your boss, Pastor, youth Pastor and those in authority above you, you can never submit to your husband in marriage and that is a recipe for marital disaster. Yes, you are getting married to your soul mate, your best friend, that doesn't mean you should be rude to him. God states it clearly in 1 Peter 3:1 that wives are to submit to their own husbands. Now is the time to learn submission as a single lady by respecting men generally and submitting to authorities above you regardless of their weaknesses then it will be easy to submit to your husband in marriage.

16. BE PRAYERFUL

Every man wants to marry a praying wife. A woman who loves God and knows how to communicate with him. A great intercessor and a prayer warrior.

There will be need to pray for your husband, children and extended families in marriage. If you hate praying now, it will be difficult to rise to the occasion when necessary to intercede for your family. The devil attacks everyone. Those who know how to pray the devil out of their lives will always be victorious.

17. BE ADDICTED TO GOD'S WORD

It will reflect in your behaviour. David said in Psalm 119:11, "Thy word have I kept in my heart, that I may not sin against thee." Godly ladies are very attractive. It takes reading and obeying the word to become attractive and appealing to potential suitors. Be a word addict!

18. BE CHASTE

Sexually active single ladies are not attractive. Every man wants to marry gold. A lady who does not sleep with every Tom, Dick and Harry is gold especially when she is a virgin. Keep yourself pure and godly men will run after you.

These and more are the qualities you need to develop as single lady who wants to attract her spouse soon and be an excellent virtuous woman in marriage.

Guys, how about you? What are the qualities you need to develop to attract your soul mate and be a good husband in marriage? Turn to the next chapter.

CHAPTER 4

HOW TO ATTRACT YOUR SOUL MATE AS A YOUNG MAN

How do you make that young lady get attracted to you, admire you, respect you and wish to spend the rest of her life with you?

APPEARANCE

People see you before they listen to you. You can't say, "It doesn't matter what I wear, it's what is in my heart that matters." That's actually a big, fat lie! Your dressing reveals what is in your heart. Shabby dressing reveals a shabby heart, dirty dressing shows you are a lazy, idle, non-challant person. Colour riot shows you are careless, not disciplined and lousy. Your character is revealed in your dressing and you will be addressed the way you dress. If you must attract your soul mate and get married soon, the first place you need to work on is your appearance, your dressing. Let's start from the most important:

1. YOUR HEAD

You should get a haircut that fits your head not what is in vogue or you see on our role model/mentor. The shape of your face/head determines the type of hair you cut. You may need to see a professional barber to help you pick a style that fits the shape of your head. Not everybody can cut punk, galaxy or scrape to the skin, you are different. Cut what fits you.

YOUR FACE

Do something about your facial hair. Don't go about with bushy moustache and beard, if you want to shave clean, shave, if not, trim attractively.

Again, do what fits your face, not what is in vogue. Your facial hair can add to your handsomeness if you know how to use it to your advantage. Nostril hair is a no-no though, get rid of it. You won't like it if the lady stares repulsively at the menacing hair poking out of your nostrils like over grown elephant grass threatening to reach the summit!

No eczema please. Get some good cream to clear off the eczema, pimples and rashes! Some men have different colour and patches on their faces! In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, I beg you, clear it, do something about it. Work on your hygiene. Poor hygiene is sometimes responsible for eczema and unwanted rashes!

No drawing mouth. You can't be speaking and both your upper and lower lip will be competing to draw all the saliva in your mouth! Deal with it. Brush your teeth twice daily. Get some mints to freshen your mouth if you work in a place where your mouth stays closed for hours on end. Get good tooth paste like CLOSE UP to do the washing. Some toothpastes cause tooth decay and mouth odour than if you used no tooth paste at all.

YOUR CLOTH

You will be addressed the way you dress. If you want any lady to respect you, you must dress respectably.

Always wear clean clothes. Some men are fond of wearing shirts for 3 days with dirty collar. It is unchristian to wear one boxer for

one week please! Your Jeans should be clean too. I do not understand the logic behind using clothe and water to wipe off the dirt off your jeans. Can't you wash it?

Always iron your shirts and trousers before stepping out. Know what to wear for different occasions. It doesn't make sense wearing tank top and 3 quarter jeans to a burial ceremony, no one will take you serious. Neither do you appear responsible when you show up in church on Sunday in a singlet and baggy trousers. I've seen some men dress to church like that and they are desperately looking for a responsible lady to marry.

If you want to wear blazers, wear what fits you. Your suit should be well ironed and fitting. Colour war is an eye sore please! An orange shirt on white trousers with brown belt and black shoes can strike any lady blind! Learn how to combine colours and match your clothes appropriately.

Your native wears should be fitting regardless of your stature, don't wear a cloth that looks as if a sack is hung on the neck of a pole!

Tight -extremely tight trousers should be avoided like plague! It makes you look like gay or a juvenile delinquent!

YOUR FOOT WEAR

Very important. Always spread your shoe in the sun to avoid odour if you have sweating feet. Wear what is appropriate to different occasions and what suits the cloth you are wearing. There are some places you can't wear sandals to. You will look awkward. Learn to wear what is appropriate for different occasions.

SMILE

The way some men squeeze their face, you will wonder whether they are scaring the devil away or their potential wives! Learn to smile. It makes you look comely, attractive and appealing. It's a sign you are a nice person, approachable and friendly.

Smiling at people will make them feel comfortable around you including the ladies one of whom will become your wife someday.

The easiest way to drive ladies far away from you is to go about with a hard, unsmiling face. No lady wants to marry that kind of man! May God have mercy on you if you have big muscles as well! They will see you as a wife batterer and a panel beater! You will always get a NO to your marriage proposal and stay single for a long time!

Smile! Men who smile look younger than their age. It takes few muscles to smile and so many to frown hence looking twice your age with gray hair to match! Since you are eager to attract your soul mate this year, smiling will be one of the biggest asset to acquire!

BE FRIENDLY

I'm not asking you to be chasing ladies around, slapping their behind and smiling sheepishly like a boy caught with a stolen fish.

Some irresponsible men do that. I mean be approachable. Show interest in people. Ask questions. Get to know the positive people around you. Offer to help when they need it. Be a blessing, be an

encourager, be a motivator. Be mindful whom you chose as friends though. Some men/ladies are wolves in sheep's clothing. Pray for the spirit of discernment.

PURSUE YOUR VISION

No lady wants to marry a mediocrity. Pursuing your vision shows you have a great future ahead of you and you are doing everything to get there. That is an instant magnet to ladies.

Adam had a vision before Eve came. Bishop Oyedepo was pursuing his vision before he met Faith. Bill Gate was already working on Microsoft before he met Melinda. Ben Carson was on the path to fulfilling destiny as the world best Neuro-surgeon before he met Candy. Mike Bamiloye was already building his drama ministry before he met Gloria. Taiwo Odukoya had got a full grasp of his God-given destiny before he proposed to Abimbola Rosemary Williams. Sam Adeyemi was a Pastor before he met Nike. What is your vision? Where are you going in life? What do you want to become? Pursue it with vigour, when God sees your faithfulness, He then sends you a help meet because he knows you can't fulfill your destiny alone. Some women may run

away because you are starting small and they do not have the patience to build anything with you but your soul mate won't run, infact she will find you so admirable and adorable. She will stand behind you like the rock of Gibraltar and will do everything in her power to ensure you succeed. What is your vision?

BE HARDWORKING

Men who work hard achieve results. They are high achievers. No lady wants to marry a potential failure! When you put all your energy in your career, business and vision, it is a big signal you are going somewhere to happen. Men who sleep around or masturbate like crazy are lazy! If you have something meaningful occupying your mind, you will be too busy to engage in pre-marital or solo sex!

