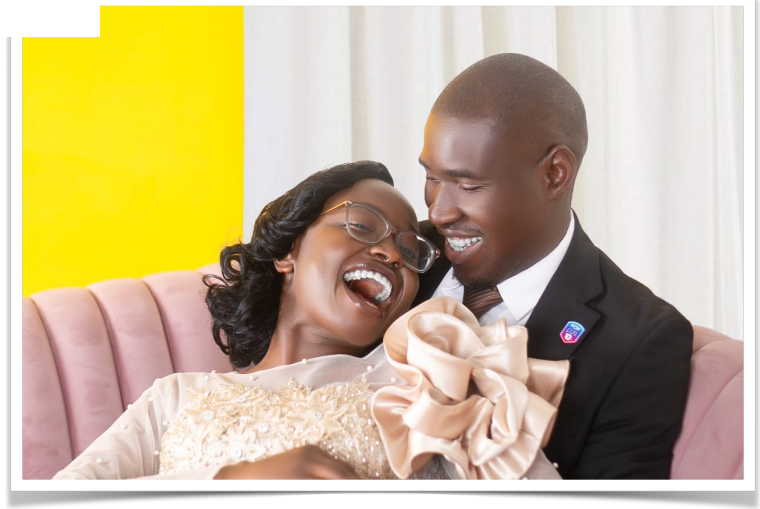


The DEE & ANDY Newsletter

Excellent abundant life

An authoritative voice on Money, Love and Lifestyle

With hearts entwined,
they face the day,
Their love a flame
that will not fray.
A bond so deep,
a love so true,
A promise made,
forever new.

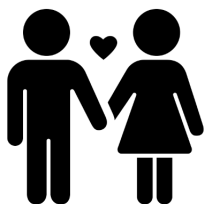


First date

Relationship and courtship can be very challenging and confusing.

QUESTIONS YOUNG PEOPLE ASK

- ✦ Is she/he the right one
- ✦ Must dating be expensive
- ✦ How do I move this relationship forward into marriage
- ✦ What should we talk about on a date
- ✦ Who should pay the bills



Click [here](#) to read Back to Eden

Our first date was unforgettable. I dressed to impress in a sharp pin-striped shirt and black trousers, hoping to make a good impression. To my surprise, she later confessed that I seemed taller than usual.

We'd spent hours the night before chatting on the phone, lost in a world of our own. It was one of those conversations you never wanted to end. As the sun rose, we couldn't wait to pick up where we left off.

I'd prepared a home made picnic lunch (my young economy could not support paying for a restaurant on every meeting), complete with sandwiches, which she devoured with gusto that almost made me change my mind about her. No wonder I still believe that you need to eat at before you leave home. I however reasoned that "If she ate that much, then she must love food, and so we will never starve but always have a feast. I was right.

"But the real feast was our conversation. We shared our wildest dreams, from building a home together to starting a family and creating a business empire. We even discussed our plans for our extended families.

The next pages have the juice of the story..keep reading.



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As a token of my affection, I picked her a flower, a gesture that became a tradition on our subsequent dates. As I handed it to her, I couldn't help but say, "Just like this flower blooms, our lives can blossom if we trust in the power of God."

The true alarm

A teacher one day walked into class and asked a question: What wakes you up each morning?

One by one the students enthusiastically raised their hands in a bid to beat one another in answering the teacher's question.

One boy shouted, "My mum wakes me up each morning then she prays then she..." and he went on and on.

Another stood excitedly and said: "My mum no longer wakes me up because I am a grown up boy now, the alarm clock wakes up."

The answers continued coming but to the disappointment of the boys and girls the teacher kept saying, "wrong," "not quite," "you've tried but not correct."

So slowly she starts to tell them: it is the Lord that wakes you up. It is the Lord who gives life. He takes you through the night and ensures you have life enough to hear mummy calling in the morning or hear the alarm clock ringing in the morning.

Well the teacher is absolutely right: "if you think that it's the alarm clock that wakes you up each morning, try placing it near a dead body and see if it will wake up," as Andy always says.

Except the Lord build a house they labour in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watchman wakes but in vain. Psalm 127:1

No amount of calling or ringing can wake up a person unless the Lord himself has given life. No amount of dating, courting or reading self-help books can give you enough preparation for marriage or assurance of a successful marriage unless you have learnt the art of surrender of your will to God, seeking Him that He may build you a marriage. However, the following principles can lay courtship foundations for success for marriage



Love is a plant of heavenly origin, and if we would have it flourish in our hearts, we must cultivate it daily

E. White, Letters to Young lovers, Pg.31

QUESTIONS YOUNG PEOPLE ASK

Who should initiate the relationship, the man or the woman?

