

COURTSHIP ANXIETY

Several years ago, I taught a series of lessons entitled, [Dating, Diamonds, and Diapers](#). Each of these was intended to become a special study. I did a special study on Dating and Diapers ([Parenting book](#)) but didn't get to the Diamonds. Christian Courtship is the subject of the Diamond section. This is the first lesson in the Diamonds.

We will define Courtship as having reached an age of adult independence and responsibility; and finding a special person with mutual interest in spending exclusive time together for exploring compatibility towards the possibility of marriage.

**This lesson will study two our aspects of Christian Courtship Anxiety
and how to resolve it from (1 Cor.7:32-35)**

1. Paul's intention of teaching on Christian courtship was instruction on dealing with anxiety in courtship.

It is important to learn how to deal with Mental Attitude Sins (MAS) before marriage and parenthood.

(1 Cor.7:32a) But I want you to be free from concern (eimi / p.a.infin / amerimnos / aplm) [Without anxiety].”

Amerimnos means to NOT be drawn in different directions so as to cause anxiety.

(1 Pet.5:7) “Casting (epiripto / a.a.ptc.nplm) all your anxiety (merimna/ care, concern, worry, anxiety) on Him, because He cares for you.”

- Jesus taught that anxiety can be caused by a worldly self-image (Matt.6:25-34; 13:22).
- Peter taught that anxiety is not a burden that has to borne (1 Pet.5:6-8; Ps.55:22; 1 Cor.7:5).

As a Mental Attitude Sin (MAS), anxiety can distract us from the directive will of God (Rom.12:1-2). It is important to seek God's Will regarding a mate for marriage (Prov.18:22). It is the single most important decision after faith in the gospel of Grace Salvation (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9).

2. Paul instructs the unmarried to live “to please the Lord.”

(1 Cor.7:32b) “One who is unmarried (agamos) is concerned (merimnao / p.a.ind.3ps) [Positive Mental Attitude / Relaxed Mental Attitude (RMA) about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord.”

Paul explained that pleasing the Lord meant living “holy both in body and spirit.”

(1 Cor.7:34b “And the woman who is unmarried, and the virgin, is concerned about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and spirit.” (1 Pet.1:13-16)

Paul explains importance of applying this doctrinal principle to marriage.

(Phil.2:20) “For I have no one else of kindred spirit (isopsuchos) [Equal in soul] who will genuinely (gnesios) [Honest, true, sincere] be concerned for your welfare (merimnao) [RMA].”