



grenepages

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21st word

Many times in life, we get to be on cloud nine, where it's all bliss, elation and happiness. Some other times, it's the other way round, that place where no one wants to be - sad and down.

Ever taken out time to figure out the things that trip us over when we should be joyful? Let's talk about KILLJOYS in this edition.

From God (the author of joy Himself), to fellow humans (with special emphasis on our marriage partners) and materials (the things we get addicted to); what sort of relationship with these will give joy or kill it?

As you read through, our prayer is that God will not only show you the definition of true joy, He will make you begin to experience it. No longer will your joy be cut short in Jesus' name.

Welcome to [grenepages](#).

Tobi Olowookere



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fellowship; more than j

“Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.”

James 4:8a NKJV

“But it is good for me to draw near to God”.

Psalms 73:28a NKJV

“That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death”.

Philippians 3:10 NKJV



Joan Abimbola

MINISTERING RHYTHMS

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friendship

More than friendship
More than a relationship
More than courtship
I call it fellowship!

Friendship can die-
When no fellowship is tied
Relationship can be marred-
When too much space is tagged

Courtship is naught-
When no fellowship is sought
Friendship: relationship; courtship
One fuel each requires: fellowship!

Only a relationship with the Lord
His love deserves a lot more!
Each new day cleave to Him
And let your fellowship be real

In fellowship, love is seen in full
In fellowship, intimacy is let to bloom
Indeed love is made stronger
Till nothing can tear asunder

Tomorrow you make it hard
If today, you refuse to act
The days you don't feel like it
Remember love and let it be your lead

killjoys

Homegirl,

In my last message to you, I talked about the need to bring out the gems that has been deposited into you by our Father in Heaven, and I promised to discuss how we could go about this. I will get to it shortly. First, I feel a need to talk to you about the need to conquer some things that I call Killjoys.

Killjoys are stuffs that hold us back from enjoying the fullness of God's grace given to us freely through the finished work of Christ Jesus, our Lord, the blessing of people He has positioned in our

lives, and from living life and enjoying it to the fullest.



Adeyinka Oresanya

THE DAUGHTER'S INSPIRATIONS

adeyinkaoresanya.com

They are Killjoys—they kill joy.

The number one culprit—echoes of the past. This include your past experiences, particularly negative ones, and growing-up challenges that have moulded your perspective, your mentality, attitude and behaviour. No matter how high up you are in life, there remains a vestige that grows out from time to time; disturbing joy and making you forfeit opportunities.

I know of a firebrand, tongues-speaking woman who sees every close female, including her daughters, as a potential rival. She is nice to you until something brings you to her territory to stay for a while. She couldn't open her arms to let you into her heart, her space. She reads meaning into everything you do. I got to know she grew up from a polygamous home. Then I understood.

Another lady I know wouldn't let any guy into her heart, and several good ones have come; her daddy treated her mother badly when she was growing up.

It is hard, so hard, but we need to let go of these nar-

ratives, purge our minds and souls of the pains and embrace the real experience we were meant to have—the original intention of the Father for us. Have you not read? He said and I quote, “the thoughts I have towards you are good and not evil to give you an expected end, a future and a hope.” However, we have to first empty our minds, our thoughts, our hearts, our lives, of what was or is (these echoes) and allow Him refill us with what is supposed to be, which is joy unspeakable with the freedom to live, to love and to be fulfilled.

Again, no other tool will do this better than the good old Bible. Hey Girl, you need to get into the Word! This can never be overemphasized because it is true. There is actually no other way.

If KJV is Greek to you, start with the contemporary versions (RSV, GNB and AMP and MSG versions are cool). Do not read it with the intention to get out-of-this-world revelations. You might never do because you have already put a pressure on yourself. Read, study and meditate on it like what it is—God’s love message to you.

Be open-minded, be interested; and revelation will come! Trust me, it works.

Loneliness!

Ah, loneliness. That is the second culprit I want us to beware of. I have always heard aloneness is different from loneliness, but I say aloneness, though has its own importance, can easily lead to loneliness.

