



NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC

Motto: Love is a Choice not just feelings

Noble Heart Love Clinic

NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL NIGERIA

Title: **GODLY RELATIONSHIPS**

(G.R)

being real in an artificial world

BY

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GODLY RELATIONSHIP COURSE

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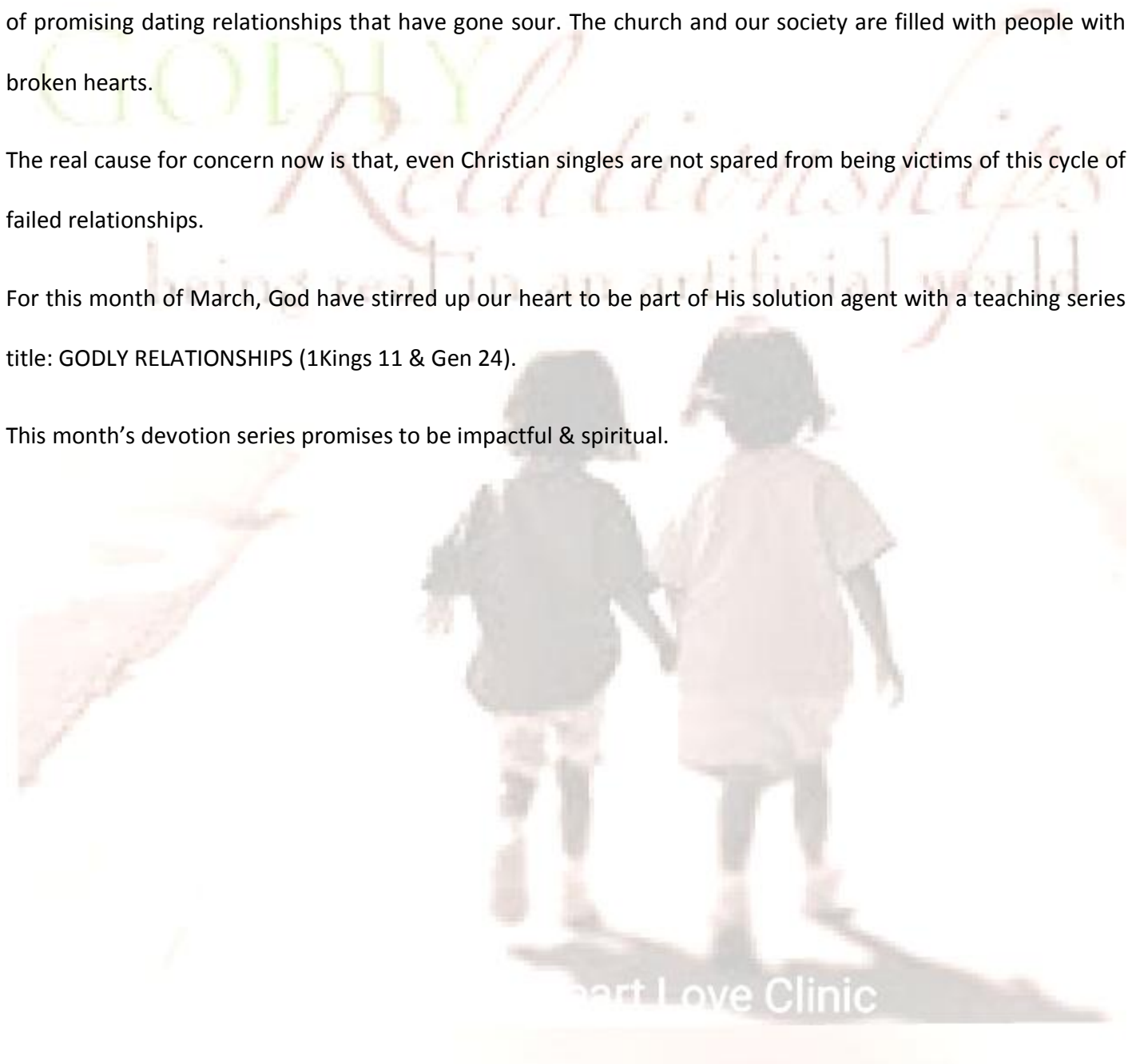
NHLCD –03118

Relationship is one of God's richest gift to man but when abused becomes a destructive tool. No area of human existence is as violated and capable of heartaches as premarital relationships. Many have been victims of promising dating relationships that have gone sour. The church and our society are filled with people with broken hearts.

