

A couple in wedding attire embracing in a room with curtains.

11 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT

FINDING A CHRISTIAN HUSBAND

Jennifer Maggio
MINISTRIES

JENNIFERMAGGIO.COM

11 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT

FINDING A CHRISTIAN HUSBAND

First, you should probably know that I fought writing this article more than all the other hundreds of articles I've ever written! Why? Because I'm certain, there are a thousand ways to broach the subject: some who will say I've got it all wrong, others who will have more expertise in the matter, and many factors that could impact the outcome of such a pursuit. However, all that said, I will tell you that I remember being a young single mom with two small children and thinking that it was all over for me. I'll never find a Christian husband. I convinced myself that no Christian man would ever want me anyway, with all the baggage I carry and a ready-made family. For years, I listened to the lies Satan told me. *"You're not good enough for a Christian man. You've made too many mistakes.* No man is going to want you with children." All these things (and so much more) rattled through my head consistently. I had resolved to be a single mother forever.

I spent almost a decade as a single mother and learned much during that season of singleness, and I want to share it with you here. I have now been married for twenty years and have ministered to more than one million single mothers across the U.S. through a ministry I founded called The Life of a Single Mom. What I've learned through the years about single women and single parenthood and my own loneliness season has been wisdom that I want to share with as much transparency and hope as I possibly can.



Feeling stuck and ready to experience *true* freedom?

Click the button to check out Jennifer's new book!

LEARN MORE

qrco.de/bfAAxO

Jennifer Maggio
MINISTRIES

Here, I have eleven things for you to know about finding a Christian husband! Read on...

DON'T IGNORE RED FLAGS!

Ladies, my first piece of advice for finding a Christian husband is do not ignore the red flags. *The Holy Spirit is our guide, and when we have a check in our Spirit, it is so important that we listen*

to it and leave the situation. For years, I found myself in a toxic relationship, constantly going through the cycle of emotional and even physical abuse. I often believed that he would change or prayed that God would change his heart. Looking back, I ignored more red flags than I care to count, and it ultimately left me hurting and broken. When he is harsh with you, pay attention. When he is quick to anger, pay attention. When he dismisses your thoughts, pay attention. These are just a few of the many, many red flags someone may display at the beginning of a relationship that helps guide. We find ourselves in a world of trouble when we ignore these things. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you, and when something doesn't sit right with you, it isn't right! *Here are a few more red flags you may want to consider when dating:*

- If you frequently need to make excuses for his bad behavior, run.
- If he ignores your boundaries, run.
- If he does not enrich your life, run.
- If your friends and family don't like him, run.
- If he lacks self-discipline, run.
- If you find yourself keeping secrets about your relationship with him, run.

DON'T ISOLATE.

We often isolate ourselves from the outside world when we feel lonely or unloved. While it is crucial to heal after a bad relationship (we'll get to that later) and take the time to properly mend, be sure you don't camp out in isolation for too long. *While God certainly could do anything, He rarely rains manna down from heaven and drops an eligible, godly man on your front doorstep.* Put yourself in social settings where there is the potential to meet new people. Attend church events. Join a local gym. Serve the homeless at an outreach. Gather for a weekly Bible study with friends. Grocery shop in person rather than online. There are many ways to engage in a social life while simultaneously making new friends, stretching your faith, serving others, and possibly meeting someone new. *Not only is isolation not good for us, in that the Lord is clear that He created us for relationships, but it can lead to depression or prolonged sadness.* Further, we limit the possibilities of who we could meet.

GET RID OF THE LIES.

Time and again, I have heard the same complaint: There are no good Christian men out there! Ladies, we have got to dispel that lie and send it back to Hell, where it came from. This is unfair to the many godly men walking righteously with the Lord, attempting to honor Him in word and deed, and searching for a future spouse. *If you believe no good man exists, you will carry yourself as such, often lowering your standards to settle for the best thing you see out there instead of waiting upon the Lord.* If you believe this lie, you could subconsciously lower your standards to ensure

you aren't left out of the dating pool. There are good men out there! There are hard workers and men of honor and integrity – good future husbands. Don't become jaded by culture or old wounds.

BE OPEN TO GOD'S POSSIBILITIES!

How often do we think, "I'll never marry again! I'll never find a good Christian man?" Even worse... how often do we speak those things aloud over our current situation? Far too often, I see Christian women speaking death and [hopelessness](#) over their situations and not even considering God's possibilities. We often harden our hearts to the idea of love because we are so hurt that we think it's not possible. How often do we shut down a potential love interest because we are trying to protect ourselves from yet another broken heart and disappointment? *The truth is we serve an almighty God whose potential is limitless, yet we discount that potential in our own lives.* Remember the power of the God you serve, and be open to the possibility of God bringing a good Christian man into your life! Do not shut down out of habit or self-protection. Allow yourself to be open to the possibility of a God-ordained, loving relationship, no matter the pain you have felt in the past. Be sensitive to His prompting and leading.