Loneliness is a terrible feeling, no wonder us girls are always desperate to avoid it by avoiding being alone which leads us to wrong relationships especially with the opposite sex.

Wrong relationships re-direct our steps in an about-turn manner from love, fulfillment and joy in its fullness.

I understand loneliness needs to be avoided but it should be done in a healthy way and there are plenty of them.

I just heard the tumbling of my pots and pans. The boys are it again. I have to run along now!

We will tie this up in my next mail to you.

Till then, stay beautiful!

Your Homegirl,

Adeyinka Oresanya

#tomyownhomegirl

#iamyourhomegirlstotalktome

on becoming

The grass is greener on the other side or so I thought. This was my reality for 20 years in my marriage. I had been at my best friend's wedding, happy for him, excited to be the best man, repeatedly hitting on the Chief Brides Maid and eventually getting her to look my way. With several bottles and the high of the moment, we had our night of passion and in 9 months, I was to become a Father, very disinterested in the woman pregnant with my child and regretting drinking so much that night.

Bee girl was my sweetheart, the one woman I had spent every day waiting to be able to afford to propose to. Now that I could, I was stuck with this dilemma. As I sat



Toyin Seth-Ogungbe
TEE-WAI
teewai.com

across the room, I looked long and hard at Mayen; exhausted, heavily pregnant and probably alone through the pain, shame and strain on her body all these months.

Ashamed of how I had denied the first time she called me and cut her off before she could go any further. Somehow, I wondered why she kept the baby, if it was meant to trap me. She had a blank stare as if in a



the husband

different place. For the first time I wondered if she had her own sweetheart before our night together, how much her life had changed. Without thinking any further, I cleared my throat and said, 'Thank you all for coming, I will marry the mother of my child and do right by her.' My heart sunk, a soft smile

formed on her face and disappeared before I could figure out what it meant. My mother looked my way shocked at my decision as she had spent the last one week trying to make me see reasons why marrying her was best for everyone. It was my mistake; I was not going to make another one.

I had just shared my decision with Bee and she could not break free from my goodbye embrace. I knew I had to leave and fast too before I changed my mind on everything. I placed a kiss on her forehead, made her sit on her sofa and walked out without looking back. I heard her scream my name aloud as I shut the door. I felt like a part of me had been shut in that room. The wedding plan was in full gear, everyone in the family was excited. He had not seen Mayen since the meeting, yet she was carrying his baby and about to be his wife. He tried to call her many times and ended the call each time before she could pick up. Wanted to ask how this all felt for her, to know if she had her own "special somebody", how they could attempt to know each other and probably become friends. Mayen seemed very agreeable and easy to live with, it had

been five months since their traditional wedding and joining at the registry. She scared him with her patience and dutiful disposition as he had been used to full-blown drama. Bee was a drama queen, in love today and spanking him tomorrow. This was all new to him. His friends had fallen in love with Mayen almost immediately, made jokes about how this was a blessing in disguise as he had dodged a bullet with Bee. Why was he so numb? Why did she feel like a stranger? How could he feel so much love for his little girl and want to rush home to her since the day she was born but feel nothing for her mother?

As the car parked downstairs, Mayen wiped her tears, reached for her giggling Vivian in the cot and hurried to open the door for her husband. A husband who made her feel like she was barely existing, she cried daily for the dreams she sacrificed, the love she never had and the marital bliss that may only remain in her dreams. As she opened the door, he reaches for Viv, smiles so warmly kissing his little sunshine endlessly and taps her on the shoulder as he walks past her towards the staircase. Struggling to push back the tears gathering again, Mayen headed to the kitchen to serve his dinner.

Responding to a sudden loud shout he heard coming from the kitchen, he rushed downstairs

and saw her on the floor, curled up and lifeless. He had to admit, he missed Mayen. The guilt he carried since the day the Doctor had said her blood pressure had gone up and she needed to be monitored regularly. He felt responsible; knew she deserved better, helpless as to how best to make her happier. Even much more, it had been so hard to make Viv stop crying, the house was a mess and he couldn't keep up with all the chores as they kept piling up. Suddenly awoken by her cry, he realized he had slept off and left Vivian in her cot. He was meant to change her diaper and somehow ended up sleeping. Waoh! He thought, mothers are made with an unusual ability. His mother had just walked in and she couldn't have come at a better time, she looked the house over, shook her head and asked him to take a bath and go bring his wife home.