BE GENEROUS

Stingy men are bad husband materials any day, any time. Help the poor, give to your parents, honour your pastor with your gifts. Give to your siblings. Practice what it means to give. A good husband is a giver. "For God so love the world that he GAVE..." The proof of love is the desire to give. If you find it difficult

giving to God, people and yourself, honestly, you have signed yourself to a life of perpetual poverty. Givers never lack. Godly women are attracted to generous men, not for the money but the kind, pure heart that propelled the giving.

BE TOLERANT

Most men today are intolerant. That is why many eligible bachelors are finding it difficult translating into marital status. No sensible woman wants to marry a short tempered, hot tempered, irritable, intolerant, easily angered man who can't bear with other's short comings/weaknesses. You can't marry a wife if you are that kind of person because your wife will often step on your toes. That is what marriage is about. She will sometimes offend you. How will you handle her? By shouting, criticizing, abusing, slapping or beating? Husbands are admonished to love like Christ loves the church and a great sign you truly love is to practice 1 Corinthians 13:4-8. When you are tolerant, ladies will find you irresistible.

BE PRAYERFUL

Prayerful men are powerful! Powerful men are simply stunning! Women so adore them. It's the reason most of these romantic movies are filled with heroic men who do daring things for the women they love. Some faced the fire spitting dragon, some swam through a river of crocodile, some fought monsters to rescue their princesses in a locked up castle. In real life, you will face dragons, crocodiles, monsters and demons who may not want you to marry her or battle you after marriage. Prayer is a sure powerful weapon to defeat the enemy and rescue her from the locked castle. When you are prayerful, you send a message she is secure in your life, no woman can resist such a man.

WORD ADDICTED

It's easy to live a holy life, be addicted to God's word and practice what you read daily. Men who are holy in their attitude and speech are instant magnets to godly ladies.

BE DISCIPLINED SEXUALLY

We have too many lousy men these days who can't spend a minute with a lady without asking for sex. Men like that lack self-

respect and dignity. You will be treated the way you treat yourself. If you disrespect yourself enough to sleep with anything in skirt, no lady will respect you. Just as men want ladies to be sexually pure, ladies are craving for chaste guys too especially if you are a virgin. You are a hot cake for single, godly ladies.

These and more are the qualities you need to develop if you must meet your soul mate this year.

CHAPTER 5

HAVE YOU FOUND THE RIGHT PERSON?

Is there someone who caught your fancy? Is there a particular one you want to spend the rest of your life with? What next? Marriage proposal/acceptance of proposal? No, get to know each other first. Build friendship. Don't jump at the lady with "Thus saith the Lord!" Act like a gentle man, I mean, be a gentle man. Ladies hate to be rushed, desperation is a big turn off! Treat her like a lady. Smile; ask for her name and few less threatening questions about her like her hobby, vision, likes and dislikes.

No matter how much your head is oozing with the smoke of "love" for this guy, keep it to yourself sis or you appear desperate. You may have heard angel Gabriel tell you directly while on heavenly vision he is your husband, don't go chasing him around with that die hard, "I love you can't you see?" look. Some ladies out of desperation told me they heard clearly from God the guy is their husband but he is not proposing, what do you want me to

do? Search for the guy and command him to propose to you?
Nay, I'm not a pimp!

So what do you do as a lady when you have found a guy you like? Just be friendly, that's all. Don't push the relationship, don't jump around him hoping he notices you. Don't be the first to ask for his phone number and call him morning, noon and night. Don't ever tell him "I love you" if he hasn't shown interest, you are gonna scare him away. When you make yourself too available for a man who has no interest in you, he feels something is wrong with you.

A guy got confused when a lady friend began smothering him with attention, "I love you" messages and bla...bla...bla. He felt something was wrong with her and began to withdraw from the friendship.

Just be yourself. Be friendly. Treat him the way you treat everyone else, no special treatment. If he likes you too, he will respond to your friendship and chase you with the same vigour, if not, he will act cold and indifferent, don't push it. Just be yourself and move on.

And he shows interest? For real? Some ladies imagine the guy is showing interest when in reality, he is not! Does he initiate calls? Does he respond enthusiastically to your calls? Is he always eager to meet you and talk to you? Does he give you some "chase?" if yes, build friendship. Take things slowly and calmly or else, you get overwhelmed with emotion and ruin a perfectly good relationship.

If she's warming up to you brother, arrange a date. Talk generally about life and make her feel comfortable. Your look should be soft and comfortable, smile when necessary. Don't stare into her eyeballs and make her turn aside over and over again in embarrassment. No holding of hands at this stage please, you are not into any romantic relationship, you are simply getting to know her and make her comfortable around you. If your date ends perfectly well and she is as eager as you are to continue the friendship, arrange a meeting once in 2 weeks first then close the gaps to once a week later.

WHAT TO DO WHILE BUILDING FRIENDSHIP?

1. STUDY THE PERSON to know if they have the qualities you want in a spouse. Ask questions. Show interest in them, be friendly.

2. PRAY TO KNOW THE MIND OF GOD

This is very crucial. You need to find out from God if he/she is God's will for you. Subject your friendship to the word of God. Are you compatible? (Amos 3:3), do you have peace of mind? Are you at rest whenever you are with them? Do you have joy? Are you comfortable around them? Can you be yourself? Are your dreams/vision positive? Do you love them? As in genuine, unconditional, agape love? You must answer affirmatively to all these for your relationship to qualify as God's will.

Some singles told me their partners are God's will but lack peace. Some do not like their partner's physique. Some like but do not love them, some have conflicting values, beliefs and vision yet claim it is God's will, in capital letter, NO, it is NOT!

3. YOUR MARRIAGE PROPOSAL

If you are sure beyond every shadow of doubt she is the one you want to spend the rest of your life with, she is not just someone you can live with but someone you can't live without, then make your marriage proposal.

Why some so-called men are scared of making their intention known to the lady they claim they love still baffles me. The Bible says there is no fear in love. If you are scared of telling her you love her and wants to marry her, you are not in love, period!

Your proposal doesn't have to be scary. There is no big deal about it at all. You don't need to shake like a jelly, neither should you be stammering. You can save yourself and the lady some embarrassment by memorizing your lines before approaching her and please, "The Lord said you are my wife" is old fashioned and archaic, keep it! No one likes to hear that, puleeeeeaaaze!

You can make it beautiful and dramatic or simply take her out, have her comfortably sitted and let her know you like her, love her, admire her a lot and want to spend the rest of your life with

her because you have realized with time, you can't live without her. Then ask her to marry you, to be your wife. Now, that's good enough, clap for yourself. No rushing for response please, don't disgrace manhood (I mean being a man, not your penis). Give her some time to think about it.

Now ladies, in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth I beg you, don't waste this guy's time. If you have known before he proposed that he is the one, there is no need waiting for donkey years to give him yes, it doesn't mean you are cheap, desperate or something. It simply shows you are mature and knows what you want, he will respect you for it.

I knew before hubby proposed he was the one so when he popped the question, it was a big, fat, yes! I don't like anyone wasting my time so I didn't waste his; but if you are not sure and needs some time to pray and think, 3 months maximum is okay, God is not deaf please! If you need a longer time to hear God, either your relationship with him had a ghastly accident or it is long dead and buried!

Don't rush her for a response, give her at least 3 months, she is not an answering machine. Relax, get some rest, sleep well and face your job!

