

Why I Have Chosen Courtship

By Brian Webb

I have decided to court rather than date. I want to honor the Lord and I want a strong marriage that will last.

The mentality that goes with dating is selfishness. You want to have fun. You want to benefit yourself in the short-term; there is no commitment. How many dating couples have you seen that genuinely had a commitment to one-another? How many dating couples have you seen that just wanted to have fun and feel good *about themselves?* *I'm sure that* the former is much rarer than the latter.

Most people who date will stay with one person for a few weeks or months and breakup. Then they will find some other person to do the same thing to. I have known very few people who ever knew, let alone married, the first person they dated. If throughout your romantic pursuits, you completely lack any form of *commitment and rarely even get to know the latest person you "love," then how* will you stay married? Too many couples have learned a pattern of indifference rather than commitment. They then carry that mentality into marriage.

With dating you are not only setting yourself up for failure but, you are also putting yourself into very dangerous situations. When dating temptations can be very real and it can become very easy to cross a boundary line you have set for yourself. I have decided that I want to wait until my marriage ceremony to experience my first kiss. Last year I almost crossed that line when I got too close to someone I liked. But I was not yet ready to commit to marriage. Thankfully, the Lord had grace on me and gave me strength to not only have self-control in that situation, but, also, to end that aspect of that relationship. If you compromise a little, then you will eventually compromise a lot.

I have decided to court because I care more about my future wife than how I feel now; I care more about the Lord than to break His heart with a failed marriage. Marriage is all about commitment which is something to practice and get used to while courting. With that in mind, why would I want to try anything else?