Uncertain why he had been thinking of Bola since his wife was hospitalized and as if controlled by something or someone he found himself parked in front of Bola's house. He had stopped taking her calls, not returned her numerous chats and here he was in her compound. Unsure how to face her, yet feeling a need to see her and be with her.

Awoken in Bola's arms by a call from the Doctor, he immediately realized how stupid he had been, four hours had passed and he was yet to

pick up his already discharged wife. As he drove towards the hospital, he was certain he was over Bola for good. She had nagged so much and he was no longer used to nagging. He noticed how different she was from Mayen. How unusual Mayen was. He was going to make a better effort for Mayen's sake, and he was now certain he didn't exactly miss much not marrying Bola. He vowed never to cheat on his wife ever again!

It was six months to their 20th anniversary; he couldn't believe how excited he was. Mayen was as calm as ever. All those years back he had made sure she rested more, went on vacation with the kids each year and she smiled more now. Their relationship had grown; fondness had birthed some friendship and utmost respect. How could he have missed it? She was perfect. She was so beautiful and was barely aging. Three beautiful kids and she remained gracious and balanced.

'You have been staring David', she said with her signature smile. 'Yes', he replied, 'I think I have fallen hopelessly in love with my wife of nearly 20 years'. 'Hmmm, that is a good thing right? Welcome aboard oga'. 'Will you marry me?' He asked almost shyly before realizing how that came out. 'I mean re- marry me. I never want to take for granted any day spent with you again and I need to say it before all our

loved ones'. Now genuinely shocked, Mayen sits back, looked at him long and hard, got up again and kissed him on the forehead. 'That will be beautiful', she replied finally, 'can you now get up from the floor and stop being so dramatic?'

The day was just as he pictured it, how it took him this long to realize finally, he had everything and more than he had asked for and had been stuck in seeking for what was never meant to be his. Amazed at God's humor, he looks through the crowd, thankful for faithful friends who were there for them. One who stood out was Fred, he had maintained from the word go, she was the best woman for him. He wondered if Fred had staged the whole Chief Brides Maid and Best man thing to make him move past Bola. Oh yea, he never liked Bola!

He had done many things wrong growing up, many things he wished he could take back. But this woman right here was the best mistake he ever made. Oh, she was so beautiful and yes, the honeymoon spot was her dream-come-true. Today she had same smile like those years ago when he had decided to marry her. Only this time, the smile didn't disappear in a hurry. He couldn't wait to be every bit the husband she deserved and more for all she had been.

the pain o

When I consider the consequences of cheating for a husband, I usually do not start with the pain of an innocent wife, in fact, that's about the last on my priority list.

The pain in my heart starts from the quandary created by the man for himself.

Especially when the side chick has a baby for you and becomes a mistress. It's dan-

gerous because that

woman is never going to have enough of you, she is going to want more.



Adeoye Akinwumi

AKINWUMI'S HANDWRITING(S)

nikeadeoye.blogspot.uk

And when you open yourself to a woman who can cheat with another woman's husband, you must know you have a DANGEROUS companion already. Now, your reasoning should tell you such person can go diabolical, they are usually close to it, if they aren't, their family or they keep a friend that can.

They desperately want more of your attention, so they inflict pain on your wife and perhaps your children. It does not matter how much you love the sex or comfort they offer, hurting your family will hurt you. That's your life investment.

But the question would be, **who exposed them to such evil?**

You!

f cheating



Adultery is exposing yourself to the enemy; wasting your energy.

And when you grow old, you have children who despise you, who do not honour you, for some piece of vagina, that your wife has.

