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How to Avoid SELF IMPOSED MARITAL DELAY

1. **Fornication:** This is one most common cause of marital delay. Most people fall to Satan in this area; they get into relationship and start having sex, before they could even get to know their partner.

There is nothing that delays marriage like premarital sex. When you give to someone today what is meant for tomorrow, he or she no longer values it. For instance, you get into university and the school authority gives you a certificate “first Class honor” while you are still in year one; you will no longer burn night candle for your studies. You could even abandon your studies and say after all, I have my certificate already. That is how sex is to a relationship. Sex is a mystery, its builds intimacy in marriage and destroys relationship outside of marriage.

A lady sent me a letter recently, saying I have been with my partner for nine years and we have two children together. Each time I

remind him about performing our marriage rights, he always replies with “I do not have money” and when money comes, he acts as though he had forgotten “what do I do?” I told her to be patient and prayerful, to ask God for forgiveness and He will step in. If she was not involved in pre-marital sex that led to her pregnancy, the case would have been different.

Fornication has the ability to defile your marital destiny. It always have an aftermath consequences; whosoever does not fear God enough today to fornicate with you, will also cheat on you with another woman while married to you. “Whosoever that sins with you, will sin against you”.

This also applies to women that have husband committing fraud to make money; they should be ready to share their husbands with other women. Cheating is cheating, if your husband can cheat any person, company

or government to make money, he will also cheat on you with other women to get fun.

Don’t let anybody tell you I cannot just resist you, he or she has also not been resisting other people.

HOW TO AVOID FORNICATION

- Guide your thought
- Avoid environment that brings such feelings
- Avoid friends that lure you
- Get enough God’s word in your inside
- Learn to say no
- Get busy

2. **Materialism:** This is the tendency to consider material possession and physical comfort as more important than spiritual and moral values. A lot of single people look out for material possession when thinking of a life

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1. **Companionship:** (Gen 2:18) “The Lord God said, it is not good that a man should be alone; I will make him a helper” The number one reason for marriage is companionship. God instituted marriage, that a man or a woman will have someone of the same kind to commune with. The only way somebody can truly keep you company is when they are your friend. And for someone to truly be your friend he or she must be in the same frequency with you. And for you to enjoy intimate friendship in the marriage institution, you must understand the two major laws that govern marriage.

THE LAW OF LOVE

Until we understand the law of love in marriage, and not allow African laws to influence and mislead us, one party will be suffering and there will not be true companionship (Eph 5:25, 33) “Husbands love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it” “and let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself” love is a commandment not a suggestion. The reason why some men have not been able to love their wives like their own flesh, is because of the false believe that a women is lesser than a man.

God created man and women equally but they are to function differently. There



are countless places in the bible were God show us that we are like HIM. “As He is in heaven so we are on earth, the same glory that my Father has given me, I have given it to you, as my father had sent Me; even so have I sent you, The same work that I do, shall you do, even greater works than this

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Our Vision - Is to bring God’s original intent of marriage and relationship to mankind.

How to Avoid SELF IMPOSED MARITAL DELAY

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partner, rather than other values that makes life enjoyable. I am not saying comfort or material comfort is bad but that should not be your focus, and there is nothing that delays marriage as much as this very factor.

Riches come from God, and can be added to any one at any point in time. Look at for values that attracts God's blessing. Any person that is genuinely rich in God will eventually be rich in material things. Let me tell you a secret, add righteousness, persistence, diligence, vision, faith, and focus to any man or woman, it's only a matter of time, he or she will emerge a billionaire.

Be patient enough to turn a trash to a treasure. There is a story of a lady I know, she was dating a young intelligent and relatively God fearing guy but the guy was having problems finding a suitable job, because of lack of patience, another guy came into her life that looks as though he had already made it, so she decided to go for him. Shortly God answered the prayers of the other brother; he got a good job and eventually got married. Few years down the line, the lady is regretting her marriage. She was misled by material possession. A lot of people are single today because they were not patient enough to turn a trash to a treasure.

3. Unfaithfulness: A lot of relationship that could have led to good marriage died in the bed of unfaithfulness. Nothing destroys trust in a relationship like unfaithfulness and trust is the pillar that upholds love. When you have an unfaithful attitude, it will destroy your relationship with people and can end in marital delay.