Have you heard from God he is the one after praying through sis? Call him and tell him and you just find out he is not the one? Still tell him and bring the relationship down to platonic friendship or simply end it if you no longer feel comfortable around him.

Did she give you a YES? Congrats! Courtship has started. A NO? Don't push it, don't beg or manipulate her, don't try bribing her with gifts. Respect her NO, return the relationship to platonic friendship or simply end it if you no longer feel comfortable with her.

CHAPTER 6

IS IT LIKE OR LOVE?

You must like and love your soul mate. It's very much possible to like someone and not love them one bit. I mean you have no romantic love for them: no chemistry, no deep connection, nothing except that they are good and you like them, no more, no less. That kind of person can't be your marriage partner, they may be good as friends, never as soul mates.

Your marriage with your soul mate will be nothing short of heaven on earth, it's so sweet, so fulfilling, so blissful to say the list. For your marriage to be great and fulfilling you should not just be friends, you must have 3 levels of love for your partner:

First is AGAPE Love which you have for everyone. It is the type of love God instructs us to show our friends and enemies. Second is PHILEO which is friendship love and its a must for any marriage that will last. The third is Eros which is the sexual love in marriage.

I do not support sex while dating but there should be a measure of chemistry in courtship. You should look forward to the day you will sleep with your spouse. That is on your wedding night of course but if you cringe at the thought of sleeping with them or you have no deep connection with them or you find it difficult revealing your deepest heart to them, enjoying their company and accepting them completely though you admire and respect them, you have expressed your like not your love, please end that relationship.

Marriage is not by force! Marriage should be enjoyed and not endured and nothing makes marriage more fulfilling like having your soul mate who is also your best friend as your spouse. That is what happens when you LIKE and LOVE your partner. That is the ideal marriage.

Don't just marry a person you like, marry the one you admire, respect and at the same time love them from the depth of your being...that is your soul mate. Hold them tight, do not let them go.

DATING VERSUS COURTSHIP, WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

Can a Christian date? This is a controversial topic here in Nigeria because of our religious setting and lots of singles are very confused when it comes to this game of love and picking the right partner.

Personally, I see nothing bad in dating as long as it is not abused. Dating is simply a process of finding out if your friend is suitable for a long term relationship (marriage) with you while courtship is a relationship based on a formal agreement to marry each other after the man had proposed and the woman has accepted. For courtship to exist, the man tells you CLEARLY (not beating around the bush) in whatever style that suits him (definitely not during sex, that is not marriage proposal, it is *insanity!*) that he wants to marry you and you clearly said YES, courtship begins on that note. From the moment forward, you separate each other from others and know you have a committed relationship with someone you want to spend the rest of your life with.

Dating however, is picking one out of your friends. (Actually, you should marry one of your friends, your BEST FRIEND), you spend time with them, take them out, study them and try to find out if both of you are compatible and suitable for marriage, if not, you let them go.

HERE IS THE CAUTION:

1. DATING IS NOT FOR TEENAGERS: doing boyfriend and girlfriend is not dating at all. You are not trying to find out if you can marry them. Marry? You should be facing your studies for crying out loud. You are simply exploring your feelings which is not stable yet, admiring their physical features, get aroused sexually, have sex and move to someone else. Nothing serious to talk about except look into each other's eyes and say sweet nothings that contributes absolutely nothing to your future.

2. NO SEX. There is no basis for that. You have no commitment to this person. They can choose to walk out of your life without any apology. There is no formal agreement between both of you to spend the rest of your life together.

3. ONLY 50% OR LESS OF YOUR HEART IS INVOLVED:

No commitment, you are not yet in a formal relationship. Lots of ladies suffer heart breaks giving 100% of their hearts to a man who is just finding out if he will marry them. They thought they are courting because he takes them out. Come on baby, you can't assume for a man, until he clearly asks you to marry him and you accept his proposal, he can walk out of your life, any day, any time.

4. DON'T DOUBLE-DATE, IT'S WRONG. Lots of singles are even double courting. They don't want to put all their eggs in one basket to avoid being hurt. It is a sign of immaturity and unfaithfulness. You have the potential to commit adultery in marriage.

There are different schools of thought when it comes to dating especially for Christians. Some believe, dating is testing God. Its better you wait for God to expressly tell you whom you are to marry, while you as a lady shouldn't be involved with any guy, just ask God if any opposite sex who comes to you is God's will. If you are lucky he is the one, you start courting and the courtship

must not be more than 6 months then you get married. While it is good to hear God and you MUST hear God before you marry someone, this method makes a relationship so dry and marriage so boring and unromantic. It is one of the reasons so many marriages of Christian couples lack romance and genuine intimacy.

To have a healthy relationship in marriage, you should have good, godly, platonic, holy relationship with both genders: your same sex friends and opposite sex friends. Friendship with the opposite sex will help you understand the opposite gender before you get married, it helped me a lot.

One of your friends may later give you more attention, spend more time with you, prefers you above others, compliment you a lot, tell you things they like about you that makes you different, fall in love with you (dating), prays about you to know if you are the one, you pray about it to know if they are God's will for you. If he is not God's will, dating ends, if he is God's will, you accept the marriage proposal and courtship begins.

There are different meaning, interpretations and presentations of dating. Just as there are godly and ungodly courtships, there are godly and ungodly dating. Dating in itself is not bad; it is the way people go about it that makes it look bad.

All in all, do what you are comfortable with. If you believe in dating, date wisely and purely. If you are not, wait till you get a signal from heaven before you go ahead with the person.

All in all, God's will is the ultimate. Pray for God's will before you marry anybody and don't marry blindly, you must ask questions and find out if both of you are compatible before you say I do.

CHAPTER 7

IS SHE THE RIGHT WOMAN FOR ME?

You don't need to be confused my brother. No need to poke that lady's side to see if her rib matches yours. Here are the clean clear sign you've finally found your Eve and wedding bell is if she displays these qualities:

1. SHE LIKES YOU. She may hide it initially though. No woman likes to appear cheap but as your friendship deepens, you notice she likes you A LOT.

2. SHE'S FOND OF YOU. She easily picks you out from the crowd of a million men and fixes her attention on you.

3. SHE ADMIRES YOU. She sees you like her mentor, father and brother. She looks up to you.

4. SHE RESPECTS YOU. Your words count in her ears and she holds unto them. She values your advice and takes to correction.

5. SHE CREATES TIME FOR YOU: She likes to hangout with you, date you and be in your company.

6. SHE MAKES SACRIFICES FOR YOU. When a woman loves a man, she will go out of her way to please him and make him happy.

7. SHE CARES ABOUT YOU. Your welfare is on top of her list. She likes to see you well, happy and healthy.

8. SHE IS GENEROUS. She contributes whatever she has to your success.

9. SHE PRAYS FOR YOU: Deeply from the depth of her heart, she wants you to succeed so she always present you to God in prayer.

10. SHE IGNORES OTHER MEN. She doesn't even notice them or care whether they exist.

11. SHE IS HONEST WITH YOU. Women don't share their hearts with every man they see on the street. If she opens her heart to you and tells you a lot about herself, she must really like you a lot.

12. SHE LIKES TO FEED YOU: When a woman loves a man, her motherly instinct unconsciously jeers into action. She suddenly enjoys cooking and really likes to feed you.

13. SHE IS JEALOUS: This is a healthy one. She suddenly gets insecure each time she sees a lady trying to flirt with you or "steal" you from her.

14. YOU LOVE HER TOO: Love is mutual. You love her like crazy and feels same way for her.

15. YOU LOOK MORE HANDSOME: You radiate happiness and peace. You begin to take care of your looks and you suddenly notice ladies are showing interest in you.