I feel the pain of the cheated wife, but I usually feel more pain for the careless man. When you set out to cheat, remember the devil is always waiting with an ovulating woman, who can turn your life into a complex quadrangle in minutes.

It's not worth it!

Godliness with contentment...

I take it as letting the devil put a straw into your destiny and sipping it.

You get torn between two women, with different requests for you before their gods/God.

where can i

...but the fruit of the spirit is JOY (Galatians 5:22).

As soon as it started with the word 'feeling' something felt inadequate about the English dictionary's definition of joy. Not sure joy can be described as a feeling. While you can conveniently describe happiness as a feeling, you cannot do that to joy. Please bear this in mind.

From sending an innocent child to school or crèche before his first birthday to the battle of CGPA in the university, the child feels he will finally have peace when he secure a job, marry and settle down.

When he gets there, he discovers there is no

such thing as settling

down; another

chase begins immediately. Man's

search for joy is

very real!



Tobi Olowookere
GRACEDPAGES

gracedpages.wordpress.com

Men try to find joy through many means in life. Go to school to get degrees, build a good house for yourself and family, and drive a good car. Drink as much alcohol as you can in bottles of different sizes and colours. Take pleasure in adultery and fornication; enjoy yourself with women in different sizes and colours too. Attend wild parties to sing and dance away...but the moment all of these are over, your worries, problems and challenges resume immediately.

Our man made ways of finding joy: are they not harbingers of trouble on their own? Think about it. Immediately the drunkard is done on the table, his first problem is how to get home safely. Many men have lost their lives in accidents after getting up from

find joy?

that table. Many heads of families, top executives, owners of mansions have slept in gutters simply because they sought happiness from the wrong quarters. Alcohol does not bring joy.

As soon as a man gets off the bed of fornication or adultery, his problem starts. “Hope the girl won’t get pregnant? Hope my wife does not get to know. Hope I have not contacted any disease?” Eventually many of these worries crystallize. Did he not go there looking for joy? If sex were a source of joy, Solomon who established legal access to 1000 women would not describe life as vanity upon vanity. David his father, only brought sword and death into his family the day he slept with another man’s wife. Sex is not the source of joy.

It seems to me that all a man does with his life from birth until death is to try to find happiness. The sorrow and crying that accompanies the death of any man regardless of their achievements (or no achievements at all) in life is a clear indicator that there is no joy here in this world. Jesus is right to say, “...in the world you will find tribulation (John 16:33).”

So what is the source of joy?

A ‘lucky’ few find joy here on earth. Where do they get it?

...but the fruit of the spirit is JOY (Galatians 5:22).

There is a reason the bible describes joy as a fruit. First, fruits have only one source. You cannot get it anywhere else apart from that source. You cannot get a mango fruit anywhere else in the world apart from a mango tree. Any attempt to get it anywhere else is bound to fail. It is the same with joy. The spirit of God is the only source of joy. You cannot get it anywhere else.

Secondly, no factory in this world manufactures mangoes; there is no such factory. It cannot be made; it can only be found on its tree. This is the same for joy. You cannot make it. You cannot buy it. You cannot achieve it. Only the spirit of God brings joy.

How long have you been looking for Joy? Where and how have you searched for it? I encourage you to start a relationship with the Holy Spirit today. He will fill your life with Joy.

how to dro

There is a vacuum in everyone that must be filled. It is like a gap, space or a big gully in our souls, which our beings crave to fill. Interestingly, this vacuum never fills up. It seeks more and more 'stuffs' to be poured into it to be 'satisfied'.

This is the 'story behind the story' of addictions.

With some activities, the soul seems to be at peace with itself while they are on. Afterwards, the unsettling feeling comes again causing another longing for that activity that had been 'tested' to pacify it. This then becomes an addiction. One could be addicted to bad things as well as good things. For the 'bad' ones, people are quick to notice and label such as addictions. However, when it is the supposedly 'good' ones or better still the 'legitimate' ones,



identifying and labeling addictions for what it is becomes muddled.

