

Road Side Bible
Baptist Church

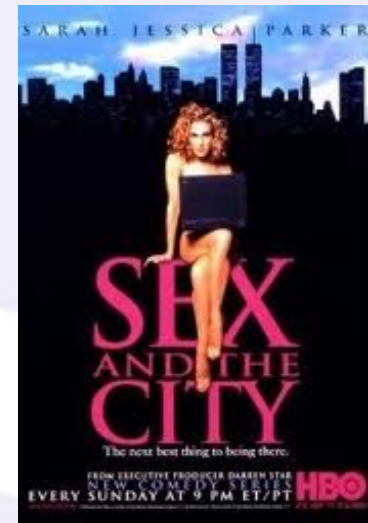
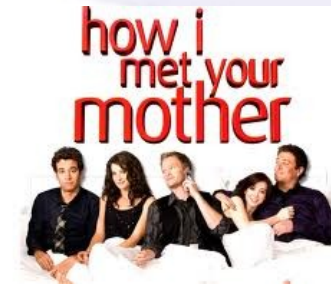
Is this **TRUE LOVE?**



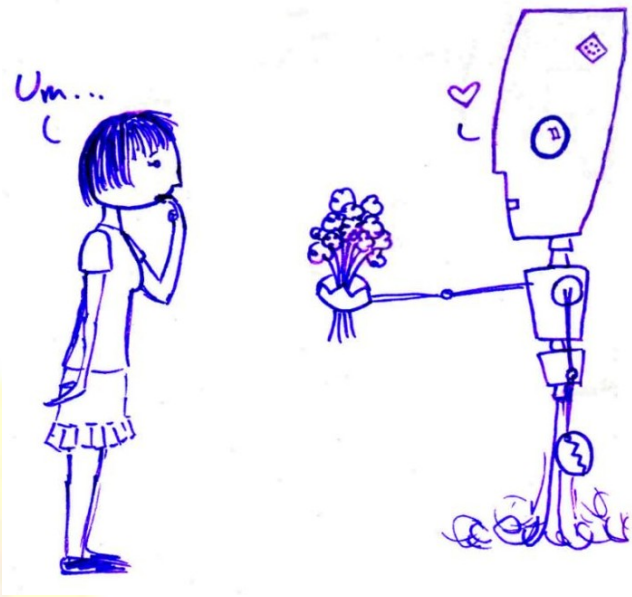
- **Question #1: Define the following:**
 - LOVE
 - COURTSHIP
 - MARRIAGE



- Question#2: What's the need in having a boyfriend or girlfriend?



- Our generation views relationships as:
 - romance,
 - good time,
 - sake of experience,
 - peer pressure,
 - sex
 - and for the wish of figuring out what we'll one day want after we get around may relationships.



COURTSHIP

- It is the period in a couple's relationship that happens before engagement and marriage, an establishment of an agreed relationship on an enduring kind. Traditionally, males actively "court" or "woo" a female to encourage interest in him and her receptiveness to a proposal of marriage.
- Courtship also includes the opposite's family or parents.

- Question and guides during courtship:
Imagine you are his future wife/husband
 - Is the **future wife** willing to be obedient to her future husband and follow him as the spiritual leader of the home? **If not, the courtship ought to be terminated.**
 - You need to be able to pray together, study the Bible together, praise the Lord together, attend the same church, give together.
 - The wife is to be a helpmeet. Not a hindrance. Will your future wife help you serve the Lord? Never allow your partner to hinder you from serving the Lord



DATING

- It a form of human courtship consisting of social activities done by two persons with the aim of each assessing the other's suitability as a partner for a kind of relationship

- Have you both agreed that you will help each other in obeying God first?
- If you both cannot agree to put God first, then the **courtship ought to be terminated**. Save yourself future heartache from potential disagreements and contentions.
- Your spiritual vision needs to be Psalm 34:3. ***O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.***

- Joshua Harris in *I Kissed Dating Goodbye* 1997, Multnomah Press, writes:
- **Dating leads to intimacy, but not necessarily commitment.**
- **Dating tends to skip the “friendship” stage of a relationship**
- **Dating often mistakes a physical relationship for love**



- Dating is broken; it needs to be fixed. - *Joshua Harris, author of I Kissed Dating Goodbye*

The background features several stylized human figures in various colors (orange, yellow, purple, green, blue) arranged in a circle, suggesting a group or community. The figures are semi-transparent and have a soft, glowing effect.

