

Introduction

A contemporary gospel artist, Canton Jones, penned a hit song entitled, “Stay Saved.” It’s about the daily encounters Christians may face which challenge their flesh and sometimes make them wanna slap somebody! However, the point of the song is when presented with those kinds of “opportunities” instead of yielding to the flesh, continue in the Spirit and *stay saved*, which may mean walking in love, or simply walking away.

As a believer, once you're saved and receive Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior, the one thing that is evident is that you have a heart for God. You have a desire to know God, otherwise you would not have accepted His invitation of salvation. It's kinda like when you're getting married to someone, if you don't meet the groom at the altar, it may be a good indication that you don't really love him and simply want to have nothing to do with him. The same thing goes with God.

Many of us, myself included, got saved by meeting God at the altar, in the form of a salvation invitation presented by a pastor or a man or woman of God. So your heart is there. You want to do right. You want to receive God's love, and be all the man or woman God called you to be. However, you may not know how a Christian is to operate when it comes to dating and relating with the opposite sex. It's not like you're handed a dating instruction manual once you get saved.

For the past five years I have ministered across the country on how to be victorious, content, celibate, and drama-free single believers. One of my most popular workshops is on sex and dating. I also minister each month via email in my e-Newsletter, *The Single Heart*, which encourages, inspires, informs, and edifies thousands of single believers and is subscribable, for free, on my website www.DateandStaySaved.com.

What I've discovered in my travels and from talking to and receiving emails from countless single saints is that many want to do right by God and be celibate, but just don't know *how* to do it. One person asked me, "How do I remain celibate when my hormones are raging!" That question, to me, is very honest, and very real. Just because you're saved doesn't mean your desire for sex automatically goes away.

After hearing the cries of countless singles, I decided to take most of the material I use in my workshops, along with additional revelation the Lord has given me through His Word and practical application, and place it in this book. I have poured my heart and soul into this book, and even tell on myself and share my own personal business with the sincere desire that you receive the Word, apply the Word, and be changed for the rest of your life.

No longer do you have to struggle as a single believer, feeling "less saved" because you want to "get it on" like Marvin Gaye; instead you'll learn how to date and stay saved, and how to allow God to keep you from here on out until your wedding day.

Some questions which may have been asked with regards to dating include: Is there a difference between dating before you were saved, and after you were saved? If you're used to having sex on the regular before you were saved, does God expect you to give all that up? If so, *how*, especially when your flesh is used to that desire being fulfilled? In other words, how can you date *AND* stay saved?

This book will answer all these questions and more.

The desire to please God may be in your heart, but you may not have the proper tools, knowledge and information in order to effectively carry it out. The main tool we'll be using throughout this book is the best tool, which is the Word of God. Yes, the Bible has a lot to say on the subject. The Word also says my people are destroyed for lack of knowledge (*Hosea 4:6*), and

God doesn't want us to be destroyed, so that means He wouldn't set an expectation for us and then not provide a way for that expectation to be met. His Word is the keeping power, and the instruction manual.

Within the pages of this book, I'll offer suggestions on how to be kept by God in a dating relationship. This book is not just a set of Christian dating do's and don'ts, but it's a compilation of suggestions from the Word of God and my own personal experiences which have allowed me to be kept by God my entire life. Now don't get it twisted, I'm not implying that if you have sex outside of marriage that you're not saved anymore. Thank God for the grace of God in that if we miss it and sincerely go to Him with the heart intention of not making the same mistake twice, then He said He will forgive our sin and cleanse us of all our unrighteousness (*1 John 1:9*). However, a lot of times, when some people miss it, they say things like, "It just happened," whereas I believe that nothing, "just happens."

This book is for those of us who want to live a life as successful single saints whose lifestyle pleases God – who want to avoid temptation and who want to glorify God with our bodies. This book is for those of us who want all life has to offer, including healthy relationships and true love and happiness, without compromising our religious beliefs or hindering our fellowship with God.

The final chapter of this book concludes with Christian couples who did it – they dated for at least a year, remained celibate the entire time they dated, and are now happily married! Some of them come from a sexually active past; some don't. Allow their testimonies to encourage and show you that it *is possible* to date someone who will love you for you and not just for what you have to offer in the bedroom – someone who has no desire to "try you out" before making a commitment to love you for a lifetime. Despite what our sex-driven society says, two people *can* meet, date, and marry without falling into sexual sin in the process.

Before we dive right in, I want to first define the word, “dating,” as it will be used in this book.

When I mention, “dating,” I’m not talking about casual dating, or just hanging out with someone every week that you have no intention of getting to know for the purpose of a long-term relationship. I’m not talking about “Goodtime Charlie” dating either, where you’re just dating to pass time, or because you’re bored and just want someone to go catch a movie with, or feel proud being seen with on your arm even though you secretly can’t stand him or her. No, I’m speaking of what I call *purposeful dating*.

The purpose of Christian dating as used in this book is as follows:

To discover, through prayer, the leading of the Holy Spirit, and through gathering information whether or not the person you are consistently and exclusively dating has the potential to be your spouse.

So now that you understand what I mean when I use the term “dating,” let’s continue on this journey together and discover how to date *AND* stay saved!

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Want to read MORE? Sign up for Free Monthly eNewsletter for singles entitled, *The Single Heart* and have the first two chapters of, [How To Date And Stay Saved](#) emailed to you for Free!

Want to read the entire book? Order your very own personally autographed copy for the best discount and a free gift at www.DateAndStaySaved.com OR if you want to continue reading the rest of the book now as an eBook and pay half price for it, also visit www.DateAndStaySaved.com