Many are addicted

Ope Rowland
THRIVE
operowland.blogspot.com

to food, sleep, drinks, shopping, chatting, visiting, chores, games and the likes, which are seen and taken as normal daily human activities. In the absence of that particular activity, many become restless and are not themselves. However, the 'story behind the story' is that longing deep within us to fill that vacuum. That vacuum was placed there by God and could only be filled adequately and sufficiently by our life purpose for which he created each of us.

There was this event during the time of Jesus on earth as recorded in the fourth chapter of the gospel of John. It started with Jesus being hungry, longing for food and ended with him being satisfied without eating food. When asked why he was no longer hungry and now energized as against the weariness that stopped him at the well, Jesus responded that he had eaten; he had filled up that vacuum in him. The vacuum demand in him manifested in the form of hunger but Jesus filled it with the right thing-doing and finishing the will of God -and he was satisfied.

How many times have we longed for food even after eating not too long before then and became gluttons? How many times have we longed for more tasks/chores to do even when there is none more and became workaholics? How many times have people longed for more episodes to watch after watching all that is available and have become fanatics? If only we could have realized the 'story behind the story' as that vacuum longing for a filling and

p addictions

respond appropriately by pursuing our purpose.

The above narrative also suffices for those 'bad' longings that have become cycles we are often ready to label addictions. It was simply the flesh, the old man, the carnal nature seeking its own means of filling that vacuum. Therefore, the host is 'soothed' for a while only for the vacuum to 'protest' that it has been 'swindled'. Therefore, the flesh goes for another round or batch of that thing with more intensity. Then comes another relief before another 'protest' and the cycle continues. The carnal nature has simply found a 'short cut', an alternative means of filling the vacuum even though it is superficial.

This vacuum in you, which these addictions seek to

satisfy but fail to, can only be filled by the experience of purpose fulfillment. The vacuum was created to be filled by the pursuit of your life assignment and could only be filled by that. It is a case of a round peg, fitting the round hole from which it was hewn out. Your purpose on earth created the vacuum in the first place and you will fill it by gathering the 'bits' of your purpose one after another.

Just like Jesus 'conquered' that 'hunger' by doing the will of God expressed via his life assignment of going about doing good and making well all who were troubled by evil spirits (Acts 10:38), consciously respond to those repeated longing for that 'thing' by drowning and burying

yourself in your purpose. You will be soothed, relieved, comforted, delighted and settled without doing that 'thing'.



when God

Reading the story of Noah and the flood, I remember those days as kids when we offend our parents. One of the ways we were punished is to be shut in one room until we ‘repent.’ You are confined into a room until you become broken. You are compelled by the restriction to be obedient and your stubbornness is tamed at least for the meantime.

After Noah had completed the construction of the ark and the time had come for the rain to come, the Scriptures say, *“And they went into the ark to Noah, two by two, of all flesh in which is the breath of life. So those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the Lord shut*

him in” (Genesis 7:15-16 NKJV).

“And the Lord shut him in” sounds like a punishment. It sounds like God was holding the keys and it was impossible for Noah to open the door when he wills. God is the one who determines how soon he was going to come out of ‘the prison.’ His movement, freedom and choices have become limited to the jurisdiction of the ark. He was no longer exposed to varieties of options he used to have outside the ark. He will have to make do with what was within the ark. He would have to live within the confines of the ark.

I wouldn’t know what Noah’s reaction to this confinement was but perhaps there were moments he felt bored. Perhaps there were moments he desired the things he used to have in the outside world. Maybe he longed to see people who used to



Femi Babalola
FRESH BREAD

iyiolafemibabalola.wordpress.com

confines you

be his friends outside the ark but now he is restricted by the ark. He couldn't eat what he used to eat or go to the places he used to go nor have the friends he used have. The Lord had shut him in.

To Noah and all those who were with him in the ark, the shutting in may seem like a confinement but it was God's wisdom in preventing them from the flood that would destroy the world. That was God's way of saving them from the imminent destruction coming on the earth.