(1Kings 20:39b) "...and brought a man unto me and said, keep this man: if by any means he be missing, then shall thy life be for his life or else you shall pay a talent". This scripture is talking about focus; for a relationship to be successful, you need to put all your eggs in one basket and watch it diligently. Double dating is not wisdom but foolishness. Relationship that will lead to marriage is too keen to be watch with one eye. Unfaithfulness can lead to marital delay in your life. Be faithful.

4. Wrong attitude: A lot of people are not married today or are married to the wrong person because of wrong or poor way of behavior. Attitude is very keen in choosing a life partner. Christianity is not in the scriptures you quote, but in the character you display. In order to leave the single market, you must learn the right attitude, the right way of dealing with issues, the right way of treating people, learn how to control your anger and how to speak with people. Stop arguing about everything; somebody once said "a wise man says lesser than he knows but a foolish man says all that he knows in one meeting. Have a right attitude to life itself; always believe things will turn out beautiful. Never let Satan steal your joy, treat people rightly. Never leave anyone the same way you met them.

As a growing up child I have always love helping others. When you meet a new relationship, whether or not that relationship will work depends on your attitude.

The way you behave most times is inherent in you, but make a conscious effort to change any attitude people complain about you. This is another key that could delay your marital destiny, if it is not dealt with.

5. Lowself-esteem: This is one of the causes of fornication. A lot of people are single today because of what they think of themselves. When you do not believe in yourself, you look for others to tell you your worth. I know of a friend that is always comfortable as being number two. I believe she thinks she is not good enough to be number one. She date people that flaunt other woman in the open and tells her, "understand, don't worry, I love you". (John1:22) "Then said unto him, who art thou? That we may give an answer to them that sent us, what says thou of thyself?"

What you call yourself depends on how others will call you. Lack of self-worth draw people away from you, it makes you less attractive to your spouse and could delay marital destiny. You must learn to present yourself well to people around, never look down on yourself. Tell or remind yourself how valuable you are in the sight of God. The bible says "you are a peculiar person, a royal priesthood" You have royalty running in your blood. From today, begin to see yourself as a prince and a princess.

Sleeping with a man or a woman that you are not married to, shows how low you see yourself. It is forbidden to see a king or a queen's nakedness.

HOW TO BUILD UP YOUR SELF-ESTEEM

- Discover your purpose on earth:** There is nothing that boosts self-worth like having a sense of purpose on earth. It makes you feel special. I feel so good about myself ever since I discover my purpose on earth. Even if I stand before a president, my heart tells me his position is tenured but only death can take away my purpose. Even in death I will still be rewarded for it (Matt 25:24).
- Believe in yourself.** Never say to yourself what can I ever achieve in life.
- See yourself the way God sees you.** The word of God says "you are gods", He says you are a royal priesthood, He says you are peculiar; Begin to meditate these words until you become it.
- Stock enough of God's word inside of you.
- Always remind yourself that there is specific treasure in you, that is not in anyone else.

Impatient: Impatient can lead to marital delay. You need to patiently wait to discover a treasure in any person. Impatient is another key factor why people marry a wrong partner. Patient is the key to unwrap or discover a treasure in a trash. You are not to look for already made husband or wife; you are to work with your wife or husband to become successful. This is where Satan deceives a lot of young men; they feel they should be rich or successful to a large extent before getting married but this is far from the truth.

God created Adam and gave him assignment in the Garden of Eden, and immediately brought him a wife to help with that assignment. The role of a wife is to help her man on his way to achievement in life. You are not to make all the money before getting married. Impatient is the reason a lot of people are looking for already made spouses.

As a man you need to have a sense of purpose in life, a place you can lay your head and a source to get food, then you can marry. The bible says "He that finds a wife finds a good thing and obtained favour from God". This means when you find a wife, He will give you favor for prosperity.

Look, President Obama did not marry as president but married when he was nothing, they both worked to be something. Be patient with people.

THE ORIGINAL INTENT for *Marriage* & *Relationship*

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shall you do". Christ never refers to us as inferior or lesser than He is, the bible refer to us as joint heir with Christ. How come your wife is lesser than you? The relationship between the church and Christ is the standard for a man and his wife.

