

# Dating Covenant Form

"Dating is a God-focused, mutually edifying relationship that has as its intentional goal the glorification of God through Biblical marriage."

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1. We agree and adhere to the above definition of dating and in our relationship we covenant to:

a. Staying God focused (Hebrews 12:2, 2 Cor. 4:18, Matthew 22:37)

b. Being mutually edifying (Romans 4:19, 1 Thes. 5:11)

c. Make the goal of our relationship the glorification of God (1 Cor. 10:31) through Biblical marriage. (Genesis 2:24, Ephesians 5:22-33)

d. If we disagree with the definition of dating, the areas we disagree are:

i. Man

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ii. Woman

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iii. Can this be resolved in the context of our relationship? How?

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2. We agree that we will spend time together to:
  - a. Get to know each other spiritually, personally and relationally.
  - b. Enjoy each other's presence.
  - c. To figure out if it is God's will that we get married.
  
3. We will set the following boundaries during our time together:
  - a. The amount of time we spend together will allow us to accomplish #2 above.
  - b. The amount of time we spend together will not be so much as to encourage us to be "one-flesh" (Genesis 2:24) as if we were married.
  - c. We will allow and encourage each other to do the following faithfully, even if it means we will spend less time together:
    1. Attend Sunday morning worship service
    2. Attend a discipleship group
    3. Serve in a ministry
    4. Practice quiet time
  - ii. The average amount of time we will spend together each week is ideally: \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii. We will not spend more than \_\_\_\_\_ together each week.
  
4. We will set the following boundaries to maintain and encourage our physical purity:
  - a. We will be obedient to Song of Solomon 2:7, 3:5, 8:4 and not "...arouse or awaken love until it so desires."
  - b. We will not have sexual intercourse, do anything that looks or feels like sexual intercourse or do anything that leads to either of the above.
    - i. We acknowledge that as individuals certain things might "arouse or awaken love" for one but not the other. Because of that, we will honor the weaker brother or sister. (1 Corinthians 8:9)

ii. Specifically, we will or will not do the following:

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|-------------------------------------|------|----------|
| 1. Kiss (peck on cheek)             | WILL | WILL NOT |
| 2. Kiss (peck on lips)              | WILL | WILL NOT |
| 3. Kiss (longer kiss on lips)       | WILL | WILL NOT |
| 4. Kiss (lingering kiss on lips)    | WILL | WILL NOT |
| 5. Kiss (French)                    | WILL | WILL NOT |
| 6. Kiss (other than the above)      | WILL | WILL NOT |
| 7. Touch (hold hands)               | WILL | WILL NOT |
| 8. Touch (hug – side)               | WILL | WILL NOT |
| 9. Touch (hug – front)              | WILL | WILL NOT |
| 10. Touch (hug – behind)            | WILL | WILL NOT |
| 11. Touch (caress any part of body) | WILL | WILL NOT |

5. We will actively and honestly pursue regular accountability.

a. Relational accountability – we will talk together and with wise Christian friends regularly about the condition and future of our relationship.

(James 5:16)

i. Who (man)? \_\_\_\_\_

ii. Who (woman)? \_\_\_\_\_

iii. How often? \_\_\_\_\_

b. Spiritual accountability – we will meet regularly with our pastor / spiritual mentor to discuss the condition and future of our relationship.

(Hebrews 13:17)

i. Who? \_\_\_\_\_

ii. Who (woman)? \_\_\_\_\_

iii. How often? \_\_\_\_\_

c. Parental accountability – we will consult our parents on the condition and future of our relationship. (Ephesians 6:4)

i. When? \_\_\_\_\_

ii. How often? \_\_\_\_\_

- d. Absolute accountability – we will seek God together about the condition and future of our relationship and confess our sins quickly. (Romans 3:9)
6. We agree to end the relationship in the case of any of the following:
- a. When sinful patterns start to be formed and reinforced.
  - b. When either or both of us continually dishonor set boundaries.
  - c. When either or both of us start and continue to desire the other more than God.
  - d. When either or both of us decide that the other is not the person they want to marry.
7. We agree to end the relationship in a loving, healthy and biblical way. (Ephesians 4:15, 2 Timothy 1:7)

a. How would we would like the other to break up with us if it comes up:

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*Man – I have read and agree to the above and covenant to honor the things discussed:*

*Name* \_\_\_\_\_ *Date* \_\_\_\_\_

*Woman – I have read and agree to the above and covenant to honor the things discussed:*

*Name* \_\_\_\_\_ *Date* \_\_\_\_\_