

# THE CYCLE OF LIFE (3)

## “Is your church a “dating church” or a “Biblical church?”

This issue wasn't really the issue – issues rarely are the issue!

The question that so much preoccupied the individual was really “how does one find a spouse?”

### I. The **accumulation and evaluation of evidence!**

Many people don't need this step...they have a verse of two...or God told them...or the Holy Spirit led them...or they are standing for the truth...!

For the rest of us mere mortals:

- Read the Bible
- Read all the Bible
- Read all the Bible several times!
- Read the Bible searching for those texts that ask & answer your question!
- Carefully examine those texts!
- Read what other Christians have found, thought, concluded...

#### 1. Marriage is good

**Proverbs 18:22** Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing (כִּי טוֹב אֶצְרֶךָ הַשְׂאֵרָה אֶצְרֶךָ),  
And obtaineth favour of the LORD.

#### Hebrews 13:4

Marriage (Τῆμος ὁ γάμος) is honourable in all (ἐν πᾶσι),  
and the bed (ἡ κοίτη) undefiled (ἀμίαντος):  
**but** whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

#### 2. Marriage is not the **only** good!

**Matthew 19:10** His disciples say unto him, **If** the case of the man be so with his wife, it is not good to marry. **Matthew 19:11** But he said unto them, **All men cannot receive this saying, save they to whom it is given**. **Matthew 19:12** For there are some eunuchs, which were so born from their mother's womb: and there are some eunuchs, which were made eunuchs of men: and there be eunuchs, which have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake. **He that is able to receive it, let him receive it.**

**1 Corinthians 7:6** But I speak this by permission, and not of commandment. **1 Corinthians 7:7** For I would that all men were even as I myself. **But** every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that. **1 Corinthians 7:8** I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, **It is good** for them if they abide even as I. **1 Corinthians 7:9** **But if** they cannot contain, let them marry: **for it is better to marry than to burn.**

**1 Corinthians 7:27** Art thou bound unto a wife? seek not to be loosed. Art thou loosed from a wife? seek not a wife. **1 Corinthians 7:28** But and if thou marry, thou hast not sinned; and if a virgin marry, she hath not sinned. Nevertheless such shall have trouble in the flesh: but I spare you.

#### 3. Marriage is good not better or the best!

[Marriage is good not worse or worst!]

#### 4. Marriage is good for most people!

**1 Corinthians 7:1** Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: **It is good for a man not to touch a woman**. **1 Corinthians 7:2** **Nevertheless**, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.

#### 5. Marriage is good **only** in the Lord/ the faith

This can be painful but must be heard!

**1 Corinthians 7:39** The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, **she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord.** **1 Corinthians 7:40** But she is happier if she so abide, after my judgment: and I think also that I have the Spirit of God.

**2 Corinthians 6:14** Be ye **not** unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? **2 Corinthians 6:15** And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? **2 Corinthians 6:16** And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. **2 Corinthians 6:17** Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, **2 Corinthians 6:18** And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

**Deuteronomy 7:1** When the LORD thy God shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, and hath cast out many nations before thee, the Hittites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than thou; **Deuteronomy 7:2** And when the LORD thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, and utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them:

**Deuteronomy 7:3** Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son. **Deuteronomy 7:4** For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly. **Deuteronomy 7:5** But thus shall ye deal with them; ye shall destroy their altars, and break down their images, and cut down their groves, and burn their graven images with fire.

**1 Kings 11:1** But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites; **1 Kings 11:2** Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. **1 Kings 11:3** And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. **1 Kings 11:4** For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father. **1 Kings 11:5** For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. **1 Kings 11:6** And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father.

**Nehemiah 13:25** And I contended with them, and cursed them, and smote certain of them, and plucked off their hair, and made them swear by God, saying, Ye shall not give your daughters unto their sons, nor take their daughters unto your sons, or for yourselves. **Nehemiah 13:26** Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? yet among many nations was there no king like him, who was beloved of his God, and God made him king over all Israel: nevertheless even him did outlandish women cause to sin. **Nehemiah 13:27** Shall we then hearken unto you to do all this great evil, to transgress against our God in marrying strange wives?

## 6. Marriage is good for a man and a woman!

**Leviticus 18:22** Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: **it is abomination.**

**Leviticus 20:13** If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.

**Exodus 22:19** Whosoever lieth with a beast shall surely be put to death.

**Leviticus 18:23** Neither shalt thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: **neither** shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto: it is confusion.