The real cause for concern now is that, even Christian singles are not spared from being victims of this cycle of failed relationships.

For this month of March, God have stirred up our heart to be part of His solution agent with a teaching series title: GODLY RELATIONSHIPS (1Kings 11 & Gen 24).

This month's devotion series promises to be impactful & spiritual.



NHLCD – 03218

Wisdom Nugget: “Every negative or positive circumstance in life is traceable to a particular foundation/decision (taken consciously or unconsciously).”

Today's Caption: **FOUNDATION**

As we go further in our teaching series for this month, I like for us to establish a foundation from the anchor scriptures – 1Kings 11 & Gen24 respectively.

This bible passage paints a clear picture of a godly relationship and wrong relationship. Funny enough, both outcomes take their foot from a decision/action.

Godly relationships always bring peace and comfort at the end (Gen 24:67).

While wrong relationship brings untold hardship and destruction that even one's innocent children suffers from (1 kings 11: 11-12).

I encourage you today, to study carefully 1kings 11:1-43 & Gen 24:1-67 (the stories shared there are very interesting & insightful).

Faith Declaration: “I uproot every negative relationship working against my advancement in life in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

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NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 03318

Wisdom Nugget: “The success of your dating relationship will determine your success in marriage. “- Faith A. Oyedepo

Today's Caption: NEW THINKING PATTERN

The mistake most Christian singles make regarding their choice of a godly relationship partner is often visible to all except them most of the time.

Fundamentally, our thinking pattern needs to be addressed. The invasion of people's minds, especially from the media and other social platforms, with wrong and shallow relationship patterns with the opposite sex, subtly discourages discretion and virtue.

Ironically, many young folks end up as victims of their emotions rather than engaging in rational thinking, and behaviours that will lead them to meaningful dating experiences. Don't allow yourself end up as a victim from the fake appearance which the social-media paints as reality.

FAITH DECLARATION: “Heavenly Father, open my mind for a new relationship thought pattern. Amen”

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Wisdom Nugget: “The problem is not with dating, but what you do while dating.”

Today’s Caption: WHAT IS A GODLY RELATIONSHIP ABOUT?

