

**SELECTING A MATE: The Lord Builds the House (Psalm 127)**

*Introduction:*

1. **Ps. 127** God sustains homes & nations who trust in Him
2. Selecting a mate: second most crucial decision in life after first submitting to Christ for salvation
3. Learn God’s role & man’s role—do our part & trust God to do His!
4. Consequences are lifelong—reaching even to eternity!

**I. God’s Role in Our Finding the Right Mate**

- A. God Ordained Marriage for Our Good
  1. **Gen. 2:18-24** Marriage reflects God’s love for man
- B. God Joins Us in a Lifelong Covenant
  1. **Gen. 2:24** Irrevocable commitment to stay together & serve each other
  2. **Matt. 19:6, 9** God joins us when we vow
  3. **1 Cor. 7:39** Until death does us part
- C. God Instructs Us in Proper Attitude & Conduct
  1. **Eph. 5:22-27** Render mutual love & service
- D. God Guides Us If We Trust His Providence
  1. **Prov. 19:14; 18:22** God gives what we seek according to His will
  2. **Gen. 2:24** God gave Adam his wife & Eve her husband
  3. **Gen. 24** God gave Isaac his wife and Rebekah her husband by providence
    - a. **Vv. 1-9** Help of parents trusting God
    - b. **Vv. 12, 27, 56** Help of friends trusting God
    - c. Each life is unique, but God is the same God, ready to help all who trust Him!

**II. Our Role in Finding the Right Mate**

- A. First Priority: Live by Faith In God
  1. **Gal. 2:20** Live by faith in Christ in all things
  2. Constant prayer asking God’s help
    - a. **Prov. 19:14** Trust He can find the right mate
    - b. **Ja. 1:5-6** Ask His wisdom to understand & fulfill our role
  3. Trust His providence in all areas of life
    - a. God rules all things now as in Abraham’s day
    - b. **Matt. 6:26-30** He cares for birds & flowers, how much more for us!
    - c. **Ps. 27:13-14** Patiently wait on the Lord
- B. Be Godly in Character
  1. Seek forgiveness when sin against God or man
    - a. **Acts 2:38** Become a Christian, be serious about going to heaven
    - b. **Acts 8:22** Repent & pray when stumble rather than making excuses
    - c. **Matt. 5:23-24** Correct sins against others without delay
  2. **1 Cor. 13:4-7** Learn & live unselfish love
  3. **1 Pet. 1:14-16** Be pure & holy in life

**FORMER LUSTS IN YOUR IGNORANCE**

Fornication	Selfish	Drugs
Idolatry	Proud	Social Drinking
Adultery	Envious	Tobacco Addiction
Homosexuals	Hate	Dancing
Thieves	Bitter	Pornography
Covetous	Dishonest: Gambling	Immodest Dress
Drunkards	Anger Fits	False Religion & Teachers
Revilers	Cursing	Forsake Worship Assemblies
Extortioners	Lies	And Such Like
	Rumors	

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4. **Prov. 12:18** Make the tongue a blessing, not a curse—encourage, compliment

C. Seek a Mate Godly in Character

1. One who seeks forgiveness if sins against God or man
  - a. **Acts 2:38** Already a Christian or becomes a Christian, serious about going to heaven
  - b. **Acts 8:22** Repents & prays when stumble
  - c. **Matt. 5:23-24** Corrects sins against others
2. **1 Cor. 13:4-7** One who learns & lives unselfish love
3. **1 Pet. 1:14-16** One who strives to be pure & holy in life
4. **Prov. 12:18** One who makes the tongue a blessing, not a curse—encourages, compliments

D. Prepare for Practical Duties

1. Man: provide spiritual leadership & daily material needs of family
  - a. **Prov. 6:6-8** Diligent & provident like the ant
2. Woman: focus on spiritual & daily needs of family
  - b. **Prov. 31:26-27** Wise, kind, diligent worker

**III. Our Decision Has Lifelong Consequences**

A. If the Lord Builds the House: We Listen to Him

1. **1 Pet. 3:7** Mutual loving service & blessings

B. If We Build Without God, We Sorrow & Suffer

1. **Prov. 25:19** Like toothache & broken bone

<b>HOME BUILT WITH GOD</b>	<b>HOME BUILT WITHOUT GOD</b>
Prayer, Bible Study	Resist Prayer, Bible Study
Attend Worship Together	Resist Attending Worship
Invite Christians to Home	Resist Inviting Christians to Home
Teach Children God's Word	Lack of Bible Teaching, Division
Sexual Purity	Porn, Adultery, Incest
Tongue Used as Blessing	Tongue Used As Curse
No Alcohol, Drugs, Dance, Immodesty, Gamble	Alcohol, Drugs, Dance, Immodesty, Gamble
Stability, Happiness	Unstable, Unhappy
God Honored, Glorified	God Dishonored, Shamed
Heirs Together in Heaven	Separated in Heaven & Hell

*Invitation:*

1. **Ps. 127** God sustains homes & nations who trust in Him
2. Selecting a mate: second most crucial decision in life after first submitting to Christ for salvation
3. Learn God's role & man's role—do our part & trust God to do His!
4. Consequences are lifelong—reaching even to eternity!
5. Most crucial decision in life: submitting to Christ
  - a. **Acts 2:38** Accept salvation, enter God's family
  - b. **Acts 8:22** Be restored to God's family