

Wrong Man, Wrong Woman

Over the course of my life, I've found myself mentoring both guys and girls, and what I've noticed is that men tend to ask the same questions as women do, but only, in a different way. For example, women often ask, "Where are the good men at?" Men, on the other hand, tend to ask, "Do you have any good, single friends?" In truth, what the guy is really saying is, "I've tried my hand at finding a good woman, and I've failed miserably and repeatedly. Since you're a woman who appears to know what she's talking about, I want to take a new route and let you introduce me to someone. Do you have any friends who already embody the qualities I should be looking for in a wife?"

Honestly, more than 50% of Christian marriages are the result of men being "fixed up" with women. Why is this? Because it's hard for human beings to step outside of their comfort zones, so the average man goes after a type of woman. Men tend to chase the same type of women they've been chasing most of their lives, and every time they come to a dead end, they collectively blame the women. Why is this? Because it's easy to see the wrongs in another person, but it's hard to see those huge planks in our own eyes. So, a man who once was in the world chasing behind immoral women will often get saved and start chasing behind religious immoral women. This means that a lot of you need renewed minds, and like women, you probably thought that getting saved and changing a few bad habits was enough to make God favor and enrich you. You didn't realize that God was serious when He said that we have to die to ourselves and be quickened by the Holy Spirit. You didn't realize that you were being led by your flesh, so you continued to chase behind the familiar, hoping that you'd nab the woman of your dreams, only to find yourself living in one nightmare behind the other.

The truth is a man will always chase what he is at the moment. For example, if you're sexually immoral, but pretending to be living in purity, you will attract a sexually immoral woman who appears to be faithful when she's not. You may be faithful to her, but because you're not faithful to God, you will attract an unfaithful woman. Why is this? Because we attract what we are, and every woman who grabs your attention and keeps it is a woman who is reflecting you to yourself. But here's the thing about a mirror. It can look good, clean, and shiny and still show you an ugly reflection of yourself. That mirror won't clean you up and make you look good; it'll only reflect back to you what's standing in front of it. How many times have you stood in front of a mirror and disapproved the appearance of the man staring back at you? You likely took your hand and rubbed your chin, thinking to yourself that it was way past time for you to shave your beard. You likely looked at your hair and thought to yourself that it was past

time for you to get a haircut, or you probably looked at your skin and thought to yourself that you need to find something to remove the blemishes or the razor bumps that have risen up on your face. Either way, you saw something about you that you didn't like, something that needed improving. That's what a woman is. She is a reflection of you, and a reflection of what you need to improve about yourself. At the same time, that beautiful, clean and shiny mirror that you keep looking in may be unstable, dirty, and just polished up to look nice, but the reality is...it's broken, but you didn't know that because you were used to looking into broken mirrors. In other words, if you keep finding the wrong woman, it's because you are currently the wrong man, meaning, God's not through with you yet.

I've noticed quite a few guys on my social media networks who are desperate to find wives and this is shocking to the average woman because we expect men to be confident and discerning. Every other month, they are sharing photos of some of the women they've met and they happily label these women as their "ribs". They send out relationship requests to these women, and then, boast of having found their wives. A couple of months later, they've deleted those women and proclaimed their singleness before jumping into relationships with new women that they lovingly (and foolishly) declare to be their missing ribs. *In other words, these guys obviously have missing rib cages because they're always finding their ribs, and then, losing them.* These guys were ready to be married...*anxious even*, which, of course, means they weren't as ready as they believed themselves to be. They were still holding on to some part of their flesh that God has been telling them to let die for a long time, and because they refuse to let go of those old mindsets and old friends, they keep chasing women who other women can *clearly* see are not ready to be wives. They pursue fornicating women because they too are still fornicators, and the harsh reality is...You will NOT find a blessing in sin, just as you won't obtain favor from marrying a rebellious and ungodly woman. If you are not walking in holiness, God will not give you the directions to the woman He's hidden for you, but He will allow you to choose from the many women who, like yourself, aren't in full submission to Him. Nevertheless, if you marry these women, you alone bear the blame for the direction of your household since you are the head of the home. I've even seen leaders wearing religious titles and marrying women who any woman can see is in full need of deliverance and a renewed mind, but they marry such women because they are in need of deliverance and renewed minds themselves! After being married a few months, their Facebook timeline displays a broken heart followed by the words, Reverend John Doe is now single. Other "broken" women who see this status run out and offer their condolences, all the while, passive-aggressively offering themselves up by saying things like, "If you need someone to talk to, I'm here." A few months later, one of those sisters is now labeled as his "missing rib" and the cycle continues. That guy doesn't realize he's

