

Great Mind Series



**LET GOD BE
YOUR MATCH
MAKER**

*Scriptural Principles for Making
Marital Choice*



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The point at which young people are ready to make the all-important decision about who to marry is often a very challenging one for many.

I have made efforts to make this information available to serve as a guide for those who are ready to allow God match them with a godly marriage partner.

As usual, I have simplified it so that you can easily understand and apply the basic scriptural principles that can help you to make a choice that will glorify God, and make you truly happy and fulfilled.

I will take the teaching using an outline as follows;

-  *Why God Should Be Your Match Maker*
-  *Why You Should Marry*
-  *Choosing Who to Marry*
-  *What Next?*

Let's proceed quickly to the reason(s) why God should be your Match Maker...

WHY GOD SHOULD BE YOUR MATCH MAKER

I will outline a few reasons why it is reasonable to allow God to be your Match Maker;

I. You do not know yourself well enough to make such decision on your own.

This is a fact!

The Bible says in Jeremiah 17:9 that our hearts can even deceive us, because it is desperately wicked.

Only God knows the nooks and crannies of the human heart, including yours.

If God should open your eyes to see the content of your own heart, I am very sure you will deny it that the heart is not yours.

This means that our hearts are not reliable to make a very important decision about who to marry. We must allow God to do it for us!

Many people unfortunately have been deceived by their own hearts and they are there eating the bitter pills of their choices.

I pray you will not fall into the same trap of self-deception in Jesus name. Amen.

2. You don't know the heart of any other person in this world

This is a second fact!

No matter how close you are to anyone, you cannot fully know the content of their hearts...

You may not know about a few people but never more than that little.

1 Corinthians 13:9 says that '*we only know in part...*' meaning that our knowledge is limited.

Since you cannot even fully understand your own self, is it another person you will now understand 100%?

No way!

This is another reason why God should be your Match Maker.

He knows you 100% and He knows every other person in this world 100%. He knows who will understand you, complement you and accept you for who you are.

Most importantly, He knows the person who will help you to fulfill God's purpose for your life.

So, you can entrust that duty into His hands

3. God has total control over all circumstances and nature.

Yes! God is the God of the Universe.

Revelation 4:11 says *'Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory, and honor and power: for Thou has created all things, and for Thy pleasure they are and were created.'*

Since God is in charge of everything in this world, He knows the best way to connect you with your spouse.

Not only that, God knows how to arrange circumstances and situations to favour you. He knows how to get your parents and people in your life to support His will for your life.

He said that His plan for you is a good one to bring all your expectations to pass, in Jeremiah 29:11

So you can trust Him to be your Match Maker

4. God has made it very easy for you to relate with Him.

Yes!

Having seen that God is able to put things in place for you, it is also very easy for you to relate with Him.

Jesus said in John 16:13 that, *'When the Spirit of Truth is come, He will guide you into all truth...'*

In Acts 2, this Spirit of Truth, which is the Spirit of God, became universally available to anyone who will believe in Jesus Christ.

Romans 8:15 confirmed it that the moment you repent of your sins and believe in Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord, *'you will receive the Spirit of adoption, whereby you can cry, Abba Father'*

This means that you will enter into an intimate relationship with God so that you can relate with God directly through faith, *just like Jesus*

Christ was very close to God and called Him, Abba Father.

If you have not been born again, you can be born again right now by getting on your knees or bowing your head, for prayer where you are right now;

- + Accept that you are a sinner, then repent of your sins and confess the sins to God;***
 - + Believe in Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord;***
 - + Confess with your mouth that Jesus is now your Saviour and Lord and that you are done with a life of sin;***
 - + Declare your decision to everyone you come in contact with; let everyone know that you are now a transformed born again child of God***
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If you have done this, I congratulate you, you are now born again. God and all the angels in

heaven are currently rejoicing because of your decision. I am also very happy too.

I will like to hear from you so I can begin to personally pray for you; do well to contact me to share your testimony with me.

Now that you are born again, the Bible says in John 1:12 that *'God has given you the power to become one of the children of God'*.

You have become a part of God's family and you now have access to all the rights and privileges of a child of God.

One of those privileges is that God Himself will guide you in your choice of who to marry.

5. There's confusion all around, only in God you can get your nerves calmed.

You will discover that sometime you seem to like a fair-complexioned person, another time you like a chocolate- or dark-complexioned person.

Sometimes you like a short person, at other times, it is a tall person you are admiring. That is confusion!

Sometimes you even get confused right inside the church; you see the choir or prayer leader smile unusually to you, and then you suppose that he or she has interest in you; the next time, that same person is frowning at you and then confusion sets in.

Sometimes you see yourself developing feelings for someone you have been relating more closely with, and then you are not sure if that person is also having feelings for you, then you are confused!

The Bible says in Psalms 119:165 that *'those who love the word of God will enjoy great peace and nothing shall get them destabilized'*

Jesus said in Matthew 11:28, that *when you come to Him, He will give you rest.*

When you allow God to be your Match Maker, you won't be confused; your mind will be at rest.