ONLY DATE WHEN HEALTHY.

I can't tell you the number of single women that I have counseled that moved far too quickly from a divorce or break-up into a new relationship to mask the pain, fill a void, or avoid the wound altogether. It's easy to do. [Overwhelmed](#) and exhausted by the weight of the world, many pursue a new relationship without taking the time to heal. Pursuing a new relationship won't erase the existing hurt of an old one. It won't heal it. *Unfortunately, too many second marriages or new relationships pay the price for a broken-hearted person who didn't take the time to mend.* If you find yourself constantly talking or thinking about your ex, jumping from relationship to relationship, or looking for someone to fix your finances, parenting problems, or heart wounds, you are probably not healed enough for a new relationship. If you want your next relationship to thrive, you must heal from the last one before jumping into a new one. A wound that is not fully healed will always reopen and leave you hurting. Even worse, it has the potential to hurt the person you are dating as well. Bottom line? Fully heal before seeking a godly, Christian man.



SINGLE MOM UNIVERSITY
POWERED BY THE LIFE OF A SINGLE MOM

REDEEM YOUR FREE GIFT!

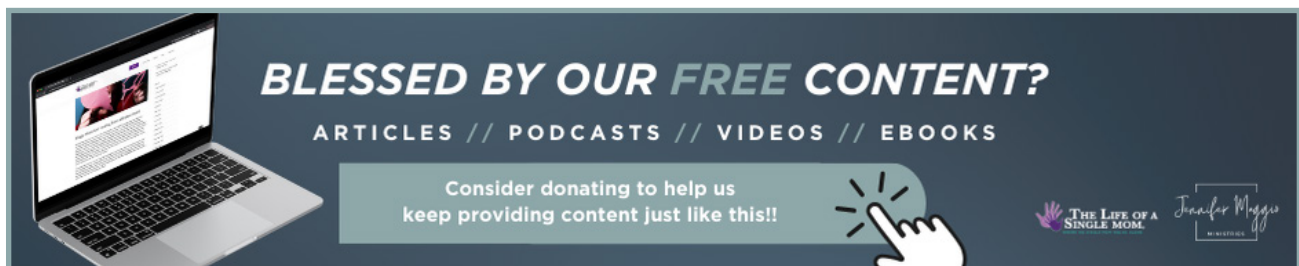
1-YEAR FREE SMU MEMBERSHIP

Single Mom University is an online, life-skills platform with over 175 classes covering finances, dating, wellness, parenting & more.

TINYURL.COM/SMUAPPLY
COUPON CODE: EBOOK

EMBRACE YOUR SINGleness.

When seeking to find a godly, Christian husband, it is important first to [embrace your singleness](#). I know how lonely singleness can be. I understand the God-given desire for companionship, wanting to share life's blessings with someone. And nothing is wrong with wanting to be married. Of course not! However, if you have never learned to be content in your singleness, taking the time to explore who you are, your God-given purpose, and your dreams and talents, then you can move too quickly. Singleness can be a time to focus on your relationship with the Lord on a deeper level. *Look at this season as an opportunity to grow and strengthen your faith and understand fully who you are as a daughter of the King.* This singleness season prepares you to be a godly wife one day. There is much to be learned in this season, too. Some of you have been praying for a spouse for a long time and are discouraged that he hasn't come along. It was only when I started embracing my singleness, including being intentional about enjoying time with friends, growing in God's word, and serving others, that I became completely comfortable with it.



(And wouldn't you know, that is just when God brought me a husband?!)

PRAY FOR YOUR FUTURE HUSBAND.

Pray now for the man you may not have even met yet. *Don't simply pray for God to bring him to you, but pray for the Lord to protect him, guide, lead, teach, and grow him.* Praying for your future spouse is as important as praying for those already in your life. You might say, "I don't even know where to start or what to pray." [Here are a few starting points:](#)

- **Pray for his character.** Ask God to help your future husband grow in his faith, develop the fruits of the Spirit, such as patience, gentleness, and kindness, and ask the Lord to equip him to become the man God has called him to be.
- **Pray for his calling.** Ask God that your future husband uses his gifts and talents to glorify Him. Pray he walks confidently into what the Lord has called him to do.
- **Pray for his family and relationships.** Pray that he has a spiritual and physical family that will walk alongside him in his faith journey. Pray that those around him speak wisdom over any situations he may face.
- **Lastly, pray for yourself.** Pray that your heart be prepared for marriage and to be a

godly wife. Pray for patience in your season of waiting.

These are just a few ways to pray for your future husband and marriage.

KNOW YOUR BOUNDARIES NOW.

