

WELCOME  
TO  
THE COURTSHIP BANQUET



PRESENTED  
THROUGH **Martin & Henrietta Mandula**

Dates : 20 November ~ 26 November 2016

Venue: Lecture Theatre 2

Time : 18:00 ~ 19:30 hrs



CONTINUE ATTENDING







We've Only Just  
Begun



# 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







# GLORIFY GOD

Whether therefore ye eat,  
or drink, **or whatsoever ye  
do**, do all to the glory of  
God.

**1 Corinthians 10:31**

# DECEPTIVE COURTSHIP PRACTICES

## **Wrong Ideas of Courtship and Marriage.--**

The ideas of courtship have their foundation in erroneous ideas concerning marriage. They follow impulse and blind passion. The courtship is carried on in a spirit of flirtation. The parties frequently violate the rules of modesty and reserve and are guilty of indiscretion, if they do not break the law of God. The high, noble, lofty design of God in the institution of marriage is not discerned; therefore the purest affections of the heart, the noblest traits of character are not developed. {Adventist Home p.55.1 EG White}







# DECEPTIVE COURTSHIP PRACTICES

**Not one word should be spoken, not one action performed, that you would not be willing the holy angels should look upon and register in the books above.** You should have an eye single to the glory of God. The heart should have only pure, sanctified affection, worthy of the followers of Jesus Christ, exalted in its nature, and more heavenly than earthly. **Anything different from this is debasing, degrading in courtship; and marriage cannot be holy and honorable in the sight of a pure and holy God, unless it is after the exalted Scriptural principle.**  
**{Adventist Home p.55.2 EG White}**

# DECEPTIVE COURTSHIP PRACTICES

The youth trust altogether too much to impulse. They should not give themselves away too easily, nor be captivated too readily by **the winning exterior of the lover**. **Courtship as carried on in this age is a scheme of deception and hypocrisy, with which the enemy of souls has far more to do than the Lord.** Good common sense is needed here if anywhere; but the fact is, it has little to do in the matter.  
**{Adventist Home p.55.3, EG White}**







# KEEPING LATE HOURS

The habit of sitting up late at night is customary; but it is not pleasing to God, even if you are both Christians. These untimely hours injure health, unfit the mind for the next day's duties, and have an appearance of evil. My brother, I hope you will have self respect enough to shun this form of courtship.



# KEEPING LATE HOURS

If you have an eye single to the glory of God, you will move with deliberate caution. You will not suffer lovesick sentimentalism to so blind your vision that you cannot discern the high claims that God has upon you as a Christian.... **Satan's angels are keeping watch with those who devote a large share of the night to courting.** Could they have their eyes opened, they would see an angel making a record of their words and acts.

**{Adventist Home p.56.1}**





# TRIFLING WITH HEARTS

**To trifle with hearts is a crime of no small magnitude in the sight of a holy God.** And yet some will show preference for young ladies and call out their affections, and then go their way and forget all about the words they have spoken and their effect. **A new face attracts them, and they repeat the same words, devote to another the same attentions. {Adventist Home p57.1 EG White}**





## TRIFLING WITH HEARTS

**This disposition will reveal itself in the married life. The marriage relation does not always make the fickle mind firm, the wavering steadfast and true to principle. They tire of constancy, and unholy thoughts will manifest themselves in unholy actions.** How essential it is, then, that the youth so gird up the loins of their mind and guard their conduct that Satan cannot beguile them from the path of uprightness. {Adventist Home p.57,2 EG White}

## SECRETIVE COURTSHIP

**A young man who enjoys the society and wins the friendship of a young lady unbeknown to her parents does not act a noble Christian part toward her or toward her parents.** Through secret communications and meetings he may gain an influence over her mind, but in so doing he fails to manifest that nobility and integrity of soul which every child of God will possess....