16. YOU CAN'T DO WITHOUT HER. Then what are you waiting for? Go right ahead and propose to her before...well, before rapture takes place.

So there you are bro! Go look for a good engagement ring and present your proposal to your darling Cinderella. Best of luck to you!

Okay ladies, here is yours:

IS HE THE MAN FOR ME?

How do you know you've finally met the man of your dreams?

1. HE'S DAMN SO SURE YOU ARE THE ONE: When a man meets his woman, he is as sure as his breath you are his Eve sent from heaven. He doesn't fidget or doubt it for a second.

2. HE LOVES YOU UNCONDITIONALLY: Nothing you do or don't do affects his love for you; he loves you perfectly the way you are.

3. HE MAKES SACRIFICES FOR YOU: When a man loves a woman, he does things he would not normally do for other people for her. He goes out of his way to make you happy.

4. HE CREATES TIME FOR YOU: He enjoys your company and spends his spare time with you.

He is always eager to give to you and spend on you. Your total package excites him.

7. YOU ARE BOTH COMPATIBLE: Spiritually, socially, mentally, emotionally and other 'llys'.

8. HE IS PROUD OF YOU and eagerly shows you off.

9. HE INTRODUCES YOU TO MAMA: Ah, this is a big one. A man won't take you to his momma unless he is interested in marrying you. Once his mind is made up, momma and poppa are the first to know.

10. YOU LOVE HIM TOO: Love is mutual. You day dream about him and you enjoy his company as much as he enjoys yours.

11. YOU GLOW WITH PRIDE: You may even fall in love with glo network. Your friends tell you, you look more beautiful and you always plaster a beautiful smile on your face, it's so beautiful being in love!

12. HE GETS JEALOUS: Well, healthy jealousy is part of love. He feels insecure whenever he sees another guy trying to woo you and "steal" you from him.

13. HE PROTECTS YOU: I remember a day I was strolling with my fiance, we heard sounds of gunshot and intuitively without thinking, he grabbed my hand and ran. I was slow but he didn't let go of me. There was another scene of sporadic shooting on campus right behind the window where we were studying together. He was horrified as he damned whatever consequence and brought me down to a safe place. I was so close to being hit

by stray bullets. A man who genuinely loves you will lay down his life for you.

13. HE WAITS FOR YOU: Mutual love sparks chemistry but if you say NO to sex, he won't force you because he doesn't want to hurt you. He will control himself and wait till you are both legally married.

14. HE LOVES GOD: A man who loves God will find it easy to hear Him, obey Him and love you genuinely with all his heart.

Have you found him? Say YES to him immediately because he's the one you've long been waiting for.

CHAPTER 8

HOW TO HANDLE COURTSHIP

When you say, "will you marry me?" and she replies, "yes." Courtship officially begins on that note.

A lot of singles are abusing courtship these days, they feel it is an avenue to have premarital sex and practice all manner of ungodliness.

Until you exchange wedding rings at the altar with a cloud of witnesses in attendance, you have no right to see their nakedness.

Courtship is a period of final assessment. You check and cross check everything you need to know about your partner before marrying them finally. What you knew at friendship stage is not enough, those are just peripherals.

Real questions are asked in courtship. I don't just understand why lots of singles are rushing to get married these days. Take your

time, please. Go out together, visit family and friends together. With time, you will discover weaknesses which you either adapt to or work it out together before you get married.

Shyness is not allowed in courtship. Both of you must be transparently honest with each other. Lying is not allowed in any relationship that will last.

Many marriages are collapsing because people are rushing into marriages and do not have time to build something solid with their spouses.

Here are the questions you should ask in courtship so you will have a good knowledge of who you want to marry and how to live with them in marriage.

Not answering the questions honestly means you are a liar and that lie and pretense will end up breaking your marriage! Don't be so desperate for marriage that you can't ask and answer simple questions straight!

1. ARE YOU BORN AGAIN? Almost everybody is born again now including the devil so you might likely get a yes to your answer. Ignore the answer and watch their behaviour, attitude and character. Those are what show if they are born again or not. Some singles are so desperate for a yes to their questions, they go on blindly with the guy/lady only to get shocked in marriage when the guy start showing them their true colour!

A counsellor narrated how her life ended up in a mess because of the stranger she married. She sent me this:

"Good morning ma. Please ma, I need your advice regards my marriage. I got married last year December. Actually, my husband happened to be my mate when we were at school but then we were not friends, but after 6 years of graduating from higher Institution, we met again and he proposed to me and we got married but before we got married, I asked him some questions about his spiritual life and answers then were positive, we even prayed together then. He didn't womanize, he didn't drink and we also talked about those things too before I accepted to marry him, but I never knew that he stopped those acts just to pretend for that

period. So, a month after our wedding, he brought out his behavior, he drinks and womanize, then, stopped going to church. A man that was romantic in bed before is now a horror and I got married to him as a virgin.

What now made me to consult you is that he has started bringing strange things home (charms collected from Alfa and Herbalist) I'm so afraid because I had never seen him with those things before. Ma, I don't know what to do because right now I am six months pregnant, another thing is that, despite my condition he doesn't help me with anything at home no matter how weak I am, he would even send me on errands, even the water he will bath with in the night, if I don't put it in the bathroom, I am in soup. Though for now I'm not working but before we got married he said he will set up a business for me but now I see nothing..."

It was a long distance relationship. She didn't do her homework well before agreeing to marry him.

2. HAVE YOU BEEN IN ANY RELATIONSHIP BEFORE?

Their past relationships will affect the present one and eventually your marriage. Find out why they broke up with their ex, what they found interesting about the relationship and why they broke up. It will give you an insight into their taste, their turn ons and turn offs so you can know how to treat them and avoid the heartache they experienced in their previous relationships.

Not discussing very serious issues like this is the reason many move from one broken relationship to another. Some got married without sharing expectations only to run back to their ex the moment they have challenges or are not happy with their courtship.

A lady sent me this:

"I went into a relationship in 2012 with this man that said he wanted to marry me, though he came through my mum. He took drinks to my uncles by December the same year.

But until 2015 he did not proceed to do anything further so we broke up. But we came back again in 2016 after he said he is now ready to settle down and I went to stay with him. After about a month staying with him I observed that he will go out and come back in the night by 10pm and a certain number always calls him. It continued until he began staying over and will come back the next day. When he comes back he will say he went to his uncle's place, and I discovered that I was pregnant.

During that period, he told me he was going to a baby dedication and he didn't return till the next day and there was nothing in the house. I called him times without number so I decided to call the number that usually calls his line in the night and a lady answered. I asked her if he is there with her. She said she knows where he is and she will like to see me so we talk more.

After the call, he called me that I should stop thinking that he is with a lady. In the morning, he came back and started acting nice and went to cook something so we could eat. As promised the lady called and she said she wanted to come see me. I directed her to the place, and she came. I allowed her in and we started gisting.

She was still in doubt that the apartment is not where he is staying because she thought he stays at his Uncle's place until he saw his clothes in the bedroom. All this while he went to hide so she would not see him, thinking that we might fight each other. After some time he came out and ask me to leave his house. I packed my things and left his place. Then I was about 8weeks pregnant. The Lady and I became friends.

I wanted to terminate the pregnancy but had no money. I used other remedies but nothing happened so I decided to have the baby. He took responsibility of the pregnancy though and asked me to move in back with him but I refused till now. He is still insisting on marrying me and that he has repented. The problem here is: I will be 28 by November this year, and I don't know if being a single mother is to be considered. Because people are advising me to marry him because they don't want me to be a single mother and that every man cheats. But I don't want to marry someone and regret for the rest of my life."