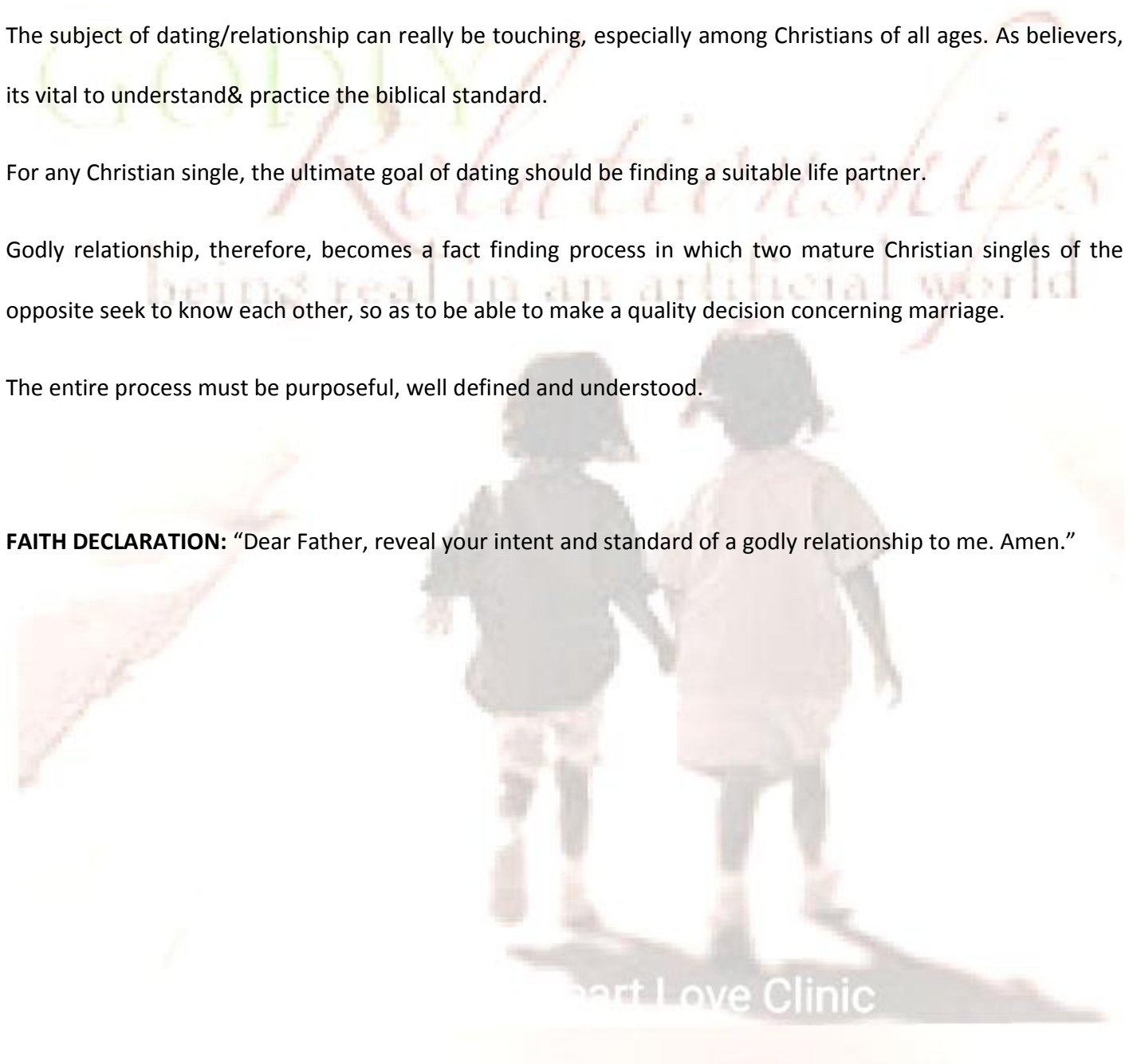
The subject of dating/relationship can really be touching, especially among Christians of all ages. As believers, its vital to understand& practice the biblical standard.

For any Christian single, the ultimate goal of dating should be finding a suitable life partner.

Godly relationship, therefore, becomes a fact finding process in which two mature Christian singles of the opposite seek to know each other, so as to be able to make a quality decision concerning marriage.

The entire process must be purposeful, well defined and understood.

FAITH DECLARATION: “Dear Father, reveal your intent and standard of a godly relationship to me. Amen.”



NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 03518

Wisdom Nugget: “Romantic relationships are not for adolescents.”

Today's Caption: WHO & WHEN?

Over 80% of single Christians often ask: At what age can one start dating? And who qualifies for dating?

Answer:

It's wrong for two people to pursue a relationship, when they are not eligible for marriage. The result is usually tragic. There are only two outcomes for dating relationships: Marriage or a breakup. It's vital to learn how to handle a relationship, in order to discern if a partner is worth marrying or otherwise.

Therefore, it's advised that a godly relationship be engaged in by mature people who have set boundaries in place and have learned or understand how to relate respectfully with other people, especially the opposite sex.

FAITH DECLARATION: “Open my heart Lord to the true meaning of what a godly relationship is about. Amen.

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NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 03618

Wisdom Nugget: “Run from anything that stimulates youthful lusts. Instead, pursue righteous living, faithfulness, love and peace...” (2Tim 2:22 NLT)

Today’s Caption: **THE PLACE OF PURITY**

There is nothing wrong with friendship between a male and female, as long as they treat each other with respect and observe purity. But its not right to demand for exclusive attention, until you are sure that you are genuinely interested in building a lasting relationship with the proper boundaries instituted.

