

Only 50 First Dates

The first 7 levels of a relationship

1. **Strangers**

Matt 25:35 *For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home.* ~ NLT

All right we are now ready to move on to level #2 and that is ...

2. **Casual acquaintance**

As we begin to grow the relationship we go to our next level

3. **Casual Friend**

Who are our level “4” people. We call these people...

4. **Friend**

What is a friend?

Ecc. 4:10 *If you fall, your friend can help you up. But if you fall without having a friend nearby, you are really in trouble.* ~ CEV

Where do I go from there? Our next level is ...

5. **Good Friend**

Prov 27:6 *A friend means well, even when he hurts you. But when an enemy puts his arm around your shoulder — watch out!* ~ TEV

Lets get deeper...

6. **Best Friend**

7. **Casual Date**

In these first 7 it is all about what we and they like!

But then we go to level “8”.

8. **Dating**

Now dating is something that has evolved over the years.

- ✓ In the 40's –
- ✓ In the 50's –
- ✓ In the 60's –
- ✓ In the 70's –
- ✓ In the 80's –
- ✓ In the 90's –

And today we have...

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Because of this, few make it to our next level.

9. **Committed Dating** (seeing each other, going out)

10. **“Promised”** a term from the 80’s – pre-engagement

What happens if ...

I’m in a relationship and someone who is attractive walks by?
If someone makes a move on me or to me?

How do I react?

**Look at the example of someone from the Old Testament:
Look at Joseph?**

Here is a good looking guy who is “hit on,” every day by the wife of his employer?

Genesis 39:1-10 After Joseph had been taken to Egypt by the Ishmaelites, Potiphar an Egyptian, one of Pharaoh's officials and the manager of his household, bought him from them.

2-6 As it turned out, GOD was with Joseph and things went very well with him. He ended up living in the home of his Egyptian master. His master recognized that GOD was with him, saw that GOD was working for good in everything he did. He became very fond of Joseph and made him his personal aide. He put him in charge of all his personal affairs, turning everything over to him. From that moment on, GOD blessed the home of the Egyptian—all because of Joseph. The blessing of GOD spread over everything he owned, at home and in the fields, and all Potiphar had to concern himself with was eating three meals a day.

6-7 Joseph was a strikingly handsome man. As time went on, his master's wife became infatuated with Joseph and one day said, "Sleep with me."

8-9 He wouldn't do it. He said to his master's wife, "Look, with me here, my master doesn't give a second thought to anything that goes on here—he's put me in charge of everything he owns. He treats me as an equal. The only thing he hasn't turned over to me is you. You're his wife, after all! How could I violate his trust and sin against God?"

10 She pestered him day after day after day, but he stood his ground. He refused to go to bed with her.

Attraction will be there – affection is chosen

11. **Engaged**

In levels 8-11 it is about what we know, have learned and accept!

12. **Married**

1 Cor 7:10-11 Now, for those who are married I have a command, not just a suggestion. And it is not a command from me, for this is what the Lord himself has said: A wife must not leave her husband. **11** But if she is separated from him, let her remain single or else go back to him. And the husband must not divorce his wife. ~ TLB

Q & A:

- What does the bible say in regards to dating?
- What is the Christian difference, between best friend and dating?
- Misc...