

Relating to Women - Lesson

Lesson summary: As a Christian, it is important to learn how to think of and treat women in a godly manner.

1 TIMOTHY 5:1-2 (NIV)

¹Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, ²older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity.

If you have a sister or daughter, it shouldn't be hard to think back on how you treated each other. If you don't have a sister or a daughter, imagine how an older brother would treat a sister with protecting her from those who would hurt her. Or imagine how you would treat them if a child or a friend you really respected were there.

The more that we allow ourselves to engage in sexually questionable conversation, the more our hearts become tainted. It makes it more and more difficult for us to respond to women in a way that would be pleasing to God. They are very valuable, not objects to be lusted after or disrespected.

1. Viewing women as God does
2. Working on your ability to relate to women
3. Putting it into practice

Practical tips on treating women with respect

1. Don't use sexual innuendos with women, even if they do. It is not Christlike.
2. Don't allow yourself to get caught up in talking about women disrespectfully to others, and don't allow others to do so around you.
3. Live in such a way as to have the respect of women.
4. Think of women as how you would treat them if they were your sister or daughter.
5. Put women first.
6. Work on having women friends before finding a girlfriend.
7. Learn how to relate to a woman in a non-sexual way.
8. Try to stay in groups when you plan on hanging out.
9. Have a mindset of one who desires to protect them
 - a. From dangerous people
 - b. From the cold, physical dangers, fear, etc.
10. No woman owes you anything but the pleasure of their company
 - a. You buying them something doesn't obligate them to anything.
11. Make a point to befriend an elderly lady at your church so you can become comfortable in relating to a woman in a non-sexual way.

What is the most difficult area for you to understand in relating with women in a godly way?