Your wife is not inferior to you; she is the same as you are, because Christ the head of the church told us that we are the same as He is.

The idea of your wife is not the same as you is from Africa Satanic tradition made by men that never knew who God is, and how He intended marriage to become. How can the same flesh with you now become less than you? How can you claim your eye is more than your nose?

Until this is understood and applied in marriage, we are not fulfilling God's intent in marriage.

God made you a leader as a husband and because your eyes cannot lead without your nose following then your wife is also a co-leader.

THE LAW OF SUBMISSION:

The second law that governs marriage is submission. The law of submission was given before that of a man to love. This was done on purpose, because God knows that submission will naturally win the love of a man. No man refuses submission. Simple obedience to scriptures will make you have your home the way God intended it. (Eph5:21) "Wives submit yourselves unto your own husband as unto the Lord". This is a commandment not an opinion. Back in the primary school days, there use to be a class prefect in every classroom; he or she is usually appointed by the class teacher over other pupil. Whenever they disobey the authority of the class prefect, the class teacher feels they had disobey her authority and in turn discipline the pupil; so also it is when a women disobeys her husband, she is not just disobeying her husband but God that gave him authority over her.

2. **Fruitfulness:** (Gen1:27-29) The first word God said to a man and his wife is to be "fruitful". Marriage is for fruitful living. Oxford dictionary defines fruitfulness as producing much fruit, fertile, producing good result. One of the original intent of marriage is to enable the people involved to produce a better result. Marriage is God's mystery of solving hardship; marriage is a tool for prosperity anywhere in the world.

Until marriage came, Adam was just working in the garden as a worker not as an owner. He was only working and eating as a laborer, he was on survival party but after Eve came; God started blessing him and gave him ownership over the earth. See (Gen 1:28-29) Before marriage, Adam was limited to the garden but after marriage the bible says "you have fruit not just what to eat, but now have the ability to reproduce the fruit with the seed in it, which is in all the face of the earth". No matter where you are, as long as you are married, you are to be blessed more than ever before. Let me tell you this, as a man there is a level of blessing you may never attain until you get married. And if you are already married and still remain poor, demand for it, it is your right to be

Dynamic Testimonies

of Judith Daniel's
Ministry
(Living Witnesses)

I want to thank God for the impact of Keys to Happy Living in my life, I was at the verge of marrying a wrong partner which would have trapped my destiny, when I came across a copy of keys to happy living. After reading it I realize that I was running my relationship outside of God's will so I decided to quit the relationship also G.L.M. Meetings have transformed every way of my life. I give God praise.

Bro. Aladesuru

I want to appreciate God for his faithfulness, I have been believing God for a job, for over a year now and I've written several application. I applied to a particular organization and met with Pastor Judith to agree with me in prayers and miraculously I got a job.

Bro. George

blessed. Marriage is the mystery for prosperity.

3. **Pro-creation:** (Gen 1:28) "Then God blessed them, and God said to them, Be fruitful, multiply and replenish the earth" Replenish means to fill up again, to refill, to top up. Multiply means to have several, many, God was referring to having children here. He had to use two different languages for emphasis. The moment you get married, children becomes your right, barrenness is an illegal state in the life of couples. Another scripture says "children are in heritage of the lord; the fruit of the womb is a reward for getting married. So, another purpose for marriage is for pro-creation.

4. **Prayer power/spiritual strength:** (Eccl 4:9-12) "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour" When you are weak in prayers, you have another person to pray you up. For instance, I usually wake up at night to pray and study and my husband wakes up 5am to pray, because we have to pray together as family, I have to also join him, that makes me pray more. The bible says "One shall chaste a thousand, but two ten thousand". Marriage gives your prayers a multiplier effect.

5. **Sexual pleasure:** Marriage is for pleasure; one of the intent God created marriage is for us to enjoy sex. He says "Be fruitful, multiply, replenish the Earth". God already design procreation to come as a result of a man and woman knowing each other bodily. God is the one that created your sexual urge inside of you and marriage is the reason he created it, so you can have pleasure exclusively. If you ever wonder why you are having feelings towards the opposite sex, marriage is the reason. God is not wicked, He thought of you having sex ever before you knew it existed. Please, do not use it against Him (1 Corin. 7:3-5). The scripture says "Your body is not your own but for your spouse" This means, your body is for your spouse to enjoy. One of the purposes or intent for marriage is for sexual pleasure.