**Leviticus 20:15** And if a man lie with a beast, he shall surely be put to death: and ye shall slay the beast. **Leviticus 20:16** And if a woman approach unto any beast, and lie down thereto, thou shalt kill the woman, and the beast: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.

**Deuteronomy 27:21** Cursed be he that lieth with any manner of beast. And all the people shall say, Amen.

Man & woman	Male & female
Not male & male	Not female & female
Not human & animal	

## 7. Marriage is good for one man and one woman!

**1 Kings 11:1** But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites;

**Genesis 2:21** And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; **Genesis 2:22** And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her

**unto the man. Genesis 2:23** And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. **Genesis 2:24 Therefore** shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. **Genesis 2:25** And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

**Matthew 19:4** And he answered and said unto them, **Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female,** **Matthew 19:5** And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? **Matthew 19:6** Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

**Ephesians 5:31** For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

## 8. All other forms of “marriage” are not good!

**Hebrews 13:4**

Marriage (Τίμιος ὁ γάμος) is honourable in all (ἐν πᾶσι),  
and the bed (ἡ κοίτη) undefiled (ἀμίαντος):

**but** whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

## II. Recognition of bias

**Bias** can be called: presuppositions, preconceptions, prejudice, presumptions, fixed ideas, assumptions, givens...

After our introduction we know at least two things:

1. The Bible doesn't address the issue of “how we find a spouse.”
2. That doesn't mean we don't already have an

What does this mean about our “beliefs?”	
That they are pre - Biblical	That they are a – Biblical
That they are un - Biblical	That they are non - Biblical
That they might be anti - Biblical!!!	
<b>We call this: opinion!!! Bias</b>	

Where does Bias come from?	
<b>Culture</b>	<b>Family</b>
<b>Personality</b>	<b>Sub-culture</b>
<b>Loyalty</b>	

What are the “Biblical” way(s) of finding a spouse? (**wink, wink, nod, nod!**)

**1. Find an attractive, prisoner of war, bring her home, shave her head, trim her nails, provide her with “Jewish” / “Christian” clothes, let her mourn and...!**

**Deuteronomy 21:10** When thou goest forth to war against thine enemies, and the LORD thy God hath delivered them into thine hands, and thou hast taken them captive, **Deuteronomy 21:11** And seest among the captives a beautiful woman, and hast a **desire unto her, that thou wouldst have her to thy wife;** **Deuteronomy 21:12** Then thou shalt bring her home to thine house; and she shall shave her head, and pare her nails; **Deuteronomy 21:13** And she shall put the raiment of her captivity from off her, and shall remain in thine house, and bewail her father and her mother a full month: and after that thou shalt go in unto her, and be her husband, and she shall be thy wife. **Deuteronomy 21:17** But he shall acknowledge the son of the hated for the firstborn, by giving him a double portion of all that he hath: for he is the beginning of his strength; the right of the firstborn is his.

**2. Lay hold on a virgin who is not betrothed to another man and know her → pay up later & pay up for life!!!**

**Deuteronomy 22:28** If a man find a damsel that is a virgin, which is not betrothed, and lay hold on her, and lie with her, and they be found; **Deuteronomy 22:29** **Then** the man that lay with her shall give unto the damsel's father fifty shekels of silver, and she shall be his wife; because he hath humbled her, he may **not** put her away all his days.

### 3. Find a prostitute & marry her!

**Hosea 1:1** THE word of the LORD that came unto Hosea, the son of Beeri, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel. **Hosea 1:2** The beginning of the word of the LORD by Hosea. And the LORD said to Hosea, Go, take unto thee a wife of whoredoms and children of whoredoms: for the land hath committed great whoredom, departing from the LORD. **Hosea 1:3** So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim; which conceived, and bare him a son.

### 4. Find a man with seven daughters, impress him by watering his flock → get the wife thrown in!

**Exodus 2:16** Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters: and they came and drew water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. **Exodus 2:17** And the shepherds came and drove them away: **but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock.** **Exodus 2:18** And when they came to Reuel their father, he said, How is it that ye are come so soon to day? **Exodus 2:19** And they said, An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and also drew water enough for us, and watered the flock. **Exodus 2:20** And he said unto his daughters, And where is he? why is it that ye have left the man? call him, that he may eat bread. **Exodus 2:21** And Moses was content to dwell with the man: and he gave Moses Zipporah his daughter.