She never knew the man had an ex, he always went to spend the night with. Her moving in and having sex with him was a big mistake!

3. HAVE THEY HAD SEX OR THEY ARE VIRGINS?

This helps you know their sexual disposition, orientation and experience so you can know what to expect in marriage. It is crucial. Some singles don't ask this question to avoid being seen as carnal only to have serious sexual problems in marriage because they do not know the sexual disposition of their spouse and how to satisfy them in marriage.

It's easy for a man to lie he is a virgin as there is no hymen to prove him right or wrong but watch his body language and the way he treats you. If he is always asking for sex either directly or indirectly, his virginity is questionable! If he is always demanding for sex or lusting after other females, there is no guarantee he is a virgin. Male virgins are calm and relaxed around females. They do not put their opposite friend/fiancee under sexual pressure or ask them for sex.

A lady sent me this:

"I really enjoy your articles on facebook. It has been a blessing to me. I was in a relationship with a so called Christian brother as we were both believers, sexual immorality was involved except for the song he do sing that he won't deflowered me.

I was suffering as I was always aroused, I told him one day to do it that he was punishing me and I couldn't hold it again, he said NO, but he was always satisfying himself by releasing his sperm on my body. I was wondering who taught him that as he claimed to be a virgin also. The Holy Spirit could not allow me to rest but he didn't see anything wrong in it. It continued like this for 2years until when I allowed the Holy Spirit to work effectively in me. I had to break out of the relationship, since then I enjoyed God like never before, and I thank God I didn't lose my virginity to him- I would have never forgiven myself.

Now for 10months that we have broken up, it's just as if heaven has been waiting for this to happen. I'm free from bondage while I wait for His will to be made manifest in my life".

Watch his body language and what he does, not just what he confesses.

4. HOW DO THEY HANDLE MONEY?

This is crucial and should not be taken with levity. Do they tithe, save, invest, give and spend or they have serious issues the way they handle money? Trash it out before you get married or it becomes a very big issue in marriage! Some people enjoy saving, never giving, some like to give and not save anything, they believe God will always provide whenever they need money while some believe in investing and no saving and giving.

Talk at length and ensure your financial views are in consonance! Don't wave things off only to get the great shock of your life after you get married and discovers your spouse hates tithing, saving and investing, courtship is meant for talking!

5. WHAT DOES GIVING TO A SPOUSE MEANS TO THEM: Some have the belief that the man should do all the spending while the lady does all the taking while some believe a lady should do the spending if she really cares. There are others

who believe both should do the giving and taking. Talk at length and plan towards your marriage realistically. Stinginess is not permitted in any marriage. If he is stingy, you need to dump him fast! If she is tight fisted, it is a bad omen for a good marriage.

A lady sent me this:

"I'm really blessed by your page ma. I thank God for bringing me across your way. Having read some of your posts today, Part of the heavy burden in my heart has been lifted. But I still need your advice ma. For ten years now I'm married to a man I love so much, who also loves me and shows me so much love in many ways. I have three children for him, my first child is 9 years, second 6 years, while the third is 10 months. They are all girls. I have been happy with him until after I had my second child when he no longer had a good job. Due to the financial challenge of the family, this man started acting differently, as in, he no longer cares for the family like before, even all my efforts to cover up the family needs, he doesn't appreciate it.

I have sacrificed my life for years just to make the family happy by doing so many hard works which are even dangerous to my health, just to provide for the family needs; upon all, he doesn't even do as if I'm doing anything. Instead, he took advantage of my concerns for the family to the extent that even when he had some money to drop for the family, he will want me to do it alone saying, “he will pay me later”, and yet, he never pays any of my money back, claiming that, family responsibilities is for husband and wife. He has totally left all the family responsibilities for me.

I struggle a lot just to survive with my children. He is working though the salary is not that much, but he can still do a lot with his salary because he is receiving above 70 thousand monthly, but he only does whenever he feels like.

I couldn't tell it to anyone else because I do not want a third party in my marriage. But I have been dying in pain and silence pretending that all is well, if I don't have my personal money, I and my children cannot eat good food, but my husband eat whatever he wants at the office. I cried to my sister for help to start up a business which she did, but the business did not last

because I have to pay the children's school fees and pay our house rent which my husband did not care about.

I have asked him several times if I have offended him in any way that makes him treat me like that, but he kept saying I didn't do anything. He just kept saying because he didn't have a very good job, and he has promised to change and apologize, but he never changed. I have lost my happiness, and the only thing I saw in the marriage is pain and tears. I lost my peace of mind; the daily worry is even affecting my memory. I now easily forget most things that happened around me. I now have sleepless nights and constant headache. And yet I can't even tell my family about it. I can't even tell anyone what is happening to me. I respect him and believe he will Change, so I didn't want to expose him. In spite, every day, he gets worse. He will even leave for work for days without asking about how we are doing. I'm completely tired of the marriage, I would have loved to quit, but I know God is not in support of divorce. He paid my pride price. He used to love me. Now I'm confused..."

Iron this issue out before you get married.

6. WHAT DOES RESPECT MEAN TO YOU?

Do you want her to kneel down when greeting you or she should simply be polite to you when addressing you? You need to define what respecting you means and convey it to her. Some typical Yoruba men want their wives to kneel on the floor when greeting them while some do not need such at all. As long as you regard him and talk to him with respect, he is very much okay, happy and pleased with you. You need to iron this out in courtship and come to a place of agreement so you do not go completely berserk if your wife never kneels down for you in courtship. What you don't talk about, don't expect it to exist!

7. RELATIONSHIP WITH EX

If you do not want your spouse to have anything under heaven to do with all their ex, it's better you talk about it now and trash it out. Some divorce are linked to either of the spouses returning to their old flame or waking dead emotions. Emotions don't die really, the moment you start talking to your old flame, emotions start flying and your present relationship or future mature marriage ends up suffering for it. Trash this out in courtship!

8. ARE THEY ATTACHED TO THEIR PARENTS?

Especially the mother? The Bible says "A man shall leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife..." meaning their influence on your life has reduced as you voluntarily pick someone who makes a higher influence in life!

So many marriages have been wrecked by the undue interference of mothers-in-law because their sons are too weak to make decisions in the home.

There was the story of a mother-in-law who acted as a rival to her son's wife in her matrimonial home. The man would give his whole salary to the mother who will then give the wife money based on the need in the home. The mother-in-law always acted on behalf of the husband to pass money to his wife. Of course, such marriage never lasts! There was so much friction the mother-in-law eventually sent the daughter-in-law packing out of her matrimonial home.

If you do not deal with this strongly in courtship, be expecting real shockers in marriage!

9. WHAT IS THEIR SEXUAL EXPECTATIONS IN MARRIAGE?

People hate talking about this yet it's one of the leading cause for divorce and responsible for over 60% of adultery in marriage. If you are not sexually satisfied in the marriage, you have a tendency to commit adultery.

Let them know your expectation in courtship so they can prepare to satisfy you in marriage. You do not need to be raw and graphic. Just dropping hints or summarizing your expectation is enough. Sexual discussion is sensitive, don't take things too far.

A counsellor told me her pastor fiance said she must be ready to be sexually responsible in marriage. He said as a Pastor, he would be faced with lots of temptations from women, he needs lots of sex to keep him off distraction and focus on his ministry. Though the lady was a virgin and does not believe in pre-marital sex, they both knew what to expect in marriage. She promised herself no sex before marriage and at the same time prepare her mind to give her best to her husband in marriage.