broken, and therefore, he keeps attracting the shattered pieces of broken women. He is the wrong man, so he keeps attracting the wrong women.

Side note: If you happen to be on one of my social media pages and I've just perfectly described you, please don't take offense. I'm talking about several guys, and there's no guarantee that I've noticed you personally; nevertheless, if you can't say "amen", just say "ouch".

How can you become the right man so you can finally find the woman God has custom created just for you? It's simple. You have to be the man God has designed you to be. You need to let go of your sinful ways, and completely turn yourself over to God, and not just pieces of your shattered identity. You need to stop focusing on finding a wife, and focus on finding yourself again. If you have friends that God has told you to let go of, you need to obey Him and close those doors. You have to become the reflection that you want to look at everyday. You need to die to yourself and live for the Lord. If you don't let that flesh die, it's going to continue to lead you into some dark places, and you're going to keep joining yourself to women who steal your strength and delay your blessings. Sure, you may think you're a good man, and you may think you're ready, but God is begging to differ with you...if you'll only hear Him out so He can change your mind. God has a wife for you, but it takes faith, perseverance and obedience to find her. If you only knew the favor you'd obtained by finding the one God has hidden from you and hidden for you, I can guarantee you that you'd happily wait for her. You wouldn't have a problem letting God circumcise that dead flesh off you so that you could finally find that woman who's faithfully followed God and been ordained by Him to be a blessing to you. That's why God said, "He who finds a wife, finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord." You're probably wondering why some of these guys keep getting married and it's obvious that they have not gotten any favor from God, and the reason for this is...They did not find "their own" wives; they kept finding women. There's a difference between a woman and a wife! A woman is an anatomically correct creature who has not yet died to herself and submitted herself wholly to God. A wife is a woman God has reclaimed, renamed, and released to be found by the husband God had originally hidden her from. If you find her, you will find favor. If you find a woman, you will only change her title from being a woman to being a married woman, but she will not be a wife! Don't get it twisted...Just because a woman is in church and calling on the name of the Lord doesn't mean she's ready to be some man's wife! Just like men, women have to be processed before God releases them to be found by their God-appointed husbands, and when they're not ready, they can easily be seen. But when a woman becomes a wife, God hides her, and then, gives her husband the directions to her. The process is...a woman first becomes a servant of God, and then, when she's labeled a faithful servant,

God may crown her as a wife and give her husband the directions to find her if he's ready to be a husband! You see, many of the singles' movements focus primarily on women readying themselves, therefore, a lot of guys don't realize that they have to get ready too! As a result, many women find themselves waiting years on end for their husbands to find them, all the while, these guys are seated somewhere not realizing that they need to change. A change of mind reflects a change of direction. When you have the wrong thinking, you're heading in the wrong direction. The minute you submit yourself to a renewed mind is the very same hour that you will begin to actively pursue your wife. You just need to acknowledge where you are in God, and then, ask Him to remove the things and the people from you that's keeping you from being favored. If you're not favored, you're being hindered.

If you want to find your wife, you need to find yourself. You can't find the right woman when you are the wrong man. Let God change you, even if you don't think you need to be changed. If you finally submit your whole self to God and let Him lead you to the hidden treasure that is your wife, you will better understand why you had to be changed to get her. You'll also thank the Lord everyday of your life for loving you enough to give you such a rare and unique jewel.