

# Real Love in a Distracted World:

## Relationship or Situationhip?

### **Matthew 5:37**

*All you need to say is simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.*

1. **THE CRISIS:** The family and by extension society is being threatened by relational ambiguity otherwise known as situationships—relationships that possess all of the benefits of commitment, but none of the responsibilities of commitment (Matthew 5:37).
  - Our relational ambiguity is **fueled by fear**—fear of rejection, fear of failure, fear of missing out on someone “better”—all of which paralyses our ability to commit (Proverbs 29:25).
  - The lack of definition in situationships creates deep anxiety, insecurity and heartache—not freedom (James 1:8).
2. **THE MODEL:** Always remember that the God of the Bible is a covenant keeping God—that is the model—not a relationally ambiguous one (Deuteronomy 7:9).
  - God’s love is secure. It is not a temporary situationship—it is an eternal relationship (2 Corinthians 1:20).
  - Our love is a response to God’s commitment to being in an eternal relationship with us. We love God because God made the commitment to first love us (1 John 4:19).
3. **THE ACTION STEP:** Be courageously counter-cultural! Choose clarity and covenant over non-commitment and situationships (Joshua 24:14-15).

*(over please)*



## If You Are Dating

- Prize clarity over comfort (Proverbs 4:26).
  - ✓ Have the DTR (Define The Relationship) conversation.
  - ✓ Be determined to not settle for **OR TRY TO CHANGE** noncommittal people.
  - ✓ Unsubscribe! Love yourself enough to walk away from people who do not exhibit Godly love toward you.

## If You Are Married

- Re-affirm your covenant daily (Ruth 1:16b).
  - ✓ Prove it! Make sure that your spouse knows that your original “Yes” is still “Yes.”
  - ✓ Guard against insecurity creep. Do not allow adversity to create marital insecurity. Signal that you are in this for the long haul.
  - ✓ Be present. Look for ways to show your spouse that you are “in it” with them.

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