



ONLINE COURSE | Mate Matching 201

WEEK 7: OFF THE MARKET

1. Establish and maintain a friendship. A healthy “romantic” relationship can only be built on the firm foundation of friendship. This allows you to communicate and enjoy one another’s company without any pressure. Make it clear from the beginning that you want this time to be spent forming a friendship and that you are not looking for a deeper commitment at present.
2. Avoid any discussion of a deeper commitment or marriage. Don’t talk about your personal finances or future together, because it is much too soon to reveal that kind of information or know if you even have a future. Don’t place yourself in a compromising situation that may cause you to sin.
3. Don’t send the wrong message. You have a responsibility to the person you are dating. Be honest and mindful about his or her feelings. Do not send mixed messages or try to manipulate them into a relationship neither of you is ready for.
4. Never isolate yourself from your family and friends. Introduce this person to your family and friends, but make it clear that you are not a couple, only friends.
5. Do not change your lifestyle!! Maintain your daily routine, including activities you find pleasurable. Look for opportunities where the two of you can do things with your family and friends and watch how everyone interacts with one another.
6. *Ladies*, allow the man to pursue you.
7. Set boundaries!! Avoid spending too much time alone, especially at night. Plan your dates during the day or early evening.
8. Be selective when watching movies and listening to music 9. Be careful not to indulge in heavy kissing and petting.
10. Watch and wait. Watch the individual closely for character flaws. Determine if they are serious about a future with you or just in the relationship for fun and games. Pray for direction, then wait on God to give you peace and the plan to move forward.

