

A Teens Relationship with the Opposite Sex¹

1. Consider their environment.

2. Convictions to cultivate in your teens: we want to give them the positives of a Christian worldview to help them cultivate biblical convictions.

- a. Sexual Purity (Matthew 5:27-28, 1 Thessalonians 4:1-7, Proverbs 6:27, 2 Timothy 2:22).
- b. Parental input and authority (Ephesians 6:1-3).
- c. Indwelling Sin (Romans 7, Galatians 5, Ephesians 4:22).
- d. Pursuing holiness (1 Thessalonians 4:7, 2 Timothy 2:9, 22, 1 Corinthians 6:8).
- e. Love God (Matthew 22:7, Mark 12:30).
- f. Love others (Philippians 2:3-5).
- g. Honor marriage (Proverbs 12:4, 18:22).
- h. Sex within the bounds of marriage (1 Corinthians 6:18, Exodus 20:14, Proverbs 5:18).
- i. Sex outside of marriage is forbidden (1 Corinthians 6:18, Hebrews 13:4).
- j. Marry in the Lord (2 Corinthians 6:14).

3. Important wisdom principles derived from Scripture:

- a. Prepare your teen for marriage (Proverbs 24:7).
- b. Cultivate spiritual maturity and good character (Ephesians 5:22-33, Proverbs 31:16).
- c. Teens are still growing in maturity.
- d. The person your child chooses to marry will be the 2nd most important decision in their lives.
- e. Intimate relationships typically lead to physical intimacy.

- f. Physical contact to communicate special affection with a person will tend to arouse sexual feelings in one another.
- g. It is wise for the guy to have some ability to provide and lead before pursuing marriage (1 Timothy 5:8).
- h. Prepared for the responsibilities of being a parent before they get married.
- i. If a person has compromised, it is easier to fall into the same sin again.
- j. Scripture warns against other who seek to corrupt (2 Timothy 3:6).
- k. Christians never want to be a source of temptation for others.

4. The question should not be, “Can I have a relationship”?

- a. Is a relationship with a guy/girl going to serve us in our relationship to the Lord right now? How?
- b. Will I be able to glorify God as faithfully through pursuing this relationship at this time?
- c. Have I asked the necessary questions about the person and myself I am thinking about being in a relationship with to know this is wise?
- d. Who have I processed these questions with that I trust, is wise and who agrees with me? What do my parents think and desire for me?
- e. When considering all these things, in general, it has served many to wait to pursue guy/girl relationships until after high school.

Resources:

I Kissed Dating Goodbye (Joshua Harris)
 Sex Isn't the Problem, Lust Is (Joshua Harris)
 Worldliness (C.J. Mahaney)
 Feminine Appeal (Carolyn Mahaney)

¹ This outline in large part has been developed by **Error! Reference source not found.**