

Learning To Bring Your Love Life Under Christ Control



Passion and Purity: Learning to Bring Your Love Life Under Christ's Control by Elisabeth Elliot

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In the realm of human experience, few things hold as much allure, promise, and potential as love. We all long for love, whether in the form of a romantic partner, a close friend, or a loving family. But as Christians, we know that not all love is created equal. Some forms of love can lead us astray, while others can draw us closer to God. So how do we know the difference? And how can we bring our love life under the control of Christ?

Biblical Principles for a Christ-Centered Love Life

The Bible has much to say about love. In fact, the Bible tells us that God is love (1 John 4:8). It also tells us that love is the greatest commandment (Matthew 22:36-40). So it's clear that love is important to God. But what does it mean to love as God loves?

According to the Bible, love is:

- Patient - "Love is patient, love is kind" (1 Corinthians 13:4a)
- Kind - "Love is patient, love is kind" (1 Corinthians 13:4a)
- Not envious - "Love does not envy" (1 Corinthians 13:4b)
- Not boastful - "Love does not boast" (1 Corinthians 13:4b)
- Not proud - "Love is not proud" (1 Corinthians 13:4b)
- Not rude - "Love is not rude" (1 Corinthians 13:5a)
- Not self-seeking - "Love is not self-seeking" (1 Corinthians 13:5a)
- Not easily angered - "Love is not easily angered" (1 Corinthians 13:5b)
- Keeps no record of wrongs - "Love keeps no record of wrongs" (1 Corinthians 13:5b)
- Does not delight in evil - "Love does not delight in evil" (1 Corinthians 13:6a)
- Rejoices with the truth - "Love rejoices with the truth" (1 Corinthians 13:6b)
- Protects, trusts, hopes, and perseveres - "Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (1 Corinthians 13:7)

As we strive to bring our love life under Christ control, it is important to keep these biblical principles in mind. When we love others in a way that is consistent with God's love, we not only honor Him, but we also create a foundation for healthy and fulfilling relationships.

Practical Steps for Bringing Your Love Life Under Christ Control

In addition to understanding the biblical principles for a Christ-centered love life, there are also some practical steps you can take to bring your love life under Christ control.

Here are a few tips:

- **Pray about your love life.** Ask God to guide you in finding a partner who is right for you. Pray for wisdom, discernment, and patience.
- **Seek Godly counsel.** Talk to your pastor, a trusted friend, or a Christian counselor about your love life. They can offer valuable insights and advice.
- **Set boundaries.** Don't allow yourself to get involved in relationships that are not in line with God's will. Establish healthy boundaries and stick to them.
- **Focus on being a godly person.** The best way to attract a godly partner is to be a godly person yourself. Live a life that is pleasing to God, and you will be more likely to attract someone who shares your values.
- **Don't be afraid to wait.** God's timing is always perfect. Don't rush into a relationship just because you're feeling lonely or pressured. Wait for God to bring the right person into your life.

Bringing your love life under Christ control is a journey, not a destination. There will be times when you stumble and fall. But don't give up. Keep striving to live a life that is pleasing to God, and He will guide you to the love life that you desire.

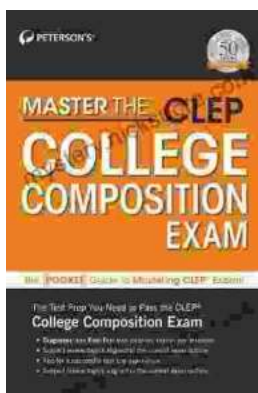
Remember, God is love. And He wants you to experience the fullness of love in your life. Trust in Him, and He will lead you to the love that you are meant to have.



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