Friend, coming into the faith is like coming into a confinement of a kind. If you are truly saved, you will agree with me that you can

no longer live the life you used to live. If there wasn't a change in your life after you claimed to have met Christ, you probably were not saved. You cannot meet Jesus and continue with the same kind of lifestyle. He interrupts and begins to reorganize your life. Giving your life over to Christ will affect the kinds of friends you keep, the places you go, the movies you see, the music you listen to, the way you dress, the words you speak, and all your appetites and desires. In short, the Lord will shut you in and hold the keys. You will be confined!

Moreover, doing God's will could also be a kind of confinement. You have so many options you consider better or more sensible but God keeps showing you His own way and will. Isn't it a confinement when you are at liberty to do what you wish but chose to do His will? If you have chosen



His will, you will always come into moments when there will be that longing in your heart for those things you think were better. There will be conflict and that temptation to go out but you will remember that the Lord had shut you in.

As we look at how God shut Noah into the ark, we realize God was preserving and preventing him from the flood of judgment coming on the world. The limitation of the ark was God's fence of protection over Noah and all that was in the ark with him. You may not understand right now, why God often restricts you from doing certain things others do so freely, but in the end, you will fully understand and appreciate God's limitless mercy in your confinement. You need to stop seeing God as a tyrant, sadist or someone so hard who doesn't desire for you to be happy by restricting you or doing things that seems not to go well with you. Do not allow the enemy makes you feel God is unjust or mean. Remember, *"God is educating you; that's why you must never drop out. He's treating you as dear children. This trouble you're in isn't punishment; it's training, the normal experience of children. Only irresponsible parents leave children to fend for themselves. Would you prefer an irresponsible God? We respect our own parents for training and not spoiling us, so why not embrace God's training so we can truly live? While we were children, our parents did what*

seemed best to them. But God is doing what is best for us, training us to live God's holy best. At the time, discipline isn't much fun. It always feels like it's going against the grain. Later, of course, it pays off handsomely, for it's the well-trained who find themselves mature in their relationship with God" (Hebrews 12:7-11 MSG).

Man fell that moment the enemy succeeded in giving him a lopsided view of God. Satan made Eve feel that God was unnecessarily limiting their freedom by restricting them from eating the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil. After Satan had spoken to her, I can almost hear Eve saying, "Why would God keep that from us? So, God was trying to hide something from us." She did not want to be shut in or confined any longer. She reached out for the forbidden fruit only to be submerged in the flood of sin. The human race will forever grapple with the consequences of her disobedience. Adam and Eve would later realize God was wiser by keeping them in that confinement. It did not make sense to them until they broke the edge and were bitten by the serpent.

Dinah also thought she was also unnecessarily confined. The Scripture tells us, *"Now Dinah the daughter of Leah, whom she had borne to Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land"* (Genesis 34:1 NKJV).

The phrase, "went out" is very instructive. It is

loaded with meaning. It is a confirmation of the fact that Dinah became fed up with God's confinement. So, she went out. She left the covers of God's grace and protection. She took laws into her hands.

"And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, prince of the country, saw her, he took her and lay with her, and violated her." Genesis 34:2 NKJV

Dinah came home deflowered, damaged, and violated. The flood of evil in the world overran her. She was no longer fit to be given out in holy matrimony. The only daughter of Jacob went into oblivion after that incidence. She was never named again in history. She became desolate in her father's house.

These are also difficult times; people are finding it increasingly difficult to live by God's principles. No one wants to be shut in again in God's ark. God's yoke, which used to be light and easy, is now a burden. Singles now find it too much of a confinement to stay as virgins until marriage. They now question the sense in such an obsolete creed. Fornication and all forms of sexual immorality have become so common. Very few go to the altar these days as virgins.

Even the married are finding marriage as too much of a restriction. People no longer see the wisdom in staying faithful to a partner all their lives when there are many varieties in the out-

side world. Perhaps this is the reason for the rise in divorce, separation, adultery and single parenthood.

Will you be a Noah in this generation and allow God to shut you in his ark? Will you stay within God's jurisdiction of grace? Will you be among the few who upholds God's standard in a perverse generation? Do not learn by your own experience; learn from the examples of those who have failed. Do not let the enemy push you out of God's covers of grace into sin; you won't remain the same. That feeling that God's way is hard, difficult or unfair is from the devil; resist it.