Understand this: Dating is not meant for young boys and girls, who are only interested in the company of the opposite sex, without a full understanding of what relationships are about.

FAITH DECLARATION: “I receive wisdom to understand the right timing for godly relationship. Amen”

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NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 03718

Wisdom Nugget: “if you are not eligible to marry, or there is no possibility of marriage – please don’t date...”

Today’s Caption: WHAT IS YOUR PURPOSE?

Just as every other thing in life, dating has its purpose. If you are not eligible to marry, or there is no possibility of marriage with another person, then don’t get involved with a long term godly relationship! Having a godly relationship with no intentions or possibility of marriage is extremely dangerous especially to young single's emotional and spiritual well being.

Marriage can be likened to a marathon race, not a 100 meter dash! Please, don’t be naïve; don’t take a leap in the dark. It is a worthwhile venture to be able to say on your wedding day that you are marrying a friend and not someone you barely know.

I like to ask: what is the purpose for the current relationship you’re engaged with

FAITH DECLARATION: “Lord, I surrender my relationship life to your supervision and guidance. Amen.”

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NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 03818

Wisdom Nugget: “Purpose establishes boundary and helps create focus in the relationship.”

Today's Caption: THE PLACE OF PURPOSE IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP

In yesterday's devotion, I emphasized on the place of having a definite purpose for the godly relationship you're involved with currently.

Having a good understand of the purpose of dating/godly relationship you're involved in will help you approach it sensibly and avoid some pitfalls, as you prepare for a life of marital fulfillment.

One key (primary) reason for the period of courtship/godly relationship is to cultivate friendship based on honest communication and mutual acceptance of each other, which will form a platform for a successful marriage.

FAITH DECLARATION: “Lord, I surrender my relationship life to your supervision and guidance. Amen.”

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NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 03918

Wisdom Nugget: “Though most first attraction is from the ‘looks’, the one that will eventually last a lifetime is in the ‘heart’.

Today Caption: PURPOSE IS VERY VITAL

For some days now; we place much emphasis in having a relationship with purpose. The purpose for a godly relationship also includes, but is not limited to the following:

3.) To know each other better; its time to find out about the person you intend to spend the rest of your life with, basically, whether he/she will make a good spouse or not.

4.) To know if both of you can get along. To discover if both of you are heading in the same direction in life. To know if you both share same believe system, if you both are medically fit, etc.

5.) To prove each other’s sincerity: its time to determine and establish the sincerity of the other person. Especially on spiritual sincerity; God must be sincerely honoured in every aspect.

FAITH DECLARATION: “ Lord, I surrender my relationship life for your purpose to be established. Amen.”

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NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 031018

Wisdom Nugget: “Promise me, O women of Jerusalem, by the gazelles and wild deer, not to awaken love until the time is right.” - SOS 2:7 NLT

