



**Scriptures:** Isaiah 43:7, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, 1 Corinthians 7:8, Genesis 2:18-25, Song of Songs 2:7b, 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

[Slide 1] Hey ladies! I am glad to see you today! I am excited to start a new series with you called *Relationship Goals: For Girls Only*. Over the next three weeks, we are going to dive into what the Bible says about dating relationships! We will look at the biblical purpose for dating relationships, biblical goals to have for a man, and biblical goals to have for yourself. My hope is that you walk away from these weeks knowing your worth as a daughter of God, knowing what you are looking for in a guy, and being equipped to say no to anyone who do not meet those standards. So, I want to start by asking you a question.

[Slide 2] What would you say is the purpose of dating relationships?

[Teacher's Note: We wrote their answers on a white board. You can have them brainstorm in small groups or just hear from a few students who want to answer out loud. Do whatever fits your group best. Our girls gave answers like "to be happy," "to have someone to lean on," "to love and be loved," "to have someone in the hard times," "to feel good," "to eventually marry." If they are struggling to come up with answers, you may rephrase the question to "What does our culture say is the purpose of dating relationships?"]

What do you think the Bible says? Actually, the word "dating" is not in the Bible. In the time and culture that the Bible was written, marriages were arranged by their families. That is still true in many countries and cultures. Dating is a practice in our culture where people get to know each other before committing to them in marriage. So, if the Bible does not mention dating, what can we learn from the Bible about the purpose of dating relationships?

Before we answer that, let's answer this question, "What does the Bible say is our overall purpose if you have given your life to Jesus?"

I hear students say things like "I can't wait for high school to be over and my life to really begin." So often, whether we say it or not, we think that our purpose is tied up in the career or family we will have one day. Many girls

think that they will find their purpose and fulfillment in the man they marry. Let's see what the Bible says about your true purpose in life.

Open your Bibles to **Isaiah 43:7 (CSB)**.

*“Everyone who bears my name and is created for my glory. I have formed them; indeed, I have made them.”*

Now, let's turn to **1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (CSB)**.

*“Don't you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought at a price. So glorify God with your body.”*

**[Slide 3] Point 1: Our purpose is to glorify God!**

These verses say that our purpose is to glorify God: in school, at home, at a job, in a relationship, single, or later in life married with kids. In any and all situations, our purpose is to glorify God. He is the one who gives purpose and who should fulfill us.

In **1 Corinthians 7:8 (CSB)**,

Paul wrote, *“I say to the unmarried and to widows: It is good for them if they remain as I am.”*

Paul said that he was not married and it was good for some to remain unmarried. So, God's purpose for you can be accomplished whether single or married. His purpose for dating relationships is the same purpose as anything else on this Earth: to draw us closer to Him and to glorify Him.

We see that the biblical purpose of everything is to glorify God. We apply that same purpose to dating relationships. So, let me ask you, do your dating relationships glorify God?

What else does the Bible say about dating relationships?

**[Slide 4] Point 2: God created relationships!**

The Bible tells us that God created relationships! He created us to desire companionship. God designed it!



1. Reflect to the first list of what goals a godly man would have for a girl. How did that list compare to the character traits of the Proverbs 31 woman?
2. Which character traits of the Proverbs 31 woman do you have?
3. Which character traits of the Proverbs 31 woman do you need to work on?
4. What does it look like to focus on God instead of guys?
5. We said that our purpose is to glorify God. Whether dating or not, how have you glorified God this week? How can you give Him glory this coming week?

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