Another lady told me her fiance told her he would love blow job in marriage. He said he can't cope with marriage without blow job. All his EX used to give to him, though he is born again now and do not believe in pre-marital sex, he can't do without blow job in marriage. The lady said she hated blow job with passion and would not be caught dead doing it. I told her to end the relationship, there is no need going into marriage with a man you do not agree sexually with if you do not want him to go back to all his EX.

9. HOW DO YOU WANT THEM TO DRESS?

This is crucial! Don't take it with levity. You must iron it out! If you want her to give up on her trousers, jewelries and skimpy wears, let her know now. Don't ignore this area only to get married and start telling her to wear things she's not used to wearing. If his mouth odour, oversized shirts and colour riot drives you insane, iron it out now. Don't wait till you get married and start avoiding your husband in public or refuse to make love to him due to his dirty appearance!

These and more are the areas you seriously need to iron out before you get married. Ignoring them or avoiding them to avoid conflict only to show your true colour in marriage shows deceit and lack of respect for their person.

A great marriage is based on truth, openness, honesty and sincerity. Learn to be truthful and honest with your expectations, dreams, likes and dislikes. Share your hope, desire and needs. These will help your spouse to know how to prepare for a marriage with you and you do not need to go through the pain, hurt and eventual divorce of couples who refuse to open up when it was very necessary and important. May you not lose your home before you do the needful in Jesus' name.

CHAPTER 9

Marriage is not a place you rush to. It is serious business. It is big time responsibility. You need to ask yourself over and over again if you are making the right choice before you head to the altar. You have to ensure it is God's will, you both genuinely love each other, it is neither infatuation nor lust; but, these three can be so confusing: infatuation, lust and love, how do you differentiate?

AM I IN LOVE, IN LUST OR SIMPLY INFATUATED?

They all look alike at the beginning but soon show their true colour. You need to know as early as possible what you are feeling for the opposite sex to either back out of the relationship on time before you do something stupid or verify your love and pursue your object of attention with vigour!

1. LOVE begins with an attraction, a special feeling for someone. You like them, admire them, respect them and likes to spend time with them.

INFATUATION begins with a strong, intense feeling for someone that focuses basically on physical attributes like her blue eyes, his well chiseled Jaw or her curvy body. It is called "falling head over heels in love" because of the whirl wind feelings that come with it. It focuses more on the physical than lasting attributes.

LUST: Begins with a strong, intense feeling with strong sexual desire.

2. LOVE focuses on giving and how to make the life of this person better without seeking anything in return.

INFATUATION focuses on giving unreasonably as a bait to get "love" and a relationship in return.

LUST focuses on giving in order to get sex in return. After the sex, it focuses on taking and taking.

3. LOVE waits for sex: it controls its sexual feelings till the wedding night.

INFATUATION always desire and yearn for sex.

LUST is impatient for sex. It can't wait to have sex. It asks for sex as soon as possible.

4. LOVE makes sacrifices to help the other person achieve greatness.

INFATUATION can make sacrifices but it must get something in return.

LUST can also make sacrifices but it must get sex in return.

5. LOVE sticks to you regardless of the problem you face.

INFATUATION runs away at the sight of problems.

LUST creates problems for you and disappears into thin air!

6. LOVE admires the person's total package: character, beauty, handsomeness, spirituality, weaknesses and strength.

INFATUATION only focuses on beauty/physical attraction and strengths. It despises them for their weaknesses.

LUST focuses on the body alone.

7. LOVE is rational, down to earth honest and truthful to the other person.

INFATUATION is irrational, very emotional, pretends a lot and does uncomfortable things to always get acceptance from their partner. E.g. she bleaches her skin to get him to like her more. He steals or borrow unreasonable amount of money to buy her things so she can keep "loving" him.

LUST pretends and lies a lot to get sex.

8. LOVE lets you go if the relationship is damaging you.

INFATUATION will never let you go even if the relationship is killing you.

LUST will damage you before letting you go.

9. LOVE walks in agreement. You are both compatible spiritually, physically, emotionally and mentally (Amos3:3).

INAFATUATION is based on feelings without any compatibility.

LUST focuses on strong sexual feelings or chemistry and physical connection alone.

10. LOVE is based on God, reality and thrives in peace. You have peace of mind and heart in the relationship

INFATUATION is based on feelings, sensuality, emotions and gives you no peace of mind because you are not yourself in the relationship, you pretend a lot to gain acceptance.

LUST destroys your peace.

11. LOVE builds relationships slowly, gradually and steadily, therefore it lasts.

INFATUATION is whirlwind: it rushes the relationship. It is based on high tempo feelings that makes you want to spend 24 hours with this person to do or say nothing in particular.

LUST is very short lived. The goal is sex and wants to have it as soon as possible.

LOVE has something meaningful to talk about in the relationship.

INFATUATION always have nothing meaningful to talk about except "I love you", "I miss you" no more no less.

LUST focuses discussion on sex, sexual arousal and sexual feelings.

13. LOVE is from God.

INFATUATION is from the flesh.

LUST is from the devil.

Alright, there you go, what are you feeling for your partner, love, lust or simply infatuation? You should know the difference by now.

ARE YOU STILL CONFUSED?

You are wondering whether you should end the relationship or not. You feel he loves you but you are not at peace with the relationship. Heavens know you genuinely love this lady and can do anything for her but some of her attitudes are driving you insane.

If you lack peace of mind in the relationship and your experiences are almost entirely negative, it's time to end it. Marriage is not by force brother, it is not by emotion sister. It is better to marry late and marry whole than marry early and get broken to pieces! Hundreds of thousands of couples all over the world wish they are not married to their spouse.

Had they read a book like this, they would have been thoroughly guided and avoid heart shattering mistakes, so for you to have this book in hand you are indeed fortunate. Maximize the invaluable information in this book and end a relationship that needs to end before it is too late.

END THE RELATIONSHIP!

I tell 95% of my single counselees to end their relationships. What most of them call relationship is nothing but abuse. If you experience any of these, no matter how madly in love you are with that person, it's time to let go!

1. YOU DO ALL THE CHASE: A loving relationship is mutual. A woman shouldn't chase a man who has no interest in her. If he truly loves you, he should chase you, if you like him respond to the chase. After the proposal and acceptance, both of you should chase each other. He loves you, you love him too. He calls you, you call too. That is balance! He takes you out, you respond, balance! If as a man you are the one doing all the call, the chase, the chat, the bills, the dates, you have no relationship! If as a lady, you do all the call, visit, chat, dates, etc., that man does not value you, let the relationship go!

2. THEY RIDICULE YOU: That is verbal abuse! Constant jesting, laughing at you, making fun of you, ridiculing you, looking down on you and treating you like a non-entity shows they lack respect for you. Of course in a good relationship, you play and laugh together but if they are always laughing at you instead of laughing with you, end the relationship!

3. THEY ARE STUBBORN AND PROUD! Red flag! In a marriage bound relationship, both of you should be humble enough to adapt to each other! If they are heady, stubborn,

pompous, proud, sassy, rude, myopic, opinionated, heady and arrogant, end the relationship! If they take your words with a pinch of salt, do not value your person and treat you like they are doing you a favour for proposing or agreeing to marry you, let the spoilt brat out of your heart, he's not worth it. She is too full of herself to be a good wife! Loose them and let them go!

4. THEY ALWAYS ASK FOR SEX: And you keep saying no, and they keep asking, first time, second time, third time, fourth time, fifth time, excuse me, end the relationship fast and don't look back!