### 5. Purchase a piece of property, and get a woman as part of the deal!

**Ruth 4:5** Then said Boaz, What day thou buyest the field of the hand of Naomi, thou **must** buy it also of Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of the dead, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance. **Ruth 4:6** And the kinsman said, I **cannot** redeem it for myself, lest I mar mine own inheritance: redeem thou my right to thyself; for I **cannot** redeem it. **Ruth 4:7** Now this was the manner in former time in Israel concerning redeeming and concerning changing, for to confirm all things; a man plucked off his shoe, and gave it to his neighbour: and this was a testimony in Israel. **Ruth 4:8** Therefore the kinsman said unto Boaz, Buy it for thee. So he drew off his shoe. **Ruth 4:9** And Boaz said unto the elders, and unto all the people, Ye are witnesses this day, that I have bought all that was Elimelech's, and all that was Chilion's and Mahlon's, of the hand of Naomi. **Ruth 4:10** Moreover Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of Mahlon, have I purchased to be my wife, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance, that the name of the dead be not cut off from among his brethren, and from the gate of his place: ye are witnesses this day.

**Ruth 4:18** Now these are the generations of Pharez: Pharez begat Hezron,

**Ruth 4:19** And Hezron begat Ram, and Ram begat Amminadab,

**Ruth 4:20** And Amminadab begat Nahshon, and Nahshon begat Salmon,

**Ruth 4:21** And Salmon begat Boaz, and Boaz begat Obed,

**Ruth 4:22** And Obed begat Jesse, and Jesse begat David.

### 6. Have a beauty contest (if you are an emperor)!!!

**Esther 2:2** Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him, Let there be fair young virgins sought for the king: **Esther 2:3** And let the king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom, that they may gather together all the fair young virgins unto Shushan the palace, to the house of the women, unto the custody of Hege the king's chamberlain, keeper of the women; and let their things for purification be given them: **Esther 2:4** And let the maiden which pleaseth the king be queen instead of Vashti. And the thing pleased the king; and he did so.

### 7. Have your parents get what you want / like!

**Judges 14:1** And Samson went down to Timnath, and **saw** a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines. **Judges 14:2** And he came up, and told his father and his mother, and said, I have **seen a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines: now therefore get her for me to wife.** **Judges 14:3** Then his father and his mother said unto him, Is there never a woman among the daughters of thy brethren, or among all my people, that thou goest to take a wife of the uncircumcised Philistines? And Samson said unto his father, Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well. **Judges 14:4** But his father and his mother knew not that it was of the LORD, that he sought an occasion against the Philistines: for at that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel.

### 8. Kill 200 Philistines (& provide proof) → receive a wife as the consolation prize!

**1 Samuel 18:20** And Michal Saul's daughter loved David: and they told Saul, and the thing pleased him. **1 Samuel 18:21** And Saul said, I will give him her, that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him. Wherefore Saul said to David, Thou shalt this day be my son in law in the one of the twain.

**1 Samuel 18:25** And Saul said, Thus shall ye say to David, The king desireth not any dowry, but an hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to be avenged of the king's enemies. But Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines. **1 Samuel 18:26**

And when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to be the king's son in law: and the days were not expired. **1 Samuel 18:27** Wherefore David arose and went, he and his men, and slew of the Philistines two hundred men; and David brought their foreskins, and they gave them in full tale to the king, that he might be the king's son in law. **And Saul gave him Michal his daughter to wife.**

## **9. Kill the husband & take the wife! (God might take some things from you also!)**

**2 Samuel 11:27** And when the mourning was past, David sent and fetched her to his house, and she became his wife, and bare him a son. **But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.**

