

FRIENDZONE

Flirting Friends | Discussion Notes

This week we're tackling the topic of dating. I'm sure this topic will bring up some lively discussion but it'll also be one that needs to be handled with care. It's worth considering the different places people are approaching this topic from, including people who:

- Have been single for a long time and might feel sensitive
- Are dating someone from the church
- Are dating a non-Christian
- Have had a negative experience of dating
- Are in a long-term relationship/married and can come across as self-righteous!
- And a whole lot more!

We still want to talk about things openly and honestly, but make sure there is space for the different points of view people will have!

To help us understand where we are coming from, ask some basic questions from the group:

- Are Christians good at dating?
- Is there a problem with how we as a society do dating in general?

Read through 1 Thessalonians 4:3-9. Chloe said there were 3 "Dos" and "Don'ts" of dating to take from this passage.

1. DATE WITH AIM - Do: "learn to control your body". Don't: "not in passionate lust".

- What do you think Chloe meant when she said to "date with aim"?
- How can we do this well? What practically does this look like?

2. DATE WITH CLARITY - Do: 'live a holy life'. Don't: 'no one should wrong or take advantage of a brother'

- What does it look like to 'date with clarity'? What does it look like to not have this?
- Do you have any tips for starting a relationship with clarity? Or for ending one?
- How can we challenge each other to date with clarity?

3. DATE TO BE A BLESSING - Do: 'you have been taught by God to love each other'

- What do you think 'date to be a blessing means?'
- What traps can we fall into that stop us from 'dating to be a blessing?'
- Chloe said that if we are a community that 'date to be a blessing', people will notice and see something different about Metro. Do you agree? What would that look like?