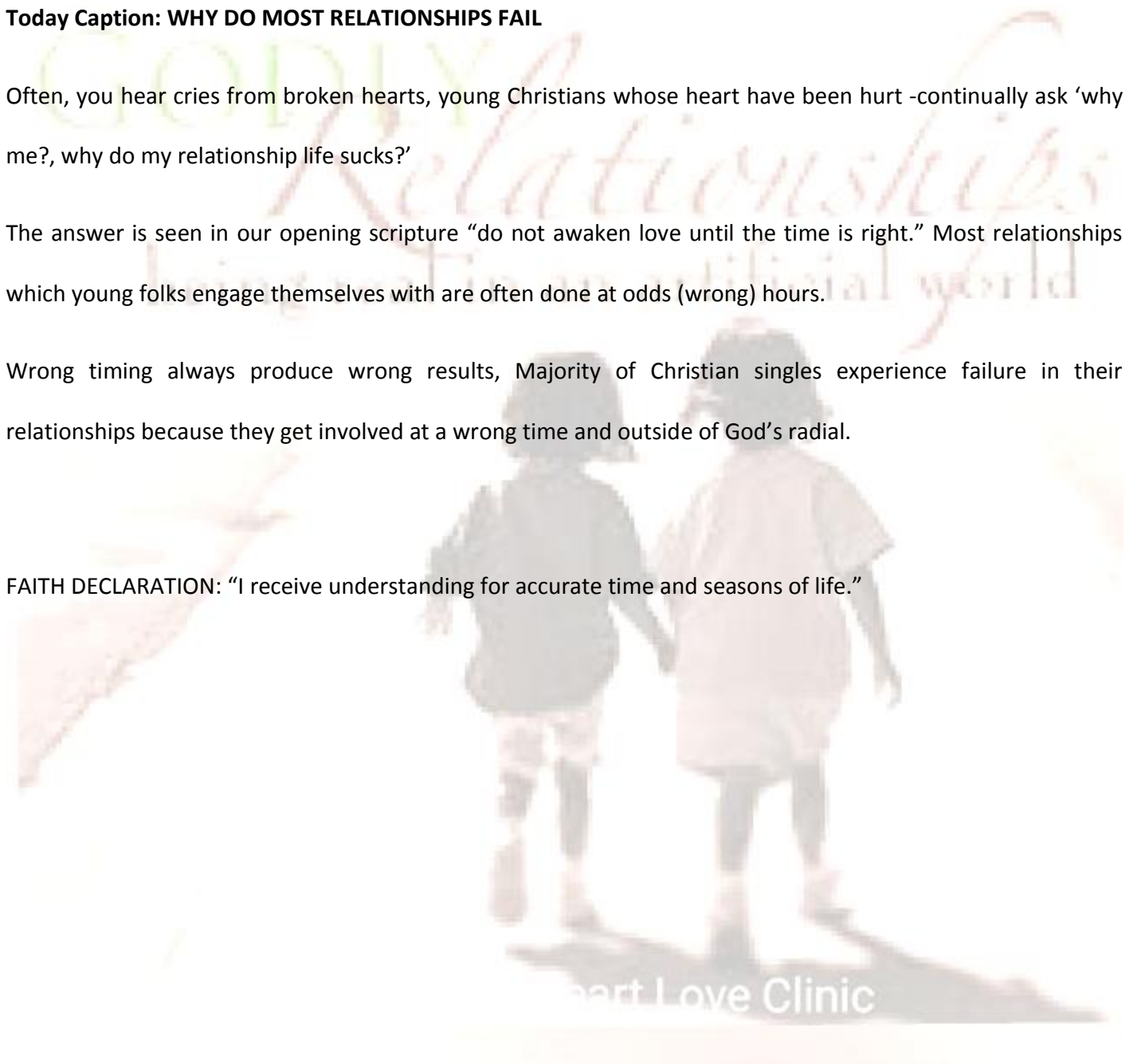
Today Caption: WHY DO MOST RELATIONSHIPS FAIL

Often, you hear cries from broken hearts, young Christians whose heart have been hurt -continually ask ‘why me?, why do my relationship life sucks?’

The answer is seen in our opening scripture “do not awaken love until the time is right.” Most relationships which young folks engage themselves with are often done at odds (wrong) hours.

Wrong timing always produce wrong results, Majority of Christian singles experience failure in their relationships because they get involved at a wrong time and outside of God’s radial.

FAITH DECLARATION: “I receive understanding for accurate time and seasons of life.”



NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 031118

Wisdom Nugget: “...*but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.*” 1 Timothy 4:18

Today Caption: HOW TO START A GODLY RELATIONSHIP

I thought it would be very educating to put together a biblical ways to start a godly relationship. I realize that many of my readers are young women/men, and most fall into one of the following categories...

- Single and not quite ready for a relationship
- Single and ready to start a relationship
- Already in a relationship
- Already engaged or married

Whichever category you fall into, *I've written this series of devotional episodes to help each and every one of you (us).*

So What does it take to prepare for (and have) a godly relationship? Here's what you need to know... and here's what you need to do.