2 Qualities

A MAN MUST POSSESS
BEFORE YOU SAY
"I DO"



Qualities to Look Out for in a Woman

1. **You must meet him with God.** From the Genesis story, we discovered that Adam had a very cordial relationship with God. No wonder he knew how to take care of the woman God gave him. The moment he saw Eve he said "this is now the bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh, she shall be called woman" he was on the same frequency with God, without any extra lectures he knew how well to treat his wife. When a man has a good relationship with his maker, it shows in the way he relates with his wife. Your happiness is only guaranteed, if you marry a man with the fear of God (Luke 1:6-7,18) "And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless, and they had no child because that Elisabeth was barren" Zacharias was not the one barren but because he was righteous before God, he did not go for another woman to have children. If you do not meet a man with good relationship with His Maker, he will mar your destiny. Any man that does not respect the cause of his existence will surely not respect you.

2. **You must meet him with a vision.** Vision is your assignment on earth, everybody on planet earth was created to keep and to dress a particular place. (Rom. 12:4-8)." For as we have many members in one body and all members have not the same office" we were all not created to function in the same place, every man have a particular place he was created to function and a problem he was created to solve. A man without a vision makes a frustrated wife. Your role as a woman is a helping role. If your husband is going nowhere, you will have nothing to help him with. There is nothing as frustrating as marrying a visionless and a lay back man. A wise man says "you are either burning with passion, running with a vision or aiming at a goal, if you are not in any of these categories; you are living a frustrated life". I say to every single man, the first thing to do in life is not to look for a wife but to look for the purpose of your existence. Vision has a direct influence on marriage, looking at scriptures; vision was what gave birth to marriage. See (Gen 2:18).

Vision is the mother of marriage, every man need to first discover his life assignment before seeking a wife. A wife is to help add color to your assignment. A man without vision is not qualified for marriage; it is so frustrating waking up in the morning without plans for the day.

You need to start thinking how you intend to spend the rest of your life. You are serving in a group in church does not replace your God given assignment, that has its own benefit; but it does not negate your God given assignment.

A woman gives meaning to a man's mission. 1Cor. 11:7b "But the woman is the glory of the man" In other words, without a woman, a man is void of glory. (Gen 2:18b). "I will make him an help meet for him" He gave him a woman to help in the fulfillment of that assignment and when Satan desired the treasure put in the care of Adam, He simply took off the woman and that assignment crumbled and failed.

A woman is like a protector to a man's vision. When thinking of a wife, stop thinking of fairness, big bust etc., marriage is of much value than that.

Do you know in the whole scripture it was only two people that were referred to as "helper" THE WOMAN AND THE HOLY SPIRIT!

The Holy Spirit is the helper of our destiny, but if Adam did not fail, there would not have been need for the Holy Spirit to come down as a helper. The work of the Holy Spirit was what God intended for a woman in a man's life. If the Devil did not succeed in taking away the helper of man's vision, Adam would not have failed; if Adam did not fail, Jesus would not have come to die and there will not be need for the Holy Spirit to come and be our helper. It was when Christ came to re-instate man back to his original position that He sent the Holy Spirit (Invisible) helper to man and his wife to help them fulfill their purpose on Earth. So when thinking of a wife, the key things to look out for is:

- A woman with ability to help
- A woman with ability to co-lead
- A woman with ability to manage
- A woman with ability to enhance
- A woman must have ability to incubate ideas, vision and give life to whatever is produce by a man.
- A woman must be able to give companionship
- A woman must be calm and have a good spirit of discernment
- A woman with the fear of God
- A woman with the spirit of kindness, love and affection
- A woman with a teachable spirit
- A woman with the spirit of meekness and submission.

Judith Daniel-Imagoro is a public speaker, founder and the president of Glorious Living Singles and married ministry. She host a weekly programme called singles & married today, where she teaches the principles of making marriage and relationship work. She is married to Daniel Imagoro and they are blessed with a son.

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