



**Dating &**

**Marriage**

**ACCORDING TO PROVERBS**

The image features a pair of black dress shoes with laces, resting on a patch of green grass. To the right of the shoes is a piece of white lace fabric with a floral pattern. The text is overlaid on the image.

# The Importance of Making the Right Choice

## **WHAT IS AT STAKE?**

- **The display of the gospel  
(Ephesians 5:25-27)**
- **Your happiness  
(Proverbs 12:4)**

## **A MISTAKE CANNOT BE EASILY CORRECTED**

- **Divorce should be rare  
(Matthew 19:9)**
- **This person will always  
be the mother/father of  
your children.**



# The Woman To Be & To Find

1. **A committed Christian in heart and life (30:31)**
2. **Beautiful internally, not merely externally (30:31, 11:22). Dresses modestly.**
3. **Wise (14:1) & Respectable (12:4)**
4. **Constructive, not quarrelsome (21:9, 21:19, 25:24, 27:15-16)**
5. **Trustworthy (31:11)**
6. **Speaks with wisdom and kindness (31:26)**
7. **Industrious, not lazy (31:27)**
8. **Has a good relationship with her father**



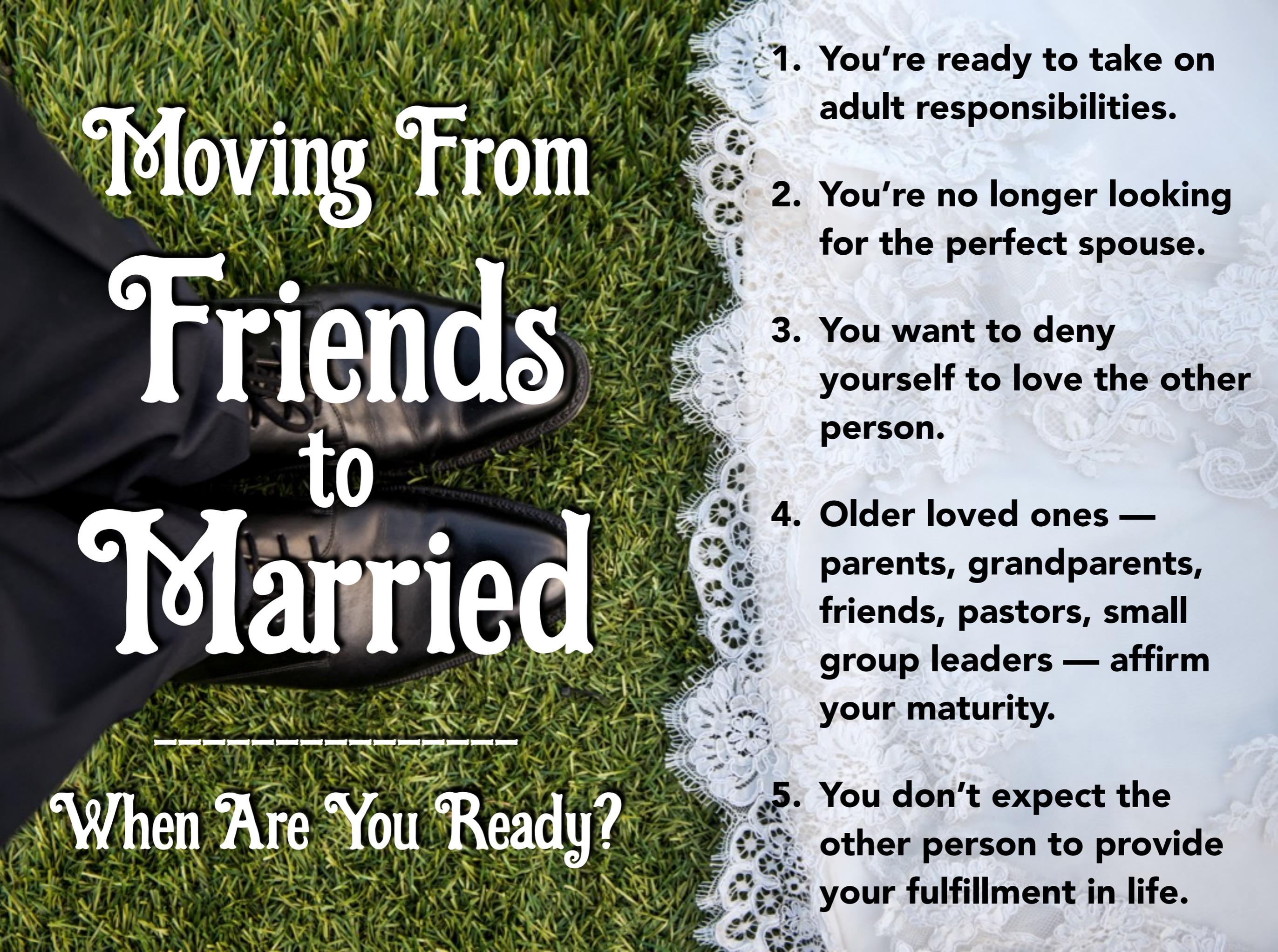
# The Man To Be & To Find

1. **A committed Christian in heart and life (1:7)**
2. **Not greedy for money (15:27), but works hard (13:5)**
3. **Not quick-tempered (22:24)**
4. **Seeks counsel (12:15)**
5. **Has good Christian friends (13:20)**
6. **Sexually & emotionally faithful, not flirtatious (6:27-29, 27:8)**
7. **Values internal beauty, not merely external (30:31)**
8. **Has a good relationship with his mother**