## **10. Work 7 years for the “wrong” woman and 7 more for the “right” woman!**

**Genesis 29:15** And Laban said unto Jacob, Because thou art my brother, shouldest thou therefore serve me for nought? tell me, what shall thy wages be? **Genesis 29:16** And Laban had two daughters: the name of the elder was **Leah**, and the name of the younger was **Rachel**. **Genesis 29:17** Leah was tender eyed; but Rachel was beautiful and well favoured. **Genesis 29:18** And Jacob loved Rachel; and said, I will serve thee seven years for Rachel thy younger daughter. **Genesis 29:19** And Laban said, It is better that I give her to thee, than that I should give her to another man: abide with me. **Genesis 29:20** And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed unto him but a few days, for the love he had to her. **Genesis 29:21** And Jacob said unto Laban, Give me my wife, for my days are fulfilled, that I may go in unto her. **Genesis 29:22** And Laban gathered together all the men of the place, and made a feast. **Genesis 29:23** And it came to pass in the evening, that he took Leah his daughter, and brought her to him; and he went in unto her. **Genesis 29:24** And Laban gave unto his daughter Leah Zilpah his maid for an handmaid. **Genesis 29:25** And it came to pass, that in the morning, behold, it was Leah: and he said to Laban, What is this thou hast done unto me? did not I serve with thee for Rachel? wherefore then hast thou beguiled me? **Genesis 29:26** And Laban said, **It must not be so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn.** **Genesis 29:27** Fulfil her week, and we will give thee this also for the service which thou shalt serve with me yet seven other years. **Genesis 29:28** And Jacob did so, and fulfilled her week: and he gave him Rachel his daughter to wife also. **Genesis 29:29** And Laban gave to Rachel his daughter Bilhah his handmaid to be her maid. **Genesis 29:30** And he went in also unto Rachel, and he loved also Rachel more than Leah, and served with him yet seven other years.

## **11. Have God create one for you – it will cost you a rib!**

**Genesis 2:19** And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. **Genesis 2:20** And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him. **Genesis 2:21** And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; **Genesis 2:22** And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. **Genesis 2:23** And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. **Genesis 2:24** Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

## **12. Have your servant / slave get one for you → from your relatives!!!**

**Genesis 24:1** And Abraham was old, and well stricken in age: and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things. **Genesis 24:2** And Abraham said unto his eldest servant of his house, that ruled over all that he had, Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh: **Genesis 24:3** And I will make thee swear by the LORD, the God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that thou shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell: **Genesis 24:4** **But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac.**

**Genesis 24:23** And said, Whose daughter art thou? tell me, I pray thee: is there room in thy father's house for us to lodge in? **Genesis 24:24** And she said unto him, I am the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah, which she bare unto Nahor. **Genesis 24:25** She said moreover unto him, We have both straw and provender enough, and room to lodge in. **Genesis 24:26** And the man bowed down his head, and worshipped the LORD. **Genesis 24:27** And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of my master Abraham, who hath not left destitute my master of his mercy and his truth: I being in the way, the LORD led me to the house of my master's brethren.

**Genesis 24:33** And there was set meat before him to eat: but he said, I will not eat, until I have told mine errand. And he said, Speak on. **Genesis 24:34** And he said, I am Abraham's servant. **Genesis 24:35** And the LORD hath blessed my master greatly; and he is become great: and he hath given him flocks, and herds, and silver, and gold, and menservants, and maidservants, and camels, and asses. **Genesis 24:36** And Sarah my master's wife bare a son to my master when she was old: and unto him hath he given all that he hath. **Genesis 24:37** And my master made me swear, saying, Thou shalt not take a wife to my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I dwell: **Genesis 24:38** But thou shalt go unto my father's house, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son. **Genesis 24:50** Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, The thing proceedeth from the LORD: we cannot speak unto thee bad or good. **Genesis 24:51** Behold, Rebekah is before thee, take her, and go, and let her be thy master's son's wife, as the LORD hath spoken. **Genesis 24:52** And it came to pass, that, when Abraham's servant heard their words, he worshipped the LORD, bowing himself to the earth.

**Genesis 24:62** And Isaac came from the way of the well Lahai-roi; for he dwelt in the south country. **Genesis 24:63** And Isaac went out to meditate in the field at the eventide: and he lifted up his eyes, and saw, and, behold, the camels were coming. **Genesis 24:64** And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she lighted off the camel. **Genesis 24:65** For she had said unto the servant, What man is this that walketh in the field to meet us? And the servant had said, It is my master: therefore she took a vail, and covered herself. **Genesis 24:66** And the servant told Isaac all things that he had done. **Genesis 24:67** And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her: and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