In case you not in the ark yet, I invite you to come in. Jesus Christ is the contemporary Ark saving people from the coming destruction on the world.

"Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12 NKJV

You have no chance if you are outside this Ark. You cannot escape the imminent flood of judgment that will destroy the world. Come in today! Come in and be saved.

When God confines you just like Noah, remember God is protecting you from the flood of evil ravaging the world. Let the story of Noah inspire you to stay until God is done with you.

May you receive grace to be and stay in the ark when the flood comes. Amen.

my boyfriend,

Teenage hood is an experimental stage. It is a stage where teenagers begin to assume they know everything. Many want to belong in diverse ways especially in the area of relationship. Having a boy/girlfriend has now become a norm that almost every teenager wants to keep an intimate relationship with male or female friends. Some even brag about it.

Let us reason together, what purpose is that girl/boyfriend of yours playing in your life that it is so important? Is he or she feeding you, paying your school fees, clothing you or what exactly has your boy/girlfriend done for you that no one else could have done? I want you to be honest with yourself.

May I shock you with this truth?

Many of these relationships are ungodly and they end up in immorality. So, they should be avoided. Besides, this relationship ends in heartbreak. If you

think I am lying, ask someone who is mature and willing to tell you the truth.

Let me hint you why such relationships fail at the end.

Your emotions at this stage is not stable or mature so many of you will fall in love based on feelings (lust), physical features like the looks, charisma, intelligence, eloquence, money, etc. However, as you grow, feelings fade and those physical features that got you attracted will not be strong enough to keep you. A lasting relationship is built on something much solid than feelings or physical features. True love foundation is required. Hear this: lust fails but love never fails.

Teenage hood is an experimental stage as I said earlier, some of these boys and girls are only experimenting with your emotions and with sex, but they will not tell you. When such are done with their specimen, they move on to another specimen. **Do not demote yourself to being a specimen in the name of a relationship.**

Most young girls and boys at this stage do not even know what they want. As maturity sets in, taste, desire and exposure begin to change. For instance, as maturity and exposure sets in, the attributes that attracted



Ibukun Abraham
MAXIMIZING TEEN-HOOD
pathofloveteens.blogspot.com



my headache

a girl to a boy might no longer matter to him, which eventually results in break up.

For some of you girls that like to go out with university guys because you feel they are quite mature or whatever, don't you know that most of these guys are lying on you? They are taking advantage of you because they know that you will appreciate a university student than your secondary school mate. What they want is sex. If am lying inquire from any of your friends who is dating them if they have not been luring her into sex. These guys are just there to catch fun with any available girl. Whatever chicken change they give you is not worth your destiny and your emotions.

Change of environment most often leads to a change of exposure, taste and want. In some cases, it leads to lack of communication, which gradually leads to the end of the relationship because some of you

may leave your state or country to further your education. A change of environment could also be based on family relocation.

My beloved teens, if you will hearken to my words, this is not the right time for a relationship. You can be easily lured into sex, which could tarnish your garment before God. It may lead to unwanted pregnancy (as it has become rampant) and consequently abortion. All of these are sins before God.

There is no need to be in a hurry, at the due time, you will prayerfully discern the right person who will be a true companion. God did not institute sexual or emotional relationship for children/teens like you or are you ready for marriage? Do not be a victim of heartbreak.

I made up my mind as a young girl that no boy will ever break my heart. Lo and behold, my very first relationship was after my National Youth Service and he is my husband and the father of my children.

So will you make up your own mind today? If you are already in a relationship, ask yourself if God is pleased with that aspect of your life. I would advise you break-up and free yourself. You do not need a girl/boyfriend now.



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Writers: Adeyinka Oresanya, Ibukun Abraham, Joan Abimbola, Olufemi Babalola,

Ope Rowland, Tobi Olowookere, Toyin Seth-Ogungbe', Wumi Adeoye

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