**SMART
LOVE**

versus

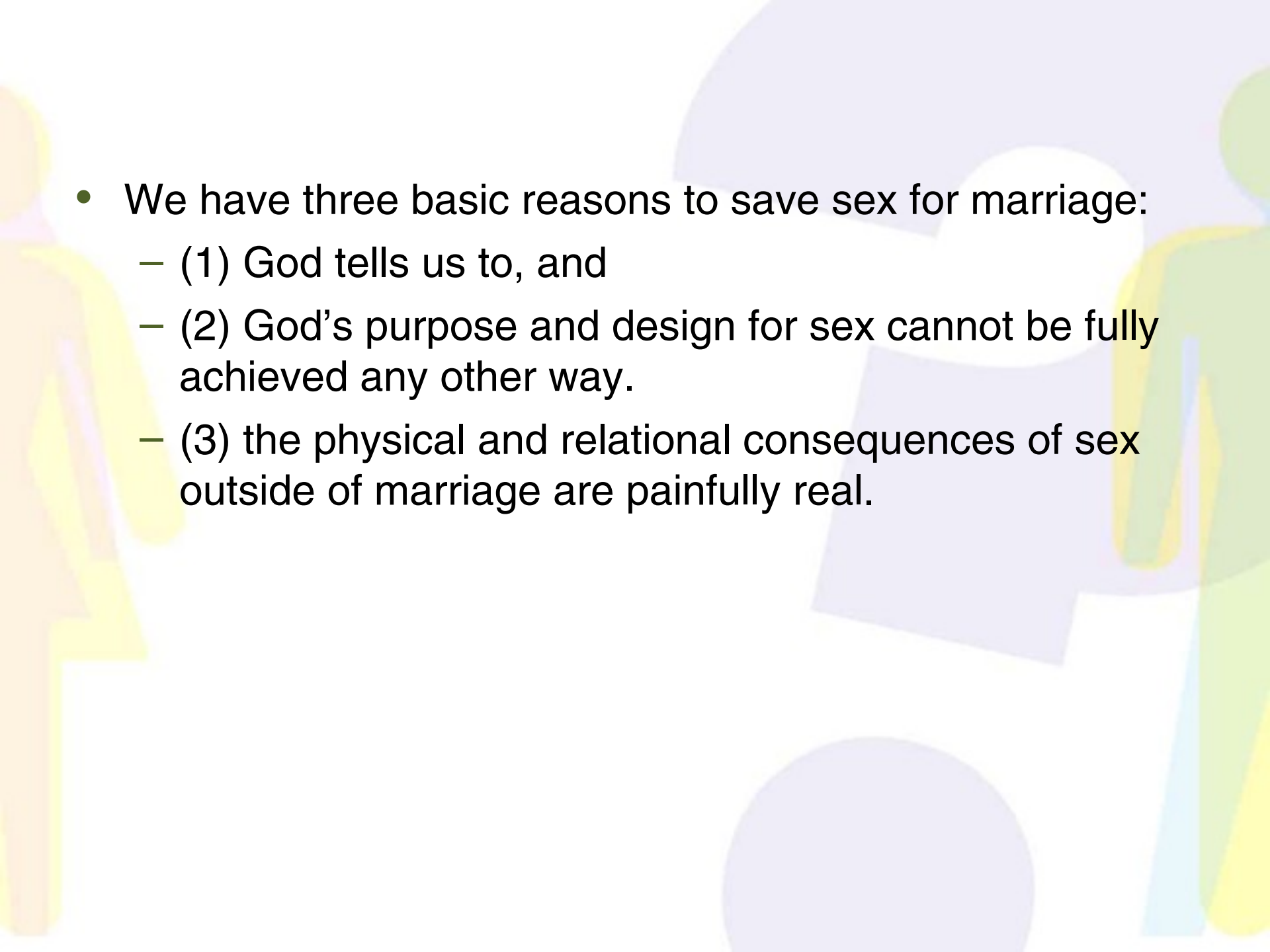
DUMB LOVE



Don't mistake physical
relationship with love.

A close-up photograph of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, positioned to form a heart shape. The fingers are curled inward, and the thumbs are at the top and bottom points of the heart. The background is a solid, bright yellow color. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the skin.