5. THEY ALWAYS IRRITATE YOU: There is no need to get married. If all the person does irritates and annoys you instead of make you happy and give you pleasure, you are with another person's bone and flesh, end the relationship!

6. YOU DON'T LIKE HOW THEY LOOK: Physical attraction is very important in marriage please! My husband tells me at least 3 times daily I'm so beautiful to him. He practically says I'm hot! I tell him I like every part of his body from head to toe. Just

looking at him gives me pleasure. Marriage has not changed my structure, I only added more flesh, marriage didn't make him shorter, darker or lighter, he's the same guy I've always known. Their physique won't change in the next 20 years! If you hate how they look now, you will further hate it years after marriage. Loose them and let them go!

7. THEY ARE REFUSING TO INTRODUCE YOU TO THEIR FAMILY: Either he is a married man or she is ashamed of you. If both of you are mature and ready for marriage, there is no reason why they should not introduce you to their family.

8. THEY ARE HOT TEMPERED! And he is not doing anything about it. He goes completely berserk on provocation and even slaps you, she goes crazy and calls you all manner of derogatory names and you keep putting up with that trash because you are in lust with her, I pity your future! If you don't want that man to batter you in marriage and the woman to pour hot water or acid on you, end the relationship!

9. YOU ARE SCARED OF THEIR FAMILY

BACKGROUND: Like they die prematurely, they don't make it in life, they divorce few years after marriage or are barren in their family and you are so scared you do not want it to rob off on you. You should be able to join faith with your partner and break that curse, if you can't, end the relationship!

10. HE HAS NO JOB: Nothing whatsoever and he wanna get married, sister, use your head and drive that guy to use his two hands, two legs and medulla oblongata to get at least a room apartment for you both, cooking pots, gas or stove, a bed, 2 chairs, study table and a hand fan if he can't get a standing or ceiling fan. If he is hardworking and has a great vision for his future. In 3 years, you should move to a higher level of comfort but if he is lazy and depends on you for everything, you better run! You are to work as well and assist him financially, he shouldn't dump all the load on you, let him go!

11. THEY ARE TOO CLOSE TO THE OPPOSITE SEX: In courtship, after God, you are number one. If he is still frolicking around ladies, hugging every Rose, Mary and Fatimat, chatting

and calling strange ladies while claiming they are just "friends", you are dealing with a flirt! End the relationship! If she uses a strange guy's picture as her profile picture and has lots of questionable guys as her friends, she is double dating, end the relationship!

12: THEY ARE STINGY: If you love, you will give with abandon. "For God so love that he gave..." if they are tight fisted and stingy, they do not love you, end the relationship!

13. YOU HATE THEIR DRESSING: Settle this once and for all in courtship. If you want her to wear make-up and trousers, let her know. If she adjusts, fine, if not, please, let her go in peace. You will always meet hot ladies in trousers after marriage and you will lust after them. If you want him to wear Jeans, tank tops, Jerseys and fitted clothes, drum it in his ears now or else you marry and resent your husband as you see guys parading you in Jerseys!

Lots of 'shit' happen in marriage! I meet men who drool over my little make up and the wife at home will stubbornly refuse to

make up for her husband for whatever reason that suits her. I had to stand on a friend's neck to trim her eye brow and wear make-up. I was tired of her husband chasing me around because I wore something he liked! She changed a little and relapsed! I had to permanently end the relationship. I was sick and tired of the man's attention!

14. YOU HATE THEIR CHURCH especially as a lady, you must like his church because that is where you will be attending after wedding. If you can't adjust or adapt to his church's doctrine, loose him and let him go!

14. YOU DO NOT AGREE SPIRITUALLY: She believes in tithe, you hate tithing, he is a fasting freak, you hate fasting with passion! He loves evangelism, you prefer to cuddle in front of a romantic movie, this is a major disparity, end the relationship!

These and more are red flags! If your partner exhibits any or all of these, end the relationship. Don't manage, there is no manage in marriage. Divorce courts are filled with people who wished they never married their partners! I have told some of my counsellees

in terrible marriages heading towards divorce: "If you had sought my counsel when you were single, I would have told you not to marry this man!" The pain of divorce is not what I wish upon my worst enemy. Do not leave God out of your decisions. Pray and let Him guide you. You will not mis-choose in Jesus' name. Plan your future together

CHAPTER 10

NOW THAT YOU HAVE FOUND YOUR SOUL MATE...

What next? Marriage? Yes, but before that time, you need to sit down and plan your future together. Jesus said, "which of you intending to build a tower will not firstly sit down and count the cost?" Don't enter marriage blindly. Count the cost before you settle down. Plan your future together.

MAJOR AREAS THAT NEED PLANNING.

1. VISION: what is your reason for existence as a man? How can she help you fulfill destiny because as a woman, your role in his life is to help him fulfill his destiny. If you hate his vision, you have no business being in his life. So brother, what is your vision, dream, calling and passion? Now do you intend to get there? Share it with her so she can know how to fit in. There should be practical plan on how to go about and fulfill your vision.

2. FINANCE: What is your financial projection after marriage? How much do you both earn now? How much do you plan to earn in the next 2, 3 or 5 years? For instance, if both you earn 150k now, how much do you plan to earn as your total income in the next five years and how do you plan to achieve it?

For instance, if your financial projection in the next 3 years is 300k for both. How can you increase your income? What are the things you need to do to realize your financial dream? Will you invest in a side business as you work or resign and start a lucrative business of your own? Lack of financial plan is the reason most couples are wallowing in poverty today and poverty is one of the leading cause of divorce world-wide!

3. PROJECTS

What major projects do you plan to embark on? When will you start and how do you raise the capital? For instance, if you plan to build a house of your own, when do you plan to buy a land, how will you buy and build it? How many years will it take you to build it?

4. FAMILY PLANNING

How many children do you plan to have? What is the space between them? Do you plan to get pregnant immediately after wedding or wait for some months/years? Discuss thoroughly and ensure you come to agreement. Not planning, talking, communicating and sharing expectations have torn many marriages to pieces. Communication is your greatest asset in marriage, use it very well. Read my e-book: LIES THAT BREAK MARRIAGES for more understanding.

5. FAMILY DEPENDENT

Will anybody live with you? Who can you accommodate? How soon will the person join you after wedding? What is the cost of taking care of the person, can you afford it now? Thrash it out.

6. FAMILY ALTAR

How will you be having it? How many times in a day? Who will be the priest of the home? (That should be obvious). How will it be done? Agree on this before you get married.

Lots of couples are experiencing unnecessary frustration and heartache in marriages because they refuse to deal with issues like this. There are several areas you seriously need to trash out before you get married. I have only listed this few to give you an idea of what you are getting into.

Once you can reach an agreement on these key issues, 80% of your marital problem is automatically solved.

TOO POOR TO GET MARRIED?

You don't have to have a billion naira in your bank account before you plan your wedding, you shouldn't be bankrupt either. As long as you have a great vision for your life, you are hardworking and can work towards financial fortune, you can start small and grow big.

CHEAP WEDDING....

Your wedding doesn't have to be expensive. Many delay their wedding till they have the millions in their bank accounts. If you copy the Joneses, you may spend the rest of your married life paying off debt. Do your wedding according to your pocket and

save yourself from unnecessary headache and embarrassment! It won't be fun if creditors are banging on your door when you are supposed to be enjoying your honey moon in peace!

Here are practical ways to cut down expenses and still have some "change" after wedding.

