

Mini Lesson #10 – Relationships

Well our final Mini Lesson is here. When I was praying about which topic would be best to present, the Holy Spirit answered loudly with an absolutely incredible voice, Mr. Jason Evert! Jason was the guest speaker this past Sunday for the ProjectYM broadcast. His topic was dating and relationships and I truly feel that EVERY PERSON, teenager to adult should hear his message.

During this time in our society the focus of a relationship is based mainly around a physical attraction and most of the time we have blinders on so we're unable to see what is real. We only focus on what we "want to see" or overlook some of the negative truths of a relationship.

Jason Evert presents some incredible points to think about: <https://projectym.com/live/replay/>

1. How do you know that the person you're dating is "the one"?
(Make sure you watch the broadcast...if you feel bad about your dating history and feel you have had some bad experiences...listen to Jason's!)
2. Check out the perfect and simple diagram Jason gives for knowing if that person is "the one". So much truth is spoken through this, even if you're not trying to decide on marrying someone right now, you can use this to determine if the person you're dating is worth your time and if YOU are worth their time. Really be honest with yourself when you breakdown this picture in relation to your life.



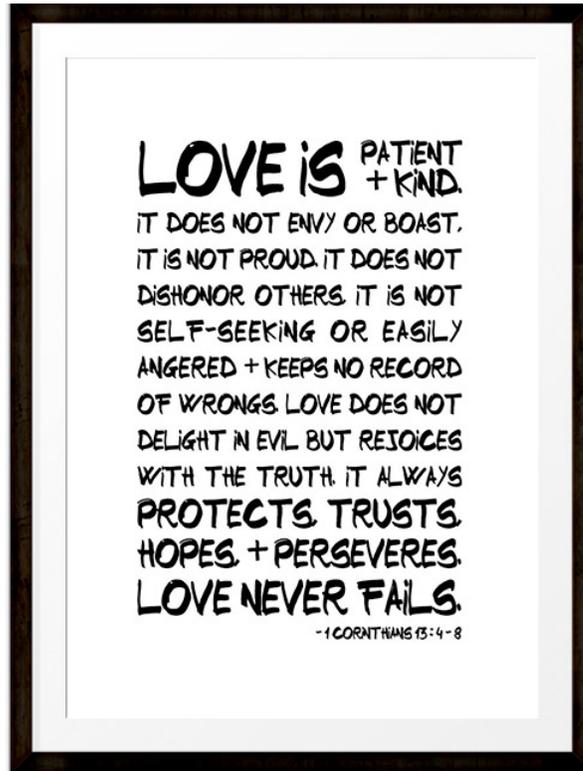
3. Jason suggests, making a list! What is it that you really want in a future wife or husband, if you feel called to that vocation? Be serious when making the list as well, adding to your list that you want them to be a rich doctor who owns their own island shouldn't be your focus. 😊 Close your eyes in prayer and think about your future, what are the things that are most important to you? What are your priorities in a spouse? Life focused around God and church? Do they want children? What are their morals and values? Are they big into Family time? Do they like to travel? Are they "penny pinchers" or "big spenders"?

Do you even know what you want?

4. Don't date someone hoping that you're going to "fix them" or eventually change them to what YOU think they should be. Jason's words were perfect when he says, "Don't date a project, date a person." Have you ever dated a project?
5. Do you ask others their thoughts and opinions about the person you are dating? Can you honestly trust those people to give you answers truthfully about your relationship and not just what they think you want to hear?

God created Love, God is Love (Aloha ke Akua)! He wants us to be happy and to find someone to spend the rest of our lives with. For some of you it might be Jesus himself that you are called to love and serve the rest of your life. Others may be called to marriage. If that is the case, you are both still called to God first. The strongest and best relationships are built around a love for God and others. As you make decisions in your current or future relationships, remember this, every question that might arise, large or small, the simple answer should be, “IS THIS LEADING ME/US CLOSER TO HIM!”

No there is no “manual” to a relationship but God did give us a pretty amazing description of what love is:



If you look to these beautiful words when ANY of your relationships are in turmoil, you will find your peace.

Saint of the Day: Our Lady of Fatima

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/our-lady-of-fatima/>

Saint of the Day for May 13

The Story of Our Lady of Fatima

Between May 13 and October 13, 1917, three Portuguese children—Francisco and Jacinta Marto and their cousin Lucia dos Santos—received apparitions of Our Lady at Cova da Iria near Fatima, a city 110 miles north of Lisbon. Mary asked the children to pray the rosary for world peace, for the end of World War I, for sinners, and for the conversion of Russia.

Mary gave the children three secrets. Following the deaths of Francisco and Jacinta in 1919 and 1920 respectively, Lucia revealed the first secret in 1927. It concerned devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The second secret was a vision of hell. When Lucia grew up she became a Carmelite nun and died in 2005 at the age of 97.

Pope John Paul II directed the Holy See’s Secretary of State to reveal the third secret in 2000; it spoke of a “bishop in white” who was shot by a group of soldiers who fired bullets and arrows into him. Many people linked this vision to the assassination attempt against Pope John Paul II in St. Peter’s Square on May 13, 1981.



The feast of Our Lady of Fatima was approved by the local bishop in 1930; it was added to the Church's worldwide calendar in 2002.

Reflection

The message of Fatima is simple: Pray. Unfortunately, some people—not Sister Lucia—have distorted these revelations, making them into an apocalyptic event for which they are now the only reliable interpreters. They have, for example, claimed that Mary's request that the world be consecrated to her has been ignored. Sister Lucia agreed that Pope John Paul II's public consecration in St. Peter's Square on March 25, 1984, fulfilled Mary's request. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith prepared a June 26, 2000, document explaining the "third secret."

Mary is perfectly honored when people generously imitate her response "Let it be done to me as you say" (Luke 1:38). Mary can never be seen as a rival to Jesus or to the Church's teaching authority, as exercised by the college of bishops united with the bishop of Rome.