The Joy of intimacy is the
reward of commitment.

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- The background features several stylized human figures in various colors (yellow, orange, purple, green, blue) and shapes, some overlapping, creating a soft, abstract backdrop for the text.
- We have three basic reasons to save sex for marriage:
 - (1) God tells us to, and
 - (2) God’s purpose and design for sex cannot be fully achieved any other way.
 - (3) the physical and relational consequences of sex outside of marriage are painfully real.

"But we're in love!" some might say. Maybe so, but if one believes in God's definition of [love](#), he must realize that love is patient and kind; it does not seek to please itself, nor does it delight in evil, but is always hopeful ([1 Corinthians 13](#)). True love would be patient in waiting for the proper time for sex.

"But we're going to be married anyway" is another common excuse. Along with being presumptuous, this stance will almost certainly leave one question unanswered: If one gives in to moral temptation before marriage, what's to stop him or her from giving in to moral temptation once married?

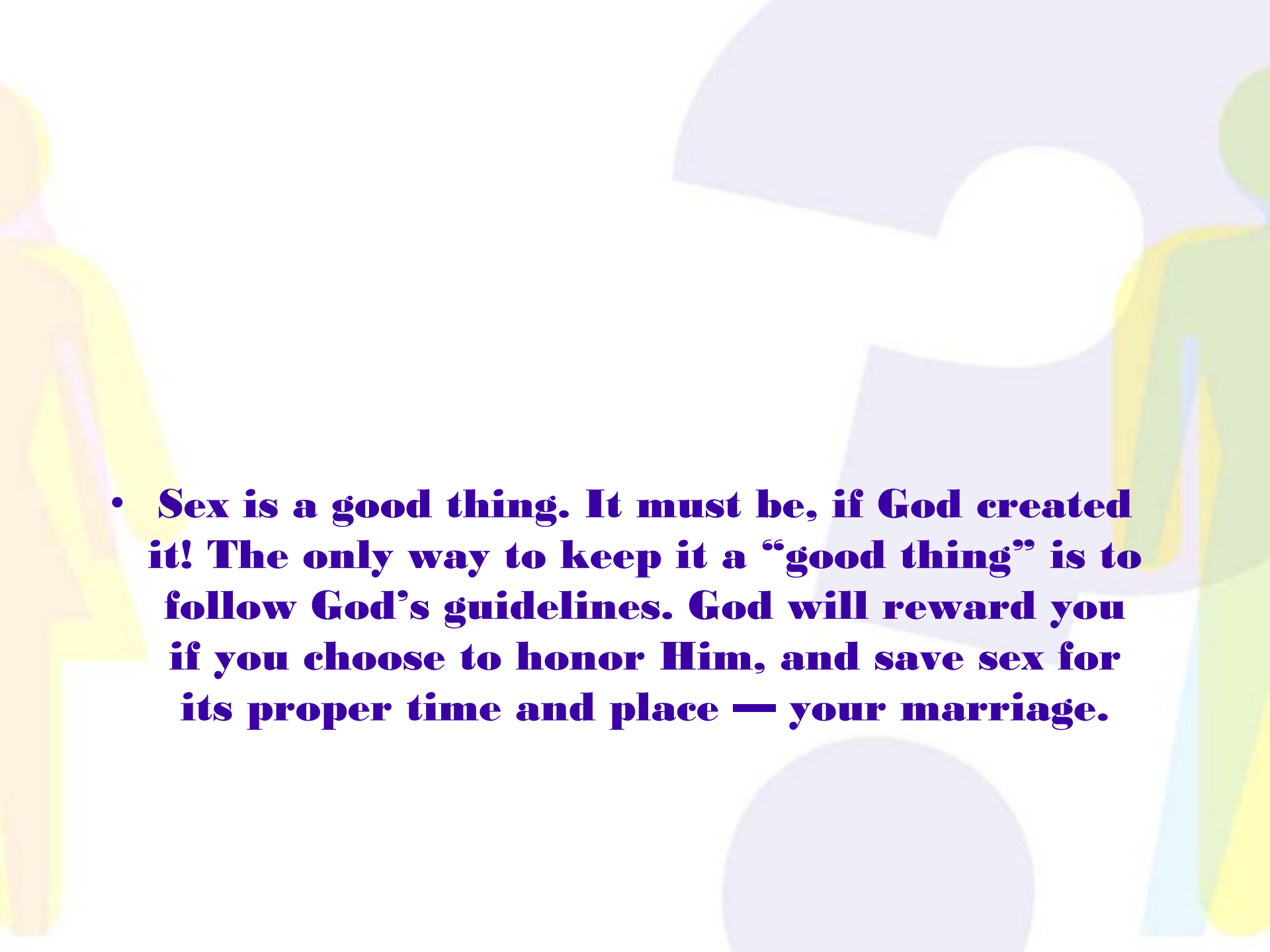
"What if it's too late? What if I've already forfeited my sexual purity?"

