

Dating - Part 1: WHO should we date?

Goals: To get students - whether they're already dating or not - to think about the kind of person they might want to date, and to give them Biblical principles for how to think about that.

Openers:

- Why does anybody date at all?
- Why do you want to date somebody? (You can be as superficial or as vulnerable as you want)
- What are things that hold people back from dating?
- What are some qualities you are looking for in a boyfriend/girlfriend?
- What do you think God thinks about dating? Why?

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 - in the NIV and The Message

Digging Deeper:

Observations:

- How does reading this in a translation and a paraphrase help or hinder your understanding of this text?

Interpretations:

- The NIV says "Don't be yoked with unbelievers..." What imagery is Paul using here, and what do you think it means?
- Paul talks about people trying to mix together their deepest values - who they worship, who they obey, etc. What does Paul say is at stake if those deepest values aren't the same?

Applications:

- What are some examples of values that you think are really important to have in common with someone you're dating?
- How should we think about dating someone who doesn't share our deepest values?
- So according to the Bible, who should we date? Who should we not date?

Close by pairing up and sharing 1 thing from this study that is "buzzing" in your mind right now - a question it raises, something you're confused by, something that excites you, something you want to act on, etc.