

Fighting against bitterness (cont'd)

- Preach truth to yourself

Romans 12:19, 21, “Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written: ‘It is mine to avenge; I will repay,’ says the Lord...Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”

Ephesians 4:32 “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”

- Hope in God

Psalms 27:13-14 "I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord."

Remember the importance of dating well

Remember that regardless of how painful the breakup, God is using this difficult experience to sanctify you.

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Things that Go Wrong in our Dating Culture

Introduction

Things that Go Wrong Before We Date

1. Territorialism
2. Paralysis
3. Stalkerism
4. Narrowness
5. Test Driving a New Car
6. Keeping Too Many Ponies in the Stable

Things That Go Wrong While We Date

7. Legalism

8. Selfishness

Philippians 2:3-4 "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others."

Song of Solomon 2:7b "Do not arouse or awaken love until it so desires."

Proverbs 18:1 "Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment."

9. "Evange-dating"

How to Break up to the Glory of God

Remember we live in a fallen world.

A few specifics...

Let your 'yes' be 'yes' and your 'no' be 'no.'

Talk in person, don't end it using impersonal technology.

Don't make the breakup a one-way conversation.

Don't use the advice of others as a trump card.

Can we just be friends?

It is possible to remain in the same church.

Fight against bitterness

- Assume the best in the other person's motives

1 Cor. 13:7b "love...believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."