1. Become a Godly Young Man/ Woman

Whatever you do in life, will be made better by being a *godly young man or woman*. When you walk with God, you read His Word and understand God's way of making life and relationships *work*. You will not find the best relationship tips in magazines, psychology books, or talk shows. **The best relationship tips you will find are hidden in God's Word.**

Focus on your walk with God, become a godly young man/woman and you will be doing the BEST possible thing you can do for an *awesome* and godly relationship.

FAITH DECLARATION: "Dear Father, I release myself unto good works, guide me & lead me accordingly. Amen."

NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 031218

Wisdom Nugget: *"In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." Proverbs 3:6*

Today Caption: HOW TO START A GODLY RELATIONSHIP (PRT 2)

In previous episode, we began by looking at how can a Christian single start a godly relationship. Here's the next point:

2. Choose God's Will

Never settle for less than God's will. Be surrendered to His plan and purpose for your life. Don't focus on the life YOU want to have... **Focus on the life God wants you to have, and be determined to follow it.**

If you are surrendered to God's will for your life, then you will be in the best possible place to begin an awesome, God-centered relationship.

If you are *not* focused on God's will, you could very easily be swept into a relationship that was not meant for you. And take my word on this one... it will *not* be an awesome relationship.

Decide to follow God's will (for everything) and then choose only God's will for a future relationship. It will be *awesome*.

FAITH DECLARATION: "I receive your enablement Father, to always be at the Centre of Your will. Amen."

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NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 031318

Wisdom Nugget: *“Be careful for nothing, **but in everything by prayer and supplication** with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God.” Philippians 4:6*

Today Caption: HOW TO START A GODLY RELATIONSHIP

3. Pray About Your Future

No matter how young, you can begin praying about your future now. It's never too early. Praying about your future will help you make wise decisions concerning your future. Pray for wisdom, pray for guidance, and pray for clarity and direction.

If you make it a habit to pray about your future, God will be faithful in providing direction and clarity for big decisions – like a future relationship.

Prayer is such a vital key to preparing for a great future and a godly relationship.

(Hint: When God reveals that special someone, make it a habit to pray *together!*)

FAITH DECLARATION: “I receive grace to tarry on the prayer altar till my desire is made manifest. Amen.”

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NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 031418

Wisdom Nugget: *“Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.” Ephesians 5:22 and 25*

Today Caption: HOW TO START A GODLY RELATIONSHIP – (part4)

RELATIONSHIPS

4. Understand the Biblical Roles of a Husband and Wife

No matter your relationship status, it's extremely important to understand the biblical roles God has given to men and women. Study and learn the purpose God has given you as a woman.

Become familiar with the passage in Ephesians 5 that speaks to husbands and wives, and their specific roles.

Understand that men are to lead, and woman are supposed to follow their leadership in a submissive way, *“as unto the Lord”*.

Following God's plan will produce the best kind of relationship. So make it a priority to study and understand your role as a woman (and future wife). This will prepare you for a great and godly relationship!



FAITH DECLARATION: “I receive proper understanding as I study on the biblical roles of husband and wife.

Amen.”

NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 031518

Wisdom Nugget: *“Nevertheless, let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.” Ephesians 5:33*

Today Caption: HOW TO START A GODLY RELATIONSHIP – (part5)

5. Understand the Concept of Love and Respect

When I first read about the concept of [love and respect](#), I was blown away. Not surprisingly, this idea is nothing new. It comes from the very Word of God. God created both male and female and gave them each unique desires.

God placed in men a very strong desire for respect and admiration. As a result, men thrive when they receive lots of admiration and adoration. (Perhaps this is why many men have such a strong ego!)

On the other hand, God created women with a very strong desire for love. We thrive when we are treated with tender loving care, and even lots of affection.

Understanding this concept and actually putting it into practice, will help you prepare for a great relationship. And if you are already in a relationship.... putting love and respect into action will greatly *improve* your relationship. Love and respect was God’s idea – and it totally works!

