

YOU ARE ALL INVITED
TO
A COURTSHIP BANQUET



By Martín & Henrietta Mandula

Dates : 20 November - 26 November 2016

Venue: Lecture Theatre 2


Time : 18:00 - 19:30 hrs





TO HAVE AND TO HOLD

Presented Through
Martin & Henrietta Mandula



Philippians 3:13-15

13. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but [this] one thing [I do], forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,
14. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.
- 15 Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you



The Devils Philosophy

LIVE AND LEARN

- “We learn from mistakes”
- “let me make my own mistakes”
- You don’t have to make all the mistakes that others have already made to learn

Gods philosophy

LEARN and LIVE

[15] And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

[16] And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

[17] But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. Genesis 2:15-17



The Great Decision

A Happy or Unhappy Marriage?—If those who are contemplating marriage would not have miserable, unhappy reflections after marriage, **they must make it a subject of serious, earnest reflection now.** This step taken unwisely is one of the most effective means of ruining the usefulness of young men and women. Life becomes a burden, a curse. No one can so effectually ruin a woman's happiness and usefulness, and make life a heartsickening burden, as her own husband; and no one can do one hundredth part as much to chill the hopes and aspirations of a man, to paralyze his energies and ruin his influence and prospects, as his own wife. It is from the marriage hour that many men and women date their success or failure in this life, and their hopes of the future life. {[Adventist Home p.43.1 E.G white](#)}



The Great Decision

I wish I could make the youth see and feel their danger, especially the danger of making unhappy marriages.

Marriage is something that will influence and affect your life both in this world and in the world to come. A sincere Christian will not advance his plans in this direction without the knowledge that God approves his course. He will not want to choose for himself, but will feel that God must choose for him. We are not to please ourselves, for Christ pleased not Himself. I would not be understood to mean that anyone is to marry one whom he does not love. This would be sin. But fancy and the emotional nature must not be allowed to lead on to ruin. God requires the whole heart, the supreme affections. {Adventist Home p.43.2,3 EG White}

It was God's Idea

[18] And the LORD God said, [It is] not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. [19] And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought [them] unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that [was] the name thereof. [20] And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him. [21] And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; [22] And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. [23] And Adam said, This [is] now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. [24] Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. [25] And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed. **Genesis 2:18-25**

A Few Pointers from Genesis 2:18-25

- It originated first in the mind of God
- It was God who initiated the whole process
- God prepared the woman in secret
- He formed her from his rib (one the strongest bones that cover vital organs)
- It was God who brought the woman to the man
- Adam felt a connection when he saw eve
- They were both 'naked' and were not ashamed

Courtship: Definitions

- Courting is young adults seeking each other under their parents'/guardian's supervision for the purpose of finding a spouse in the will of God.
- Courting is when two consenting individuals endeavor to get to love and know each other for the purpose of getting married.



Recreational Dating

- Getting intimately involved with the person of the opposite sex, simply just for the fun of it.
- When a person dates lots of people just for fun and doesn't see them as husband/wife material and often doesn't even feel any attraction to the people they are dating



“Expert” Advice



“Not all dating has to be a search for “The One”. Recreational Dating-dating just for fun-serves a very important role. You may not be ready for a committed relationship for a number of reasons, and just want to have a good time. Especially if you recently ended a long term relationship, just doing some recreational dating is a great idea. Besides, as you play the field, you might stumble on your perfect partner”. ***Marianne Oehser, Certified Relationship Coach and Educator***

NO LIGHT IN THEM

Isaiah 8:20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, [it is] because [there is] no light in them.

Why do people date with no intention to marry?

- To satisfy the lust of the flesh
- Simply for entertainment
- To satisfy heart felt passion without a commitment
- A Consumer mentality – *“test drive several models before making a purchase”*
- *Ignorance of scripture and the testimonies of God’s spirit (Hosea 4:6...Lack of Knowledge...)*







Convictions

- Convictions are a set of Biblical guidelines, beliefs, and standards that guide the conduct.
- Innate or natural insight into what is right and wrong.
- Convictions make your conscience sensitive to right and wrong.

BIBLICAL ROLE MODELS

Daniel 1: 8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

Genesis 39:7-9 [7]And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me.

[8]But he refused, and said unto his master's wife, Behold, my master wotteth not what [is] with me in the house, and he hath committed all that he hath to my hand;

[9] [There is] none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou [art] his wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?



If you don't stand for something you
will fall for anything.

— *Malcolm X* —

AZ QUOTES

DECIDE

1. WHAT

- Before you ever get involved with anyone of the opposite sex, you must decide what you are going to do and how far you are going to go before marriage.
- Having decided that, you must be willing to submit yourself to a program that will enable you to deepen your God-given convictions.