### **13. Kill all the men, women, & children in a rebellious town, save the virgins for wives**

**Judges 21:6** And the children of Israel repented them for Benjamin their brother, and said, There is one tribe cut off from Israel this day. **Judges 21:7** **How shall we do for wives for them that remain**, seeing we have sworn by the LORD that we will not give them of our daughters to wives? **Judges 21:8** And they said, What one is there of the tribes of Israel that came not up to Mizpeh to the LORD? And, behold, there came none to the camp from Jabesh-gilead to the assembly. **Judges 21:9** For the people were numbered, and, behold, there were none of the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead there. **Judges 21:10** And the congregation sent thither twelve thousand men of the valiantest, and commanded them, saying, **Go and smite the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead with the edge of the sword, with the women and the children.** **Judges 21:11** **And this is the thing that ye shall do, Ye shall utterly destroy every male, and every woman that hath lain by man.** **Judges 21:12** And they found among the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead **four hundred young virgins**, that had known no man by lying with any male: and they brought them unto the camp to Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan. **Judges 21:14** And Benjamin came again at that time; **and they gave them wives which they had saved alive of the women of Jabesh-gilead:** and yet so they sufficed them not.

### **14. Hold a dance, hide in the bushes, and grab one to be your wife!**

**Judges 21:16** Then the elders of the congregation said, **How shall we do for wives for them that remain**, seeing the women are destroyed out of Benjamin? **Judges 21:17** And they said, There must be an inheritance for them that be escaped of Benjamin, that a tribe be not destroyed out of Israel. **Judges 21:18** Howbeit we may not give them wives of our daughters: for the children of Israel have sworn, saying, Cursed be he that giveth a wife to Benjamin. **Judges 21:19** Then they said, **Behold, there is a feast of the LORD in Shiloh yearly in a place which is on the north side of Beth-el, on the east side of the highway that goeth up from Beth-el to Shechem, and on the south of Lebonah.** **Judges 21:20** Therefore they commanded the children of Benjamin, saying, **Go and lie in wait in the vineyards;** **Judges 21:21** **And see, and, behold, if the daughters of Shiloh come out to dance in dances, then come ye out of the vineyards, and catch you every man his wife of the daughters of Shiloh, and go to the land of Benjamin.** **Judges 21:22** And it shall be, when their fathers or their brethren come unto us to complain, that we will say unto them, Be favourable unto them for our sakes: because we reserved not to each man his wife in the war: for ye did not give unto them at this time, that ye should be guilty. **Judges 21:23** **And the children of Benjamin did so, and took them wives, according to their number, of them that danced, whom they caught: and they went and returned unto their inheritance, and repaired the cities, and dwelt in them.**

**Judges 17:6** In those days there was **no** king in Israel, but **every man did that which was right in his own eyes.**

**Judges 18:1** In those days there was **no** king in Israel: and in those days the tribe of the Danites sought them an inheritance to dwell in; for unto that day all their inheritance had not fallen unto them among the tribes of Israel.

**Judges 19:1** And it came to pass in those days, when there was **no** king in Israel, that there was a certain Levite sojourning on the side of mount Ephraim, who took to him a concubine out of Beth-lehem-judah.

**Judges 21:25** In those days there was **no** king in Israel: **every man did that which was right in his own eyes.**

### **15. Don't be picky, make up for quality with quantity!!**

**1 Kings 11:1** But king Solomon loved **many** strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites; **1 Kings 11:2** Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. **1 Kings 11:3** And he had **seven hundred wives**, princesses, and **three hundred concubines:** and his wives turned away his heart.

### **16. A wife...really???**

**1 Corinthians 7:6** But I speak this by permission, and not of commandment. **1 Corinthians 7:7** **For I would that all men were even as I myself.** But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that. **1 Corinthians 7:8** I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I. **1 Corinthians 7:9** But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn.

**1 Corinthians 9:5** Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, **as well as** other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas?

## **III. Suspension of judgement!**

**Proverbs 18:13** He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, It is folly and shame unto him.

**Proverbs 18:15** The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; And the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge.

**Proverbs 18:17** He that is first in his own cause seemeth just; But his neighbour cometh and searcheth him.

**Thoughts:**

- **Be willing not to know / have an opinion**
  
- **Take your time**
  
- **Do the work**
  
- **Don't be pressured**
  
- **Don't follow culture just because its culture**
  
- **Don't ignore culture!**