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# SECRETIVE COURTSHIP

In order to accomplish their ends, they act a part that is not frank and open and according to the Bible standard, and prove themselves untrue to those who love them and try to be faithful guardians over them. **Marriages contracted under such influences are not according to the word of God.** He who would lead a daughter away from duty, who would confuse her ideas of God's plain and positive commands to obey and honor her parents, is not one who would be true to the marriage obligations. . . . {**Adventist Home p.57.3, EG White**}



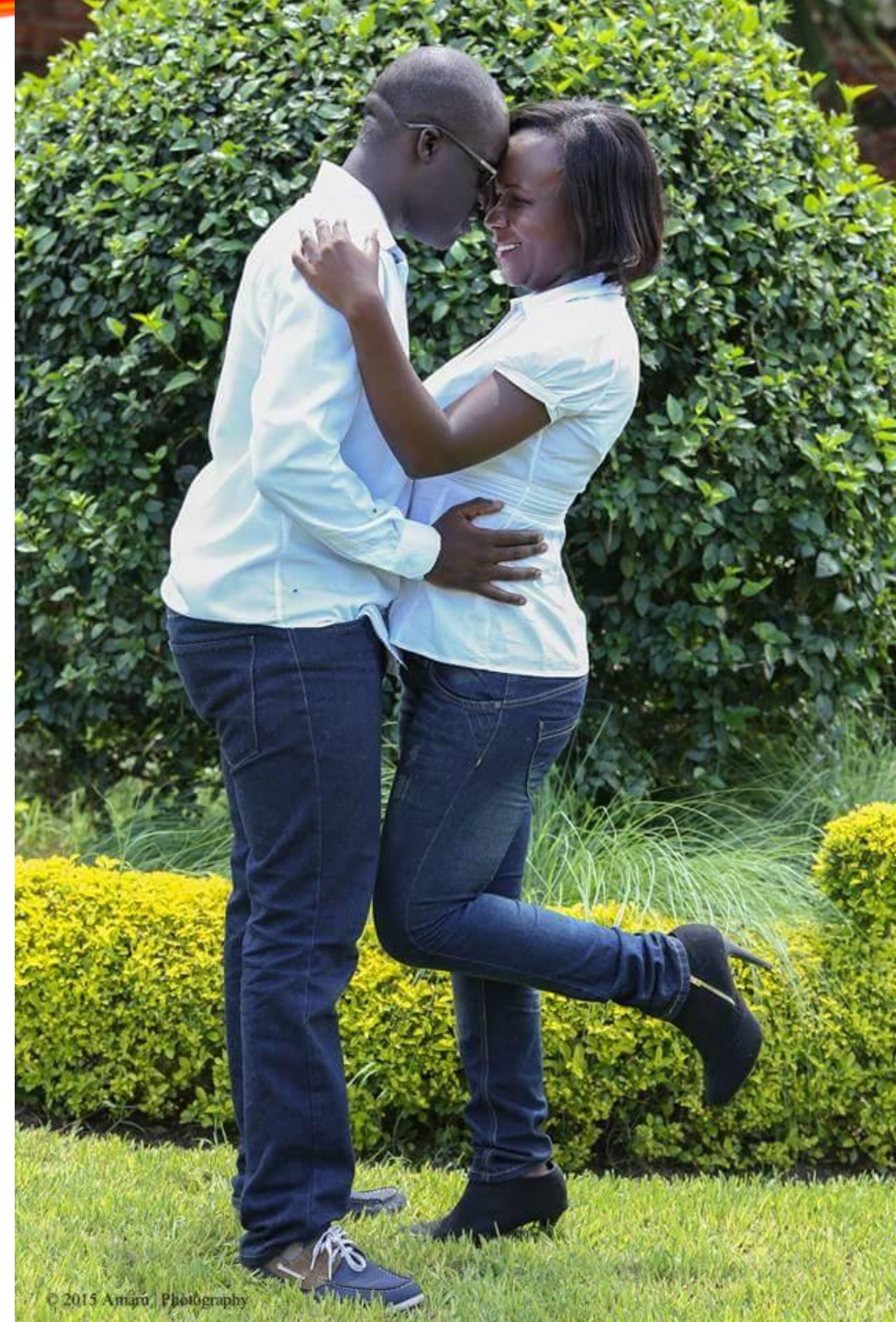
## SECRETIVE COURTSHIP (CON'T)

**"Thou shalt not steal" was written by the finger of God upon the tables of stone, yet how much underhand stealing of affections is practiced and excused!** A deceptive courtship is maintained, private communications are kept up, until the affections of one who is inexperienced, and knows not whereunto these things may grow, are in a measure withdrawn from her parents and placed upon him who shows by the very course he pursues that he is unworthy of her love. **The Bible condemns every species of dishonesty. . . . {Adventist Home p.58.1 EG White}**