Psalm 125:1 says *'Those who trust in the Lord shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abides forever'*.

I will move on now to the next subject... **Why You Should Marry!**

WHY YOU SHOULD MARRY

In Genesis 2:18, God said *'It is not good that the man should be alone, I will make him an help meet for him.'*

This means that God wants you to marry, unless you are a congenital eunuch who do not have sexual feelings for the opposite sex.

1. Marry for companionship

This was the first need that God addressed in the life of Adam.

God made for him a help meet who would keep his company, play with him, gist with him, etcetera.

When you want to marry, marry because you need a companion.

I remember some years ago when someone asked me why I wanted to marry, I answered I

said that I want to marry for two reasons; one is to fulfill the purpose of God for my life, and the other reason is to have fun.

It amazes me when I hear ladies cry out that the person they want to marry is insisting they get pregnant before they can marry them in order to be sure they are fertile.

Even though procreation (having children) is part of the reason to get married, it is not the major reason.

My advice is that anyone who insists that you must be pregnant before they consider you for marriage does not deserve you, please let go of such person.

The fact is that, **it is not every marriage that will produce children**, when you are getting married, marry for companionship so that even if there's a delay in getting children, both of you will not lose your love for each other.

Another fact is that, your children will all grow up and leave your house one day; it will then remain you and your partner again at the end. So marry for companionship.

2. Marry in order to fulfill God's Purpose

In Revelation 4:11, we saw that the purpose God created us is so that we can give Him pleasure.

Getting married is part of what gives God pleasure because He said in Genesis 1:28, shortly after He made the man and woman that *they should have dominion* over all the things He has created.

Marriage helps you to fulfill your purpose easily, faster and effectively.

Ecclesiastes 4:9 says '*Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their (joint) labour*'.

The book, **Purpose Guided Career and Choice**, written by my wife and I, outlined this in detail. You can download it free from my blog at www.bjseyi.wordpress.com/downloads

3. Marry for Procreation

This means that when you are contemplating on getting married, you should be prepared to nurse a baby or babies too.

This also means that if you do not have a reproductive organ, you should not consider getting married, unless you have discussed your condition with your partner and he or she is ready to accept you that way.

You may also need to consult with a mature Christian leader for counsel if;

...as a man, you have never had feelings for women or you have never had an erection before;

Or

...as a lady, you have never had feelings for any man or you have never seen your menses before.

It will not be good if you have these problems and hide it from your partner. Such marriage will not be honored by God.

4. Marry to prevent fornication

Paul the Apostle included this, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, as one of the reasons you should marry.

He said in 1Corinthians 7:1-5 that *it is better to remain unmarried but in order to avoid fornication, you should go ahead and marry.*

So, if anyone is putting pressure on you for Premarital sex, just tell them to go and pay your dowry and marry you. Once that is done, you can both get naked and you will not be ashamed.

You must tell yourself this that **No Marriage,
No Sex!** Make it your slogan.

The next thing I will talk about now is
Choosing Who to Marry.

CHOOSING WHO TO MARRY

In making the choice of who to marry, there are a few things you should know;

1. You have a free will that God will not interfere with unless you deliberately allow Him.

God will not choose for you, He will only guide you through the process by making you apply Scriptural principles and through the Holy Spirit's leading.

He will not impose anyone on you or force you to marry anyone. When He guides you, it is your responsibility to either accept or reject, and you are 100% responsible for your choice.

Since God will not impose anyone on you, it is wrong for anyone else, whether your pastors, priests or parents, to impose someone on you.

You have the power of choice, but ensure you allow yourself to be guided by God from the beginning to the end so that you do not make a mistake.

I hope you understand?

2. The will of God for you in marriage is to marry someone who is also a child of God like you.

When you marry someone who is not born again, the Bible calls it *unequal yoking* in 2 Corinthians 6:14.

The person may be good looking, nice or caring, if he or she is not born again, it's a NO! NO!

It is also important that you know that you are expected to marry an unmarried person like you.

If the person who wants to marry you is already married and the spouse is still alive, it is a NO! NO!

If you marry such person, the Bible says in Romans 4:1-3 that you are committing adultery.

3. Ensure that you have a vibrant relationship with God, through regular time of prayers, communion with God and study of God's Word.

This is where many Christians miss it!

You have to learn the ways of God through consistent fellowship with Him.

It is when you have related with God that you can understand how He leads and guides you.

The best way to hear the voice of God is to learn it through reading of His Word.

God's voice is heard on the pages of the Bible.

Then when the word of Christ has dwelt richly in you, according to Colossians 3:6, hearing God speak to you will become so simple and easy as ABC.

Many Christians want to hear God for the first time during the time they are ready to choose who to marry. It doesn't work that way!

It will rather make you vulnerable to hearing strange voices, and seeing strange dreams and visions.

I recommend that you all read my writing on **Before You Start a Relationship**; it will be a good guide for you. It is available for free on the blog.