FAITH DECLARATION: “I receive proper understanding as I study on the concept of love. Amen.”

NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 031618

Wisdom Nugget: “Let no corrupt communication, proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.” Ephesians 4:29

Today Caption: *HOW TO START A GODLY RELATIONSHIP – (part6)

6. Learn How to Communicate Well

Communication is key in life, *and* in relationships. Learning how to communicate well, isn't as complicated as you might think. And you know what? The Bible has a LOT to say about communication!

Just read the book of Proverbs

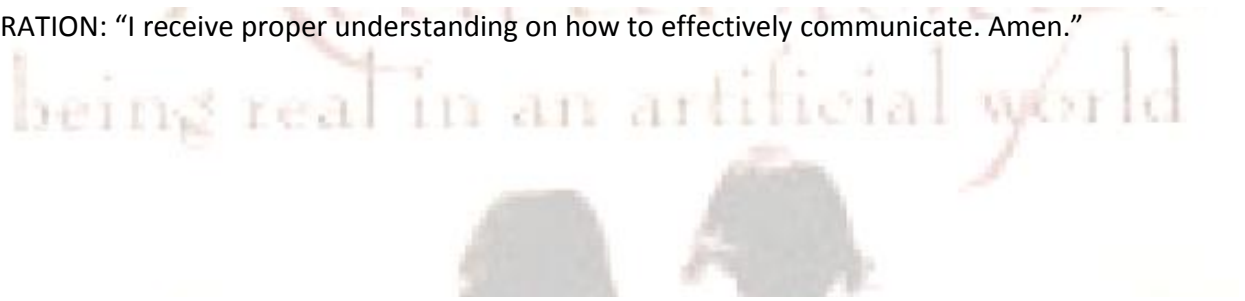
I'm going to share some quick (and simple) communication tips with you:

- **Be Honest** – talk about things that bother you. Don't clam up... speak up. Don't hide things from others. Be honest and truthful with other people. Learn to talk about problems and work through them. (Ephesians 4:25)
- **Speak with Kindness** – Be kind and loving when you talk to others. Don't let unkind words come out of your mouth. Avoid raising your voice. Speak with love and kindness. (Ephesians 4:15 and 32)
- **Work Together** – if a problem comes up, work together (or with others) to find a solution. Learn *teamwork*. (Romans 12:18)
- **Communicate Often** – Don't let too much time or distance come between you and other people – especially if you're in a relationship. Communicate as needed to keep your relationships strong and healthy.

- **Speak With Clarity and Use Details** – Be very clear and use details when trying to explain yourself. Avoid talking about serious issues over text. Call and talk on the phone... or better yet, speak in person, face to face!

Learning good communication skills will go a long way to help you have a great relationship. Be sure to study out God's Word, and see for yourself what the Bible has to say about good communication.

FAITH DECLARATION: "I receive proper understanding on how to effectively communicate. Amen."



NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 031718

Wisdom Nugget: *“Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.”*

Philippians 2:4

Today Caption: *HOW TO START A GODLY RELATIONSHIP – (part7)

7. Be “Others-Focused”

No one wants to be in a relationship with a selfish or self-focused individual. Learn to focus on other people. Don't always be thinking about yourself. Be genuinely interested in other people – Keep their best interest in mind.

When you find yourself in a relationship with a special someone... don't focus on what they can do for you – make it your goal to serve and bless *them*.

I recently heard a quote that has been impacting the way I see love.

The quote: *“Never be afraid to be the one who loves the most.”*

Relationships are not supposed to be a 50-50 propositions like most people seem to think. It's not me giving 50% and Adam or Jane giving his/her own 50%. It's supposed to be both of us giving 100%. But there is nothing wrong with being the one who gives or loves the most.

Learn to be selfless and others-focused in your relationships. Doing so will prepare you for a selfless and loving relationship that will bless your future spouse.

FAITH DECLARATION: “I receive grace to be other's focused, to love more and not be afraid to express it in Jesus' Name. Amen.”

NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 031818

Wisdom Nugget: “*Better is little with the fear of the LORD, than great treasure and trouble therewith.*

Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith.” Proverbs 15:16-17

Today Caption: *HOW TO START A GODLY RELATIONSHIP – (part8)

8. Don't Set Your Expectations Too High (or too Low!)

Let me explain. I think we as young women should have high expectations for the young man who wants to win our heart. If expectations are too low... you may end up with someone who will not properly lead you in a godly, Christ-like way. In this way, you should set high standards of godly character, leadership, and integrity in any young man that “comes courting”.

However, on the flip side, having expectations that are too high can be very dangerous as well. Expecting a young man to *always* make you happy, bring you flowers every week, and romance you every single day of your life.... well that's just setting an impossible and unreasonable standard.

Set high standards on things that *really* matter – like his walk with God, godly character, polite manners, family values, etc. But don't set your standards too high in other areas – like romance, expensive gifts, fancy dates etc.

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NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 031918

Wisdom Nugget: *“Rejoice in the Lord always; and again, rejoice.” Philippians 4:4*

Today Caption: *HOW TO START A GODLY RELATIONSHIP – (part8)

9. Choose to Be Joyful

It's been awhile since I talked about joy. But choosing to be [a joyful and happy woman](#) will go a *long* way in preparing you for a great relationship. Sour moods, constant unhappiness, and wrong emotions will drag other people (especially *him*) down. However, a happy, joyful spirit will bring life and energy to any relationship.

It's our job to choose joy and happiness. It is NOT the responsibility of other people or a special young man to make us a happy. That kind of expectation could ruin a relationship!

Choose today to...

- **Look on the bright side – be positive** (1 Thessalonians 16-18)
- **Smile!** (Proverbs 15:13)
- **Fight against wrong bad moods and wrong emotions** – especially during that time of the month (Proverbs 16:32)
- **Be joyful in the Lord** (Philippians 4:4)
- **Be content** (Philippians 4:11)
- **Choose to be lighthearted and merry**(Proverbs 17:22)
- **Fight against worry and fear** – Learn to trust the Lord instead (Philippians 4:6)
- **Avoid complaining** (Philippians 2:14)

NOBLE-HEART LOVE CLINIC RELATIONSHIP DEVOTIONAL – 032018

Wisdom Nugget: *“And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother’s eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother’s eye.” Matthew 7:3-5*

Today Caption: *HOW TO START A GODLY RELATIONSHIP – (part10)

10. Change Yourself Instead of Others

So often, we try to change other people. But if we do this, we will just end up frustrated and disappointed because we *can't* change other people! We need to learn to accept people as they are – without trying to change them. So, if you meet someone you would love to change – don't even try.

You can pray for others, and hope for the best – you can even encourage and motivate them to do what is right... but you will never change them.

Instead, focus on yourself.

This is one area where it's okay to be a little self-focused. What do you need to change about yourself? What are your weaknesses? What are your particular struggles? Pinpoint your own weakness and faults (not other people's faults). Try to find out your blind spots (you know, those areas of weakness you can't see as easily as other's can?) Ask a close friend to point out things you need to work on. Make a self-improvement list. Set goals for yourself.

Be an encouraging cheerleader for others... but don't try to change them. With God's grace and help, work on changing the only person you can possibly change: yourself.

Learn to grow in the Lord. Grow in character, and grow as a person. Learn how to make changes in your own life -especially spiritual changes- and you will be preparing yourself for a great and godly relationship!

Final Thoughts

Preparing yourself for a godly relationship takes work. But so does a great relationship. If you can learn these things now, you will be more prepared for a successful, Christ-centered relationship later.

Remember, if you're already in a relationship... these tips can help you improve the relationship you already have. There's always room for improvement, and it's not too late!

Once again, the absolute best way to prepare for an awesome relationship is to be a godly young woman. Nothing will prepare you better than having a solid foundation in God's Word. Biblical principles are the best rules to follow in order to have a successful and awesome relationship!

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