# ENCOUNTERS OF A DANGEROUS KIND

Avoid the First Downward Step.--When one commandment of the Decalogue is broken, the downward steps are almost certain. **When once the barriers of female modesty are removed, the basest licentiousness does not appear exceeding sinful.** Alas, what terrible results of woman's influence for evil may be witnessed in the world today! Through the allurements of "strange women," thousands are incarcerated in prison cells, many take their own lives, and many cut short the lives of others. How true the words of Inspiration, "Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell." {**Adventist Home p.58.3 EG White**}







## ENCOUNTERS OF A DANGEROUS KIND

**Beacons of warning are placed on every side in the pathway of life to prevent men from approaching the dangerous, forbidden ground; but, notwithstanding this, multitudes choose the fatal path, contrary to the dictates of reason, regardless of God's law, and in defiance of His vengeance. {AH 59.1}**





# ENCOUNTERS OF A DANGEROUS KIND

Those who would preserve physical health, a vigorous intellect, and sound morals must "flee . . . youthful lusts." **Those who will put forth zealous and decided efforts to check the wickedness that lifts its bold, presumptuous head in our midst are hated and maligned by all wrongdoers, but they will be honored and recompensed of God.** {Adventist Home p.59.2, EG White}



# SOWING 'WILD OATS'

**Sow Wild Oats**--Reap a Bitter Crop.--  
You must not imperil your souls by sowing wild oats. You cannot afford to be careless in regard to the companions you choose. {AH 59.3}

**A little time spent in sowing your wild oats, dear young friends, will produce a crop that will embitter your whole life; an hour of thoughtlessness, once yielding to temptation, may turn the whole current of your life in the wrong direction.**



# SOWING 'WILD OATS'

You can have but one youth; make that useful. When once you have passed over the ground, you can never return to rectify your mistakes. **He who refuses to connect with God, and puts himself in the way of temptation will surely fall.** God is testing every youth. **Many have excused their carelessness and irreverence because of the wrong example given them by more experienced professors.** But this should not deter any from right doing. In the day of final accounts you will plead no such excuses as you plead now. {[Adventist Home p.59.4 EG White](#)}



# GOOD COUNSEL

## 1. Pray and fast together

- ✓ Set times when you can fast and pray together in person or apart)
- ✓ 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 EG White**}





# GOOD COUNSEL

## 2. Worship together

- ✓ Study the lesson together
- ✓ Practice singing the hymnals together
- ✓ Open the Sabbath together if possible
- ✓ Go to Church and participate together





# GOOD COUNSEL

## **3. Play together**

- ✓ Spare time for a refreshing picnic or outing or nature walks
- ✓ Develop and nurture the friendship