DECIDE

2. WHO

- You are going to go out with
- Make up your mind that you will not go with anyone who violates God's command against the unequal yoke.
- Make up your mind that you will not allow yourself to become involved with anyone your parents disapprove of.
- Make up your mind that you will not consider anyone who will encourage you to compromise your Biblical convictions, violate your Biblical vows or hinder your Christian service
- Who in the fear of God you feel a conviction to be with

DECIDE

3. WHERE

- You will go when you go out. Before you ever go out, you must make up your mind where you will go. You must determine never to go anywhere you or your Biblical convictions are likely to be compromised.

"But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof". [Romans 13:14](#)

"Abstain from all appearance of evil."

[I Thessalonians 5:22](#)





Good Counsel

1. Make God the first , best and Last in your decisions

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways

acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Proverbs 3:5,6



Good Counsel

1. Make God the first , best and Last in your decisions

Prayer Necessary to Right Decision.--If men and women are in the habit of praying twice a day before they contemplate marriage, they should pray four times a day when such a step is anticipated. Marriage is something that will influence and affect your life, both in this world and in the world to come. . . . **{Adventist Home p.71.1}**

GOOD COUNSEL

2. Request of the Lord the desires of your heart

Thou hast given him his heart's desire, and hast not withholden the request of his lips. [Psalm 21:2](#)

“I would not be understood to mean that anyone is to marry one whom he does not love. This would be sin...” [{Adventist Home p.43.2,3 EG White}](#)





GOOD COUNSEL

3. Make haste slowly

Few have correct views of the marriage relation.

Many seem to think that it is the attainment of perfect bliss; but if they could know one quarter of the heartaches of men and women that are bound by the marriage vow in chains that they cannot and dare not break, they would not be surprised that I trace these lines. **Marriage, in a majority of cases, is a most galling yoke.**



GOOD COUNSEL

3. Make haste slowly

There are thousands that are **mated but not matched**. The books of heaven are burdened with the woes, the wickedness, and the abuse that lie hidden under the marriage mantle. This is why I would warn the young who are of a marriageable age to make haste slowly in the choice of a companion. The path of married life may appear beautiful and full of happiness; but why may not you be disappointed as thousands of others have been? {**Adventist Home p.44.1**}



GOOD COUNSEL

4. Make haste slowly (cont'd)

Those who are contemplating marriage should consider what will be the character and influence of the home they are founding. As they become parents, a sacred trust is committed to them. Upon them depends in a Great measure the well-being of their children in this world, and their happiness in the world to come. To a great extent they determine both the physical and The moral stamp that the little ones receive. And upon the character of the home depends the condition of society; the weight of each family's influence will tell in the upward or the downward scale. {Adventist Home p.44.2}

GOOD COUNSEL

6. Down to Earth (Ask yourself)

- Can he/she take care of himself
- Can he/she cook
- Can he/she clean the room/house
- Is he/she organized
- Does he/she have any dreams or aspirations
- Is he/she industrious, can he/she provide
- How does he/she treat his/her mother/father
- Will he/she still love you after the youthful features are gone





GOOD COUNSEL

7. Warning Signs

- Physical changes in a boy/girl are not a sign to engage but to prepare
- Don't awaken love before its time
- Hormonal imbalances affected by diet
- Wrong views from movies/cartoons





GOOD COUNSEL

8. Be certain about your decision

- Avoid consumer mentality (trying out several models before making a purchase)
- Marriage is not a trial and error

GOOD COUNSEL

9. The Process – Genesis 2:24,25

- It is a MAN that leaves father and mother (Not a BOY!)
- He then cleaves to a WIFE/WOMAN not a GIRL!
- Note: one flesh is physical union (see 1 Cor 6:16)
- The ORDER; LEAVE – CLEAVE/JOINED – BE ONE FLESH!



The Lie of Adolescence

- Adolescence definition – “the stage between child hood and adulthood when a young person is discovering his/her identity and asserting his/her independence"
- An invention of false evolutionary thinking
- Youths being allowed to participate in adult things without being made to assume the responsibilities of adulthood
- At 18 one can vote, drink beer etc but when he commits a crime at 18 he is to be sent to juvenile prison

The Lie of Adolescence (Cont'd)

- The folly of adolescence – neither a man/boy nor a woman/girl
- Adolescence is a worldly concept, its sensual and devilish and not found anywhere is scripture.
- Man/boy
- Woman/girl
- There is nothing wrong getting married at 20 if you have become a MAN/WOMAN.
- There is everything wrong getting married at 35 because you are still a BOY/GIRL.

Happy Marriages are Possible

- It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark
- Plan to have a planned marriage "Let all things be done decently and in order. " 1 Corinthians 14:10



Philippians 3:13-15

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14. I press toward the mark for the prize of the High calling of God in Christ Jesus.

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God Bless You – See you tomorrow night!!

TOMORROWS TOPIC – THE HOMEMAKER