4. When choosing who to marry, engage your Sanctified Common sense.

Being born again does not take away your common sense, it rather sanctifies it.

Sanctified common sense will help you ask yourself questions like; *this person I'm getting attracted to, is he or she born again? Is this person passionate about what I am passionate about? Does she or he love God? Does he/she love people? Does he or she have good interpersonal relationship with people around him, including his siblings and other family members? And so on!*

If the answers to the questions are YES, sanctified common sense will say, go for this person; that is the will of God for you.

If the answer to any of the questions is NO, sanctified common sense will say, slow down, there's danger ahead, seek counsel, pray more, make enquiries, etcetera.

People who ignore such common sense usually end up in regrettable marriage relationship.

How do you get a sanctified common sense?

Everyone has a self-will and ego that's almost always selfish.

If you are born again, you can get your common sense sanctified by surrendering that your will, your selfishness, and your ego deliberately to God.

This means that you will place God's interest above your own interest.

I remember one of my prayer points in those days; **“Oh Lord, You know I am propagating sexual purity, I want a virgin for a wife.”**

Then God asked me, *'what if she's not a Virgin but she is born again and can help you to fulfill your purpose?'*

I simply answered, **Your will be done oh Lord.**

I also prayed to have a lady who is a graduate, who can speak correct English; then God asked me the same question; *"what if she speaks bad English but she's born again with a good heart?"*

Again, I surrendered.

That is how God sanctifies our common sense *by making us prioritize what is most important.*

Doing God's will does not mean that God will give you something bad or something inferior.

The Bible says in James 1:17, *'Every good gift and every perfect gift comes from God...'*

However, God wants to empty us of ourselves and teach us that He created us for His own pleasure, and for our own good also.

Eventually, I married a virgin and a graduate; we are both pleasing God together with our lives now.

I encourage you to subject your common sense to sanctification. Allow God to take full control of your heart, your thought and your all.

With *a sanctified common sense*, God's interest becomes your number one interest.

When you put God's interest as your number one priority, you will make an excellent choice in marriage.

Now that you have known how to make a choice of who to marry, **WHAT NEXT?**

WHAT NEXT?

It is first important that you subject your conviction about your choice to the test of time.

Give it time and see if that conviction will get stronger or weaker. Never allow yourself to be in hurry. Haste and hurry are twin sisters in the family of impatience.

At this period, it is not wrong to still present your conviction before God for scrutiny even though you are certain that it was God who guided you through it.

Let God know that you are ready to do His will through repeated sincere affirmation that you need Him.

When in my final year at the university, I already made up my mind about who to marry, but I kept on praying, saying;

“Oh Lord, if it remains a little for me to miss it in marriage, please call my attention back in a way that I will know it is You, and I will obey You... Only Your will should stand in my life”.

Some months later, I lost my peace and when I sought the face of God in prayer, I discovered that the choice I had made belonged to another man, not me.

Eventually, with tears in my eyes, I surrendered.

I sought God afresh and God guided me into His will for my life.

Today I am happily married to my wife, we are both honoring God together. The lady is also happily married to her husband now. In fact, we got married the same month in the same year.

When you delight yourself in God, God Himself will ensure you don't make mistake.

I always remember the experience I had one night, some years ago, when God spoke to my

heart during prayers; He said... *'My son, because you have delighted yourself in Me, I will ensure you marry right'*.

I am forever grateful to God because He guided my heart to make the right choice.

Secondly, get your spiritual leaders involved.

You need them for good and experience-filled advise.

The Bible says in Proverbs 11:14, *'Where there is no counsel, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors, there is safety'*.

Proverbs 15:22 also says, *"Without counsels, purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors, purposes are established."*

Talk to a mature Christian leader about your conviction and allow them to guide you through the help of God.

This will help you to have confidence and also prevent you from making avoidable mistakes.

Young people most times fall into this assumption that they can handle things on their own. They use to assume that they know it all.

Please don't assume you know it all; sincerely you don't know anything yet. You may not agree but it is a fact!

Thirdly, involve your parents.

At least one of your parents will be concerned about you, talk to him or her and let them guide you.

Don't assume you know more than them, they can see what you are not seeing.

You may be more educated than them but they are more experienced than you. The things you cannot see even when you climb a tree, your parents can see it while sitting down.

They have experience and most times, the voice of your parents is the voice of God. Please listen to them for your own good.

If they say NO, ensure you calm down well enough to understand why they said so. If they say YES, you can be certain that you are on the right path.

However, there are some parents who are selfish; what to do is to put everything before God in prayer. Since God is involved, He will touch them and make things work out for His will and for your good.

Finally, do you have peace in your heart towards this your choice?

You may have some doubts, that is normal but deep within you, is there peace in your heart that you are OK with this person?

However, if you are always afraid or scared about what will become of you if you marry the person, what to do is to pause and seek counsels.

When you have analyzed all these, I can assure you that whatever choice you make will be the will of God for your life; and you can confidently say that **God is Your Match Maker.**

I believe you have learnt something!

God bless you.

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