## GOOD COUNSEL

### 4. Support each other

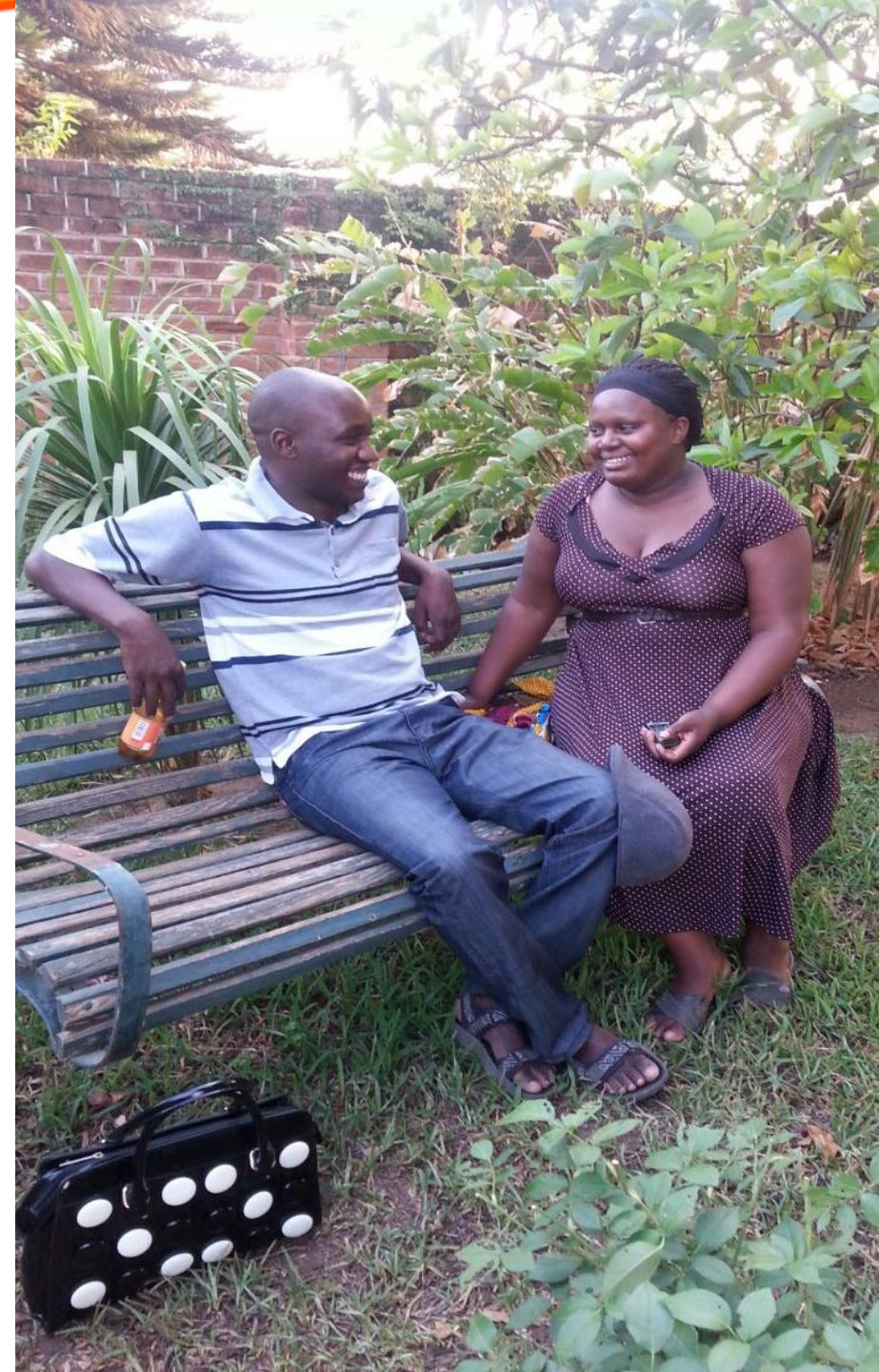
- ✓ Be interested in whatever course or job your partner is doing  
**(Intellectual Sympathy)**
- ✓ Encourage your mate to be the best that God made them to be
- ✓ Never put down your mate, even if you are joking



# GOOD COUNSEL

## 5. Open up to your mate

- ✓ Talk freely and openly with each other
- ✓ Avoid secret texts, emails, facebook messages (to the opposite sex especially) etc
- ✓ Avoid setting up no go areas for your mate (diaries, ,passwords etc)
- ✓ Freely talk about your expectations of each other







# GOOD COUNSEL

## 6. Talk About The Past

- ✓ Talk about your background and family setup
- ✓ Declare the mistakes you made in the past and their associated consequences
- ✓ Declare ex-boyfriends or ex-girlfriends to your mate, and physically identify them where possible
- ✓ Never accuse or bring up the declared mistakes of the past
- ✓ Ensure that the past remains in the past at all cost, openly talking about the past ensures that it stays in the past

# THE WEDDING

## 7. The Wedding

- ✓ Set realistic timelines of when you intend to be engaged and to wed (as a guide for planning)
- ✓ Live, plan and work towards that timeline
- ✓ Talk about the cultural differences and how they will be handled
- ✓ If you feel too young to talk about your wedding, then perhaps you are too young to be courting!







# THE FAMILY

## 8. The Family

- ✓ Discuss on your expectations of how you desire your family to be
- ✓ Discuss roles and responsibilities
- ✓ Discuss diets to be implemented
- ✓ Discuss the number of children you might want to have
- ✓ Discuss how the children will be raised
- ✓ Discuss the working arrangements
- ✓ Discuss the place of money in your family



# CONCLUSIONS

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 14:40







GOD BLESS YOU

SEE YOU TOMORROW NIGHT

TOPIC FOR TOMORROW: BEFORE YOU SAY I DO