

# 6 Tips for Single Women Aspiring to Be Married



## **Take Off the Boxing Gloves**

Listen, you cannot marry a man that you are constantly fighting with or against. How do you fight against him? Every time you call him something other than what you want him to be. Every time you tell him you don't really need him. Every time you question his "manhood". Every time you remind him that you make more than he does—the fight is in progress. Listen, we get that that you're strong. We get that you're no doormat. But do you get that marriage is not a may-the-best-man-or-woman-win sport? Rather, it's a union of two people who desire to win...together.

## **Tear the List Up**

While it is imperative to have standards by which we are governed. And while it is nice to desire a mate who embodies all things kind, sensitive, and compassionate. It is downright wasteful to superficially concoct a long list of "he gotta have it" requirements that in the grand scheme of things matter not when you talk about having a quality, respectful, lasting relationship. Things like he has to make six figures. He has to own his own home. He has to have a degree. He cannot have any children. Come on now... Is it not possible to meet a six figure making, home owning, degreed, no child having FOOL?! Wouldn't you rather have a husband who possesses qualities that will stand the test of time; qualities that won't dissipate in a recession, disappear with age, or become challenged when the next pretty face comes along?

## **Seek to be What You Desire in a Spouse**

If you're not a nice person, stop looking for this nice man. If you're not a giving person, stop requesting a giving man. If you're not affirming, stop wanting a man to make a big deal of you. How dare you have the audacity to demand something of someone you are not willing to be yourself? Men want companions, not contradictions. Furthermore, marriages are best sustained when both parties are equally committed to first, being their best, and second, giving their best to the other person.

## **Stop Talking to Women About Men**

If you really, really want to know how to have a fulfilling relationship with a man, the best thing you can do is talk to men. Men are by far the best, most valuable resource you will find as you prepare to understand how to relate to the man in your life or the man you'd like to have in your life. As women, we do ourselves such a disservice when we limit our conversations about men only to the women we trust. Why, because as women we will never know more about men than they know about themselves. Never.

## **Submit Yourself to the Mentorship of a Seasoned, Responsible, Poised Woman Who Values Marriage**

Another very valuable resource for the woman aspiring to experience a loving, lasting marriage is a seasoned, responsible, poised woman who values the institution of marriage. She will counsel you. She will guide you. She will help you stay out of your own way. She will tell you the truth you don't want to hear yet need to hear. Ultimately, she will keep you in a healthy, preparatory space as you ready yourself to become a wife your husband will love for years to come.

## **Know that Men Are Not as Intimidated by You as You Think**

Okay, so you have accomplished quite a bit. You have worked hard to get where you are. You were very deliberate and intentional about the steps you needed to take to reach your goals. Now you have the car; you have the house; you have the credentials; you have the money; AND you also have the prestige, title, and status to go along with it. Well, while all of your accomplishments are indeed honorable, please know that they are not what typically intimidate a man. The truth is, most well rounded men applaud and appreciate an accomplished woman. A secure man is very much attracted to a woman who can "handle her business". To this end, ladies, we must be careful lest we misinterpret intimidation as a man's actual rebuke of our arrogance as we inundate him with more about what we've done than who we are. You are more than the things you've collected, aren't you?

## **Work on Healing the Broken Places in Your Being**

There is nothing more unattractive than a beautiful woman who is mentally unstable or emotionally irresponsible. And this is true in the workplace, in church, in a sorority, or in our own families. Too often, as women who are driven to do and go and be, we lose sight of the need to stop and make certain we are okay. Before we know it, weeks turn into months, months turn into years and the help we told ourselves we know we need remains just a thought. But in order to exist in a healthy marriage, we must *first* bring a healthy self to the marriage. Remember, any marriage is *only as healthy as the two people in the marriage*.

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