# The Problems with Most Dating Today

1. Dating leads to intimacy, but not necessarily to commitment.
2. Dating tends to skip the 'friendship' stage of a relationship.
3. Dating often mistakes a physical relationship for love.
4. Dating often isolates a couple from other vital relationships.
5. Dating distracts young adults from their primary responsibility of preparing for the future.
6. Dating can cause discontentment with God's gift of singleness.
7. Dating creates an artificial environment for evaluating someone's character.



# Moving From Friends to Married

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When Are You Ready?

1. You're ready to take on adult responsibilities.
2. You're no longer looking for the perfect spouse.
3. You want to deny yourself to love the other person.
4. Older loved ones — parents, grandparents, friends, pastors, small group leaders — affirm your maturity.
5. You don't expect the other person to provide your fulfillment in life.



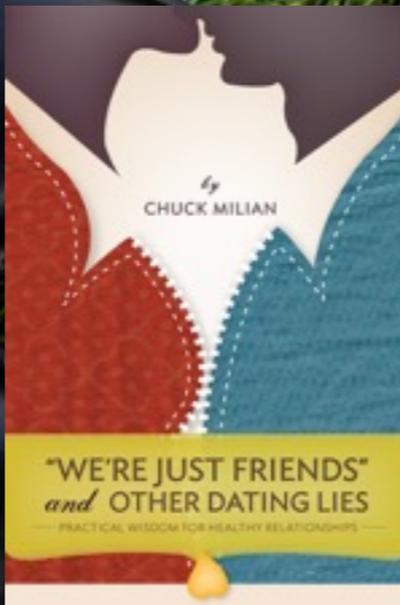
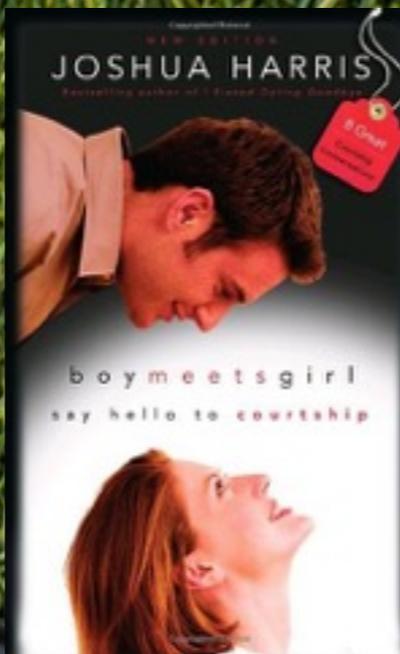
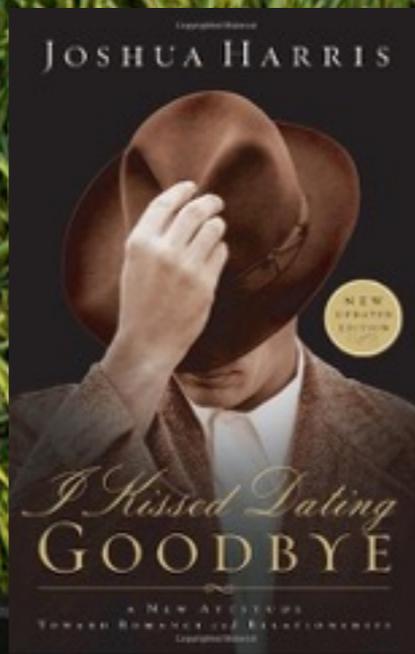
# Moving From Friends to Married

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How do you go about it?

1. **Take it seriously. Guard your hearts (Prov. 4:23)**
2. **Build your relationship on the fear of the Lord (14:26-27, 15:16)**
3. **Resolve to keep your purity, not just your virginity.**
4. **Care more about the condition of your soul than the condition of your appearance.**
5. **Invite your parents and other older, wiser people to look and speak into your relationship (12:15, 18:1).**
6. **Care more about living out the gospel than being compatible.**
7. **Guys, take the initiative. Girls, help him lead.**

# Resources



1. "I Kissed Dating Goodbye" & "Boy Meets Girl" by Joshua Harris

2. "We're Just Friends and Other Dating Lies" by Chuck Milan

3. "Holding Hands, Holding Hearts" by Richard and Sharon Phillips