1. Borrow wedding gown from your friend, siblings or family members and adjust the size to suit you. It's not a sin to borrow wedding gown, people rent wedding gown, so do according to your budget if you can't afford one, no big deal about it, you are wearing it for a day, after that, it's over. If you are skeptical about borrowing wedding gown, you can buy cheap wedding material and ask a good tailor to sew for you.

2. Borrow wedding suit from friends or relatives if you can't afford a brand new one. Look for someone of the same size and borrow the suit, no big deal about it, it's only for a day! If not, go to a large textile market like Idumota, Lagos and get cheap wedding suit.

3. Very minimal decoration or no decoration at all. People want to see the couple not well the decorated hall.

4. Use the church premises for reception instead of a hall. Discuss that with your Pastor.

5. Share the grace after the wedding without reception. It's not compulsory reception must take place. The real event is the wedding, thank God for the success and go home.

6. If you must do reception and no money for food due to recession, serve cold drinks and snacks or biscuits. Everyone knows bags of rice cost a fortune and you can build a house with the same amount you want to buy a cow!

7. If you must serve food and no money for meat, turkey or chicken, try "Panla kika" I don't know what they call it in English, the people should take it in love. Serve the food with sachet pure water if there is no money for soft drinks.

8. Get your local photographer to snap important pictures and not flood everywhere with unnecessary snapshots while charging you a fortune. Ask your friends with camcorder to help you record the event.

9. You don't need to book a hotel for honey moon. You can use your apartment! Just be creative. Spray everywhere with a nice perfume. Get a cool, romantic music. "Ololufe" by Martins is beautiful. Off the light and surround the bed with beautifully lit candles, get drunk in each other's love (not with beer please).

10. If you must travel out of the environment and get a hotel, guest house or whatever, you get something cheap and still nice. It's just you and your darling. Nobody cares where you do your honey moon after you are back and if they cares, that's their business!

A successful marriage is more important than a successful wedding. Your wedding is important but don't focus on it so much that you end up in debt and spend the first few years of your married life in hunger, embarrassment, debt and shame!

You can start your marriage small and grow big. Start with something though! Some lazy men want to start with nothing while hoping faith will put food on the table!

Ensure you can pay your rent, NEPA bill, feed your wife and take care of pregnancy and a baby before you get married. Those who cite Oyedepo don't know what they are talking about. The man was in ministry while his wife was working, earning ₦140,000 monthly! They had money to spend! If you must marry a man who has absolutely nothing, you must get a job doing to support him or you both go from door to door begging for food!

I'm sick and tired of counseling women whose husbands are completely irresponsible in the name of ministry or whatever! How many men are industrious and has great faith like Bishop Oyedepo and Mike Bamiloye? Most are simply loafers looking for who to feed on! Ask God to bless you from your single years, you don't need to get married before you count your millions and don't wait till you have millions before you get married.

Have a great vision, be committed to doing something meaningful with your life, marry a woman who strongly believes in you and is ready to support you. With prayer, unity, love and hard work, both of you will break the ceiling of limitation and move to a higher realm of success but if you are lazy, visionless and goalless while waiting for a wife to rescue you, you have failed completely as a man.

CHAPTER 11

WHILE YOU ARE WAITING FOR YOUR SOUL MATE...

The single stage of your life can be memorable, don't be in haste to end it. Your youthfulness is not for searching who to marry, it is for serving the Lord. Ecclesiastes 12:1 says, "Remember the Lord thy God in the days of thy youth..." Serve the Lord in your singleness, when you are faithful serving him, He will bless you with a godly spouse.

Marriage is filled with responsibility. There are lots of things you can do now as a single person that you won't have time to do again when you are married. Your single years can be used for personality development, attending programmes, growing spiritually and pursuing His vision for your life.

Very recently, I planned to spend 4 hours with the Lord precisely from 8pm to 12am. My heart was yearning to fellowship with the love of my life -the Lord Jesus Christ. Unfortunately, I ended up

angry and frustrated. My toddler whom I did everything to 'cajole' to sleep kept his 2 eyes wide opened, cackled, pranced around and didn't sleep till I poured cold water on his head and fanned him to sleep, that was twenty something minutes past eleven. I was so angry he 'hijacked' all my time, I had no energy to pray. I had to re-adjust my inner system, asked the Lord for grace and 'forced' the sweet feeling back.

Yesterday, same. I couldn't go for my prayers; I had to sit beside him on the bed and commune with the Lord by fire, by thunder, by force!

Marriage is responsibility, it is sacrifice, it is servant hood and it is a place of compromise. You won't always have all the time you have now as a single person to pray and attend attend programmes as much as you want. Now that you are single, enjoy your singleness, serve the Lord, pursue your vision.

Ecclesiastes 12:1 says, "Remember the Lord thy God in the days of thy youths." Most youths don't care if God exists these days

talk less of remembering Him. Your single years is for serving the Lord, maximize this opportunity before you get married!

I so much enjoyed serving the Lord as a single lady I was in no hurry to get married, I never wanted my singleness to end. It was so glorious, beautiful and fulfilling. I boasted to anyone who cared to listen I would marry at 30. 'Unfortunately', I got married 3 months short of my 30th birthday.

Marriage is beautiful. It has its own benefits and enjoyments. It also comes with lots of sacrifice and compromise. To everything there is time and season (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

The single stage of your life is not a waste, maximize it, find out what God wants you to do with your life and pursue it with vigour!

What is your reason for existence? What is your vision, what is your dream, what is your goal? Find out now and give it your best shot.

The responsibility of being a husband, paying bills, seeking the welfare of your family may rob you of the time to pursue your vision.

Pregnancy, child rearing, running the home can snatch all the time you need for personality development. Now that you are single and free from such responsibilities, maximize it. Be fully equipped. Don't abandon your education as a lady because the man is a Doctor and he is not ready to wait for you to acquire your degree.

Some ladies promised to get it later but the responsibility of the marriage so overwhelmed them, they could not do so again thereby causing a friction in the marriage as the man finds it difficult communicating with his semi-illiterate wife. Some men end up having affairs with educated ladies and even marry them as second wives!

At 23, you can still further your education while praying for a soul mate.

As a single guy, don't abandon the business idea because you want to get married first. Be useful to God and humanity while waiting!

Pursue the business ideas, pursue your vision, build your career, work on your finance. Develop your personality, give your education your best shot, grow spiritually. These are what make you attractive, irresistible and appealing to your soul mate. Don't be idle, don't waste away as a single person.

Start that ministry, run the blog, learn a new skill, travel wide, accept the promotion, aim for first class result, sharpen your mind, read wide, build your spirit, get busy, be hard working and God will elevate you.

Ruth was busy when Boaz saw her. Joseph was never lazy or idle. From his father's house to everywhere he found himself, he was diligent. Jesus learnt carpentry. Daniel studied hard and was wiser than all the magicians in Babylon put together. These are youths who maximized their singleness.

Serve the Lord in your church, serve the lord in your school fellowship. The Lord who sees you in secret will reward you openly with a good spouse in Jesus' name. No one can serve the Lord and regret it. I didn't regret mine, you will not regret yours too in Jesus' name.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Seun Oladele is a creative writer, blogger, publisher, speaker, preacher, counsellor and a relationship coach.

She is the founder and President of LOVE AND MARITAL BLISS INTERNATIONAL, a ministry dedicated to helping people find godly and blissful relationships and go on to have a blissful marriage. She touches thousands of lives every week through her regular posts on facebook, Twitter, google plus, Linkedin and Nairaland among others with people giving testimonies of restored homes, locating their life partners and many more.

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She is blissfully married to her best friend, Adewunmi and they are blessed with two wonderful boys: Wisdom Excellence and Brilliance Glory.

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