Don't wait to be head-over-heels for a guy before deciding your boundaries. It can be too little, too late when attempting to develop boundaries after you've met a guy who makes your heart pitter-patter. *Compromise happens when preparation and planning are lacking.* Pray for what you want from a relationship. Pray about what God wants. Then, outline the healthiest boundaries for you. Your boundaries may differ from someone else's, as the Lord will lead and guide the things that will protect you and your situation. List them out long before you decide to date again. Some examples of boundaries that may be important to you could include:

- Never be alone with him at your home.
- Don't introduce him to your kids too soon.
- Be willing to introduce him to your friends and family (and be willing to hear their wise counsel).
- Assess the number of times per week or month that you will see him versus spending time with friends, family, church, and others, to ensure a healthy balance.
- Is he planted in a local church?
- Does he have a strong relationship with his family and healthy friendships?
- Is he a hard worker?

These are just a few examples of boundaries you can set with someone while dating! Remember to be firm and God-honoring at all points in your relationship. *If he is truly godly, he will respect your boundaries and even have some of his own!*

STRENGTHEN YOUR WALK WITH THE LORD.

When someone has endured a long season of singleness, it can be easy to become increasingly impatient and frustrated. I have seen some scenarios where pursuing a husband becomes all-encompassing and can be obsessive. Take the time to step back and assess your walk with the Lord. Has marriage become an idol? *Is there anything that has become more important than your walk with the Lord?* Ask Him to search your heart. Take the time to grow in your walk with Him first. Get good at fighting against the enemy's tactics! (They will surely present themselves in a future marriage). Protect your heart. Put on the whole armor of God, as seen in [Ephesians 6:10-18](#). Don't lose faith in the waiting season; strengthen it! Pray that your future husband is doing the same.

BE A GODLY WOMAN.

When pursuing a godly man, the first thing is to ensure you are a godly woman. Are you upholding the same standards in your life that you expect a future mate to uphold? *We can't expect a godly man to show up and fix all of our problems, nor can we be living immorally and expect a man of godly morals to be attracted to us.* Proverbs 31:11 says, “Her husband can trust her, and she will greatly enrich his life.” Enrich means “to add to.” *You cannot add to a man's life when you only focus on all he can do for you. Focus on what you bring.*

Are you kind? Patient? Gentle? Considerate? Generous? Do you care for your home, children, body, and finances? Proverbs 31:25 also says, “She is clothed with strength and dignity...When she speaks, her words are wise.” How does a woman with strength and dignity carry herself? Do you present yourself in a way that would exhibit the strength and dignity of a godly woman? *Be the woman who is seeking God's kingdom above all else.* Be the woman who prays without ceasing, works hard to provide for her children, and parents those kiddos well. Be the woman who attends church regularly, avoids ungodly talk or behavior, and suffers nothing to laziness. In other words, love God first and seek his heart for your life so that you are ready to enrich, enhance, and grow together when that godly man comes along.

BE PATIENT.

Perhaps the hardest but most important piece of advice. Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength. (Is. 40:31). There was a time when I was convinced that I would never marry. I cried for years (literally) as I chased behind meaningless relationships in a desperate attempt to make me whole. It was only when I learned that my joy was found in Christ, my singleness wasn't a curse, and my single parenthood wasn't a hindrance to God's plan but rather a stepping stone to fully experience His plan that I fully embraced my singleness. Sometime after that, God saw fit to bring me a spouse. I don't know when your singleness season will be over. I don't know why Abraham waited 100 years for a son or the woman with the issue of blood bled 12 years before her healing. But here is what I do know. *God is orchestrating a plan for your life that you couldn't possibly work out. His timing is always perfect. His plan is always to give us a future and hope, not meant for harm. Learn to be patient in your current season and watch how the Lord blesses you for it.*



We cannot control or rush the plans He has for our lives. What can we do, then? We can prepare our hearts for when our husband crosses our path. We can learn to embrace singleness and be patient in our current season. We can stay aware of the red flags that counterfeit Christian men often display and guard our hearts against them. We can ensure we do not perpetuate a lie that culture has fed us about marriage or godly men. Above all, we can trust God and His plan for our lives because it is always exceedingly and abundantly more than we could have ever imagined or asked for. Singles, know your God sees you. He sees the desires of your heart. He has a perfect plan for your life that is more than you even know how to pray or ask for.

MEET THE AUTHOR

JENNIFER MAGGIO

Jennifer Maggio is an award-winning author and speaker, whose personal journey through homelessness, abuse, and single parenting is leaving audiences around the globe riveted. At 19, Maggio was raising two children, while living in government housing on food stamps and welfare. She shares with great openness her pain, mistakes, and journey to find hope in Christ. She ultimately became an 11-time Circle of Excellence winner in Corporate America. She left her corporate successes behind to launch a global initiative to see single moms living a life of total freedom from financial failures, parenting woes, and emotional issues. Her passion is contagious and her story has been used to inspire thousands around the globe. For more info, visit her website at jennifermaggio.com.

JENNIFERMAGGIO.COM

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Learn more about everything Jennifer Maggio Ministries has to offer at the links below:

**DELIVERANCE
& INNER HEALING**

**BUSINESS
CONSULTING**

**NATIONAL
SPEAKER**

**SINGLE MOM
RESOURCES**