

College & Young Adults Discussion Guide

For the week of June 9 - 15, 2019

Main Thought and Passages:

In the second week of our series Summer Lovin' 2.0, we discussed the "10 Essentials Before Dating". In your notes are the 10 essentials that were discussed, and below are scriptures from the Bible that give us biblical truths on how we can put God first. Take some time to review the essentials and scriptures before going into the discussion questions. Be open and honest with one another on what God places on your heart!

1. Know your **GOD**.

"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8 NIV)

2. Know your **IDENTITY**.

"Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God..." (John 1:12 NIV)

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" (2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV)

3. Know your **SEASON**.

"He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end." (Ecclesiastes 3:11 NIV)

4. Pray and be open with **GOD**.

"For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. ¹²Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. ¹³You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.'" (Jeremiah 29:11-13 NIV)

5. Pray and be open with **OTHERS**.

"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." (James 5:16 NIV)

6. God's word is our **FOUNDATION**.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning." (John 1:1-2 NIV)

7. Establish defined **BOUNDARIES** according to your **SEASON**.

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." (Romans 12:2 NIV)

"Do not be misled: 'Bad company corrupts good character.'" (1 Corinthians 15:33 NIV)

8. We are a constant work in **PROGRESS**.

"Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, ²²throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. ²³Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. ²⁴Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy." (Ephesians 4:21-24 NLT)

9. In every season, God is making us more like **HIM** so we can be a **BLESSING** to others.

"Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." (Matthew 22:37-40 NIV)

10. God is **FAITHFUL** and **TRUSTWORTHY** in His timing.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." (Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV)

"God saw all that he had made, and it was very good..." (Genesis 1:31 NIV)

Discussion Questions:

- Share with one another which of the "10 Essentials Before Dating" do you feel you can work on most?
- Which scripture(s) listed above resonate with you most? What are some of your current mindsets or habits about singleness, dating, or relationships that God's word is bringing truth to?

Prayer

Pair up and pray:

- For one another to trust God in the one or two specific essentials that resonated with them most.
 - For one another to honor God in the season of relationship (single, in a relationship, engaged, or married) that they are in.
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