Share your answer [here](#)

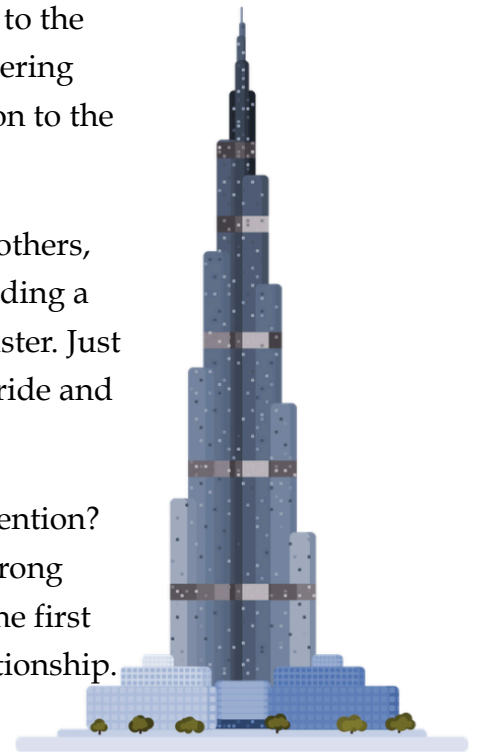
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Building a lasting relationship can feel like a daunting task, similar to the ambitious construction of the Tower of Babel. While modern engineering marvels like the Burj Khalifa are impressive, they pale in comparison to the ancient dream of reaching the heavens.

Many couples approach marriage with the sole goal of impressing others, focusing on extravagant weddings and social status. However, building a relationship without a strong foundation in faith is a recipe for disaster. Just as the Tower of Babel collapsed, any relationship built on human pride and ambition will eventually crumble.

So, is a perfect relationship simply a matter of luck or divine intervention? The answer lies in understanding God's principles for building a strong and enduring bond. Let's look back at the Garden of Eden, where the first family was created, and discover the blueprint for a successful relationship.



Back to Eden

Principle 1: God made the ideal environment

Following God's blueprint for creation, we witness a transformation from a chaotic, undefined state to a world of order and purpose. God brings structure, inspiration, and meaning to a world without form, boundary, .

God names , defines and separates his creature making each to serve a purpose.

Similarly, young people seeking clarity in their lives must embrace God's principles of order and boundaries. A thriving marriage requires a clear sense of self, defined by one's relationship with God. Avoid the temptation to compromise your identity to impress others. Instead, seek guidance from the Holy Spirit and actively work to eliminate distractions and confusion, creating a fertile ground for a fulfilling relationship.

An ideal youthful life and practice is the ideal environment for marriage. Bring creativity to your life. Start and complete tasks. Keep your word and look to God who will perfect the work he has begun in you.

1. Let **God MAKE** you

QUESTIONS I ASK YOUNG PEOPLE

Je Uko na "form"?

Is your life with purpose ?

Have you worked out your identity?

Is your heart ideal for God's dwelling?

Are your routines and practices ideal for marriage

Share your answers [here](#)

Principle 2: Man was commanded to be (Become) fruitful

Adam was commanded to *become* something. God said, "Be fruitful." This was not merely a directive to acquire, but a statement of what he needed to become first. Many people long for possessions, wealth, property, and even marriage, but they often neglect the most important aspect: personal growth.

Marriage can ruthlessly expose internal voids and insecurities. Youth offers a unique opportunity for personal development. As you age, strive to gain wisdom and maturity. Unfortunately, some reach old age empty-handed, lacking both

wisdom and maturity. The person you become is the person you will attract as a partner, and your character will determine the quality of your marriage. Strive to be diligent, kind, trustworthy, reliable, self-reliant, and faithful. Become the best



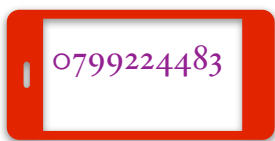
Back
to
Eden



A Journey Through The
Courtship Wilderness

Click [here](#) to
download the
whole book

Contact us at:



Diane and Andrew

Principle 3: Man was then to multiply (DO) and replenish the earth

After becoming who they were meant to be, man and woman were now capable of *doing* what God intended. Our ability to perform well stems from our personal growth. We accomplish more because we have become more. It's a grave error to attempt actions we are not prepared for. This is why the marriage vow includes the phrase "I do."

As young people approach marriage, they should familiarize themselves with responsibility. To achieve more, they must be willing to do more and expect more. Marriage thrives on service and dedication. Those who have not developed a strong work ethic will be unprepared for the challenges and responsibilities of married life.

Principle 4: God saw that it was not good for the man to be alone

After God has made for man a perfect environment, God makes the man, then God makes the man to do. Now here man is in full production. The command was to be fruitful., that is to be productive. Soon God sees that man is not to selfishly produce for himself and He makes a help meet. Evidently now this is a mouthful and we must wait for the next newsletter to conclude this thought. It is not good to be alone.