

One in a Billion (Finding Your Own Wife)

There are more than 3.52 billion women on the face of this earth. As of today, there are slightly more men in the earth than there are women. Even though there are more men in the earth than women, just about every woman alive can share stories about men they've rejected... men who've repeatedly pursued them. Women often reject men when they are either not attracted to those men or they are sure that the men who are pursuing them aren't good fits for their lives. Nevertheless, the more a woman rejects a man, the more he will pursue her. Of course, this is because of the way men are created versus the way women are created. Men are hunters by nature, and therefore, will vigorously pursue any woman they cannot have. Nevertheless, a woman who's easy to be had is oftentimes used and discarded because a man is not designed to value anything he did not have to work for. God designed men to sow and reap, but anytime a man reaps what he has not sown, he cannot and will not appreciate it because he was not designed that way.

Women, on the other hand, see relationships based on their maturity level in the Lord. Because of this, a woman who is a babe in Christ will easily enter a new relationship without testing the spirit in the man she's engaging with. That's because babes in Christ are very similar to natural babes. They're very trusting and they live in the moment, for the moment, without thinking about how the moment will affect the rest of their lives. Think about a four year old little girl. She's trusting, innocent and naive. That's why her parents have to watch over her and warn her repeatedly about strangers. Kidnappers oftentimes target little girls and lure them to their vehicles by telling them that they have candy or puppies in their vehicles. Because the children are innocent and trusting, they make for easy prey. So, a woman who's immature in the things of God will romantically engage with strange spirits if the man who has those spirits offers her something she considers sweet, cute or irresistible.

But you're no ordinary man. You're a man of God and you know what you want... or at least, you think you know what you want. You've come across a great woman and you recognize the wife that's hidden in the woman. You see her potential to be a great wife and mother, so you decide to pursue her. Of course, like most men, you haven't made up your mind regarding your intentions with her when you initiate your pursuit of her. Instead, you take on a "let's see what happens" attitude towards her, and a few months into your relationship with her, you find yourself lying in the bed next to her. It is at that moment that you realize she's not the one for you. She's a nice girl and she's going to make some man a decent wife someday, but she's not the woman for you. She's not mature enough. She was easily lured into your bed (or her bed)

and you realize that the hunter in you has nothing left to hunt in her. After all, the very moment a woman sleeps with you usually represents her saying that you have come to the fullness of who she is mentally, spiritually, financially and emotionally. It's her way of saying, "You have accepted me as I am, so I'm offering me to you as I am... nothing more, nothing less." Of course, no woman actually says those words, but this is what she's implying. As men... you seem to understand this, even though you don't verbalize it. She's slept with you, meaning, you know all there is to know about her, so what's next? When you try to think about a future with her, you can never get your mind to go any further than the bedroom with her. Why is this? The bible refers to a man having sex with a woman as him "knowing" her. This isn't to say that he knows everything there is to know about her, but it is to say that the man has uncovered her in the fullness of who she is and where she is at that given moment.

She's a nice woman and you'd initially thought the two of you could have a relationship much deeper than the one you have, but after coming to "know" her, you've had a change of heart. You end your relationship with the woman who's just linked her soul to your soul and you continue your pursuit of a woman worth calling a wife. It isn't long before you meet another woman and the cycle repeats itself. *Of course, just like God calls the women of God to holiness in body and in spirit, He calls the men of God to holiness in body and in spirit, and if you're not obeying God with your body, you are not ready to enter holy matrimony.*

One day, you meet a woman who's different from the rest. She stands out in so many ways and she's not willing to sleep with you outside the covenant of marriage. She's definitely one of a kind and you can't stop thinking about her, so you decide that she's "the one". She's the woman you will call your wife, the mother of your children and the keeper of your secrets. After that, you go on a shopping spree to purchase the ring you want to adorn your soon-to-be fiance's finger. You propose to your new bride-to-be, and before long, the two of you are married, never having consulted God about one another.

Two years later, you're married and miserable. Your new wife isn't as special (in your eyes) as you thought she'd be, so you look for ways to get along with her without divorcing her. Nevertheless, every day proves to be harder than the day before. She's argumentative, clearly unhappy with you and she's a conquered woman. You've come to know everything there is to know about her, so the hunter in you has nothing left to conquer. You hold onto your marriage for dear life, but one day, you can't ignore how you feel about her anymore... you just don't love her the way you thought you did. Remaining faithful to her has become a challenge in itself and the worst part of it all is... she's unhappy with you and you know it. Knowing that she's unhappy makes you feel like a failure, so you decide to break her heart one more time... you

decide to divorce her.

Now, of course, if you're a single man, this is NOT your life and you don't want it to be your life. Nevertheless, this is the reality of many married men because they've pursued women who were not ordained to be their wives. The women they chose as wives were peculiar creatures unlike any of the women they'd pursued, and that's why they married them. What they didn't understand was that different doesn't necessarily mean she's "the one". Instead, what they ended up doing was marrying another man's wife because they saw the wife hiding in the woman, but did not realize that she was not their wives.