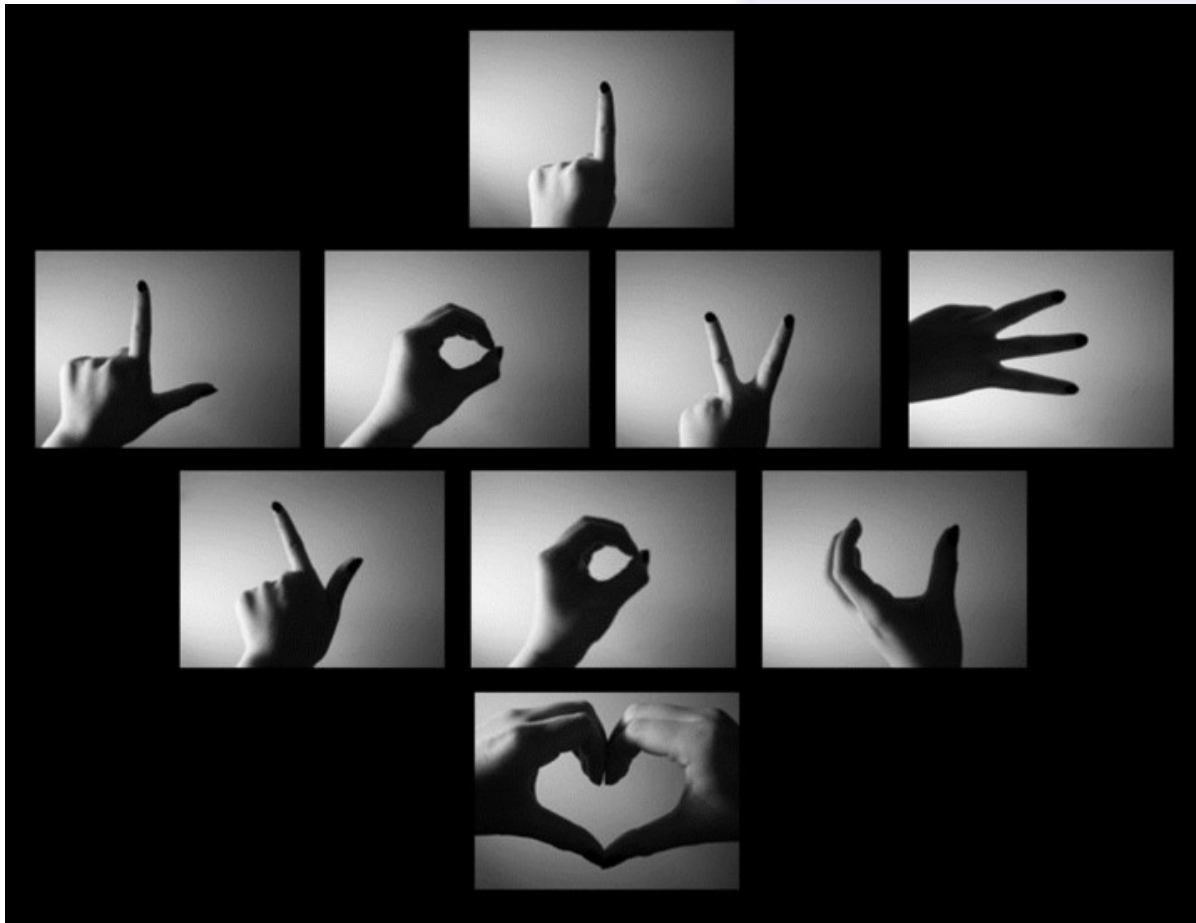
Good question! Certainly a person cannot reverse the past, but there are a number of steps one should take to keep from further damaging his or her intimacy with God and others.