One thing you'll come to know about God is He is all-knowing, plus, every blessing He has stored up for us can only be unlocked by faith. This includes a man finding his God-appointed wife. Any man can find a woman, marry her and call her his wife, but God does not give favor to men just because they got married. *Ask any man who's found a Jezebel or a Delilah*. God grants favor to husbands who've obeyed Him and found their wives in the Lord, meaning, their finding, pursuing and marriage was birthed through their faith. They asked God for their wives, trusted God for their wives and obeyed God to find their wives. When a man finds his wife, he has found his "good thing" and he will obtain favor from God because he endured the process designed to turn him from a mere man into a husband and better help him understand his new role as the head of the household. The problem today is a lot of men aren't trusting God for their wives. Instead, they're trusting in their own abilities to pick wives for themselves and they base their choices on their limited understandings and their history with women. They meet the same spirits in different women (familiar spirits), but when they come across a strange spirit (stranger), like their female counterparts, they are easily kidnapped because men who pursue wives outside of God are captivated by what they do not understand.

Again, everything tied to God is released to us by faith. Sure, God has given us the ability to go out and choose our own mates, but of course, He prefers that we trust Him to introduce us to the spouses He's already chosen for us. When we attempt to choose on our own, we are influenced by:

- Where we are (in that moment) spiritually...
- Our strongholds...
- Our limited understandings....
- Familiarity...

Spiritually Choosing a Wife: You will always choose a wife according to where you are in Christ spiritually. If you're a babe in Christ, you'll likely pursue another babe in Christ or a woman in the world. After all, how can two walk together except they be in agreement?

Soulishly Choosing a Wife: Strongholds occur in the mind, and therefore, occur in the soulish realm. If you struggle with lust, you'll choose a woman who seduces you with lust. Wherever you are in the flesh, that's where you'll choose your wife. That's why you should never respect titles. If a Pastor marries a fleshly, lust-filled woman, he has just told the world where he is in the soulish realm and in the realm of the spirit. He's either a babe in Christ, a backslidden saint or he's not saved at all.

Our Limited Understanding: You will rarely (if ever) see a man with a full, gold grill (teeth) who has rims spinning on his car married to a woman who is a lawyer or a doctor. That's because the two are submitted or subjected to different cultures, different realities and they have different mindsets. If you come across a man who's covered with tattoos, has a full mouth of gold teeth and he's invested the bulk of his income into spinning rims, you are going to find him with a woman who is also subject to that culture and mindset. We agree with who we understand, but we often judge the people we do not understand. That's why God wants us to seek Him first; that way, He can bring us outside of our understanding by tearing down the limitations we so lovingly refer to as our comfort zones. God never sends a man to find his wife in the understanding he was raised in. God always breaks a man out of the prison of his mind before he ordains him as a husband and puts him on the path to find his wife.

Familiarity: Again, it all boils down to understanding. Nevertheless, the realm of understanding isn't just limited to the earthly realm; there is an understanding that goes above our natural comprehension. It is the supernatural realm of understanding. This is the realm where familiar spirits make themselves known to us. Both men and women tend to date, court or marry the same spirits in different people and that's why people oftentimes have "types". When a man or a woman says that another human being is their "type", they are unknowingly identifying the characteristics of a familiar spirit or several familiar spirits. This means their understanding of the people they're engaging with is based on previous relationships they've had with similar people. Again, they are unknowingly identifying familiar spirits.

When you seek the heart of God, you can petition the heart of God for the wife He has appointed for you. When you trust God for your wife, He will bring you outside of your comfort zone and teach you to be a husband (protector, provider, head of household) to the wife He has chosen for you. If you attempt to be a husband to any other woman, you will find that all of your efforts are in vain. She won't understand you outside of the carnal realm.

When God begins to break you out of your comfort zone, you'll notice that you're no longer attracted to the "types" of women you once pursued. You won't just see the external creature; you'll learn to see your wife in the manner in which God sees her. When you find her, God will grant favor to you because you trusted Him for her, and you forsook all the rest to have that one woman who God Himself ordained to be your wife. It is then and only then that God will give you the blueprint of your wife's heart... a blueprint that never stops changing. God will always engage the hunter in you because He knows how He created you. With "your" wife, you will find that the love never comes to an end, the "butterflies in your stomach" never die and you will always identify the unique gift that she is to you. And just when you think you've come to the end of her and you find yourself getting frustrated with her over the years, all you have to do is petition heaven and God will open your eyes to see treasures in her that you didn't know were there. God will reengage the hunter in you and cause you to love her above your understanding.

It is very important that a man finds "his own" wife because finding her first involves God hiding her. God will hide your wife, give you a map to her and cause you to go through the process of becoming a husband before He reveals her location to you. Additionally, God will ready your wife, transitioning her from the carnal nature of being a mere woman into a unique, custom designed wife specifically tailored just for you and your life's assignment. Your wife will know you in a way that no woman can comprehend. Your wife will understand you in a way that no woman can understand, and your wife's love for you will be nothing short of supernatural, meaning, you won't find it with any other woman. Don't end up married to a woman who turns out to be an extended one-night-stand. Instead, keep yourself pure and holy so that God can lead you to your God-appointed wife... a beautiful creation who holiness has transformed from being just another woman into the wife you can truthfully identify as one in 3.52 billion.