First, acknowledge your actions as sin. For those who have accepted Christ's payment of the penalty for their sins, He asks only that they confess - agree with God that they are sinful.

Second, maintain purity from this moment forward. Jesus told the woman caught in sexual sin to "go and sin no more" ([John 8:11](#)). You cannot change what's been done, but you can keep yourself and others from any further damage by avoiding situations which might cause you to compromise your commitment to sexual purity. [Paul](#) advised [Timothy](#) to run away from temptation ([2 Timothy 2:22](#)), and [Joseph](#) is famous for running from moral danger ([Genesis 39:7-12](#)).

Third, be honest with anyone who is a "potential spouse" — don't wait till your wedding night to discuss your sexual past. Some intimacy problems may be averted if you address them early on.

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- The background features several stylized human figures in various colors (yellow, purple, green, blue) and sizes, some overlapping, creating a sense of a diverse group of people. The figures are simple, rounded shapes with no facial features.
- **Sex is a good thing. It must be, if God created it! The only way to keep it a “good thing” is to follow God’s guidelines. God will reward you if you choose to honor Him, and save sex for its proper time and place — your marriage.**



- **Use “I LOVE YOU” with proper RESPECT**



- **Relationship** is something beyond common interests. You establish *the commitment for the person*, regardless of the differences and difficulties you may live with together.

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MARRIAGE

- It a social union or legal contract between people to create kinship
- ***Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. Genesis 2:24***



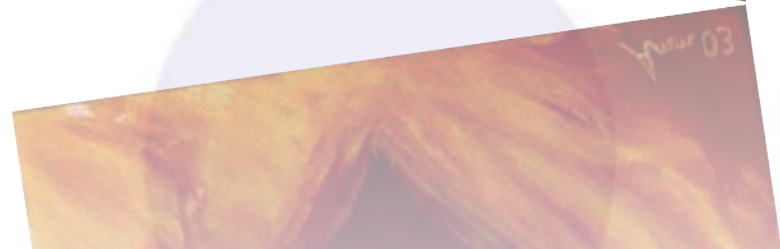
- **MARRIAGE:**

- Do you understand that marriage is a type of the relationship between Christ and the church? Study Ephesians 5:22-33. How does the husband show this kind of Christ-like, giving love?

1 Corinthians 13, it states that Love (Charity) is:

- **Patient:** It waits for the right time for the right person. It's not in a hurry.
- **Kind:** Always cares, unselfish, not easy to anger.
- **Does not envy:** What is yours, I will have.
- **Not boastful/prideful:** it stays humble.
- **Not easy to anger:**
- **Thinks no evil:** pure
- **Rejoices in truth**

- **Takes responsibility**
- **Believes in each other**
- **Endures hardships**
- **True love never fails**





- **Don't get into a relationship if you're not willing to commit.** Now have an **edited version of relationships**, as well as marriage.
- Younger **ones don't understand the value of the words "I love you."** If its just a "kilig" word, then you miss the true meaning of giving those words to someone you don't know.



- Don't lower your standards!
Have HIGH STANDARDS!
- Do't PUT IT IN until you've put
a RING.

Finding a godly mate for your life requires patience because you live according to God's timing.

Jacob was willing to serve and wait 7 years to get his wife Rachel (Genesis 29 & 30).



Are you willing to be patient?

Will you wait on the Lord?

Are you praying for God to
present you the person that
He meant for you?





A SELF-CHALLENGE!

- **I will wait for God's Best!**
- **I will keep my purity**
- **I will say "I love you" to the right person**
- **I want to be a godly husband/wife in the future!**

KEY RELATIONSHIP SCRIPTURES

- Philippians 2:1-4
- 1 Peter 3:8, 9
- Colossians 3:12-14
- Ephesians 4:29-32
- Colossians 1:10
- References: http://www.joshharris.com/summary_of_i_kissed_dating_goo.php, <http://christiananswers.net/q-sum/sum-f001.html>,
<http://christiananswers.net/q-dml/dml-y030.html>

A close-up photograph of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, positioned to form a heart shape. The fingers are curled inward, and the thumbs are at the top and bottom points of the heart. The hands are set against a solid, bright yellow background. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the skin. In the center of the heart-shaped opening, the words "LOVE RIGHT!" are written in a bold, white, serif font.

LOVE RIGHT!