Biblical views of online dating

Read and discuss case studies

General secular online dating on what is the attitude?

What do you or someone you know have experience with online dating? What do you think of this?

Why are online dating so popular in today's society?

What do you think are the benefits of online dating? What is the danger?

How can online interpersonal trust be established? From the Internet you may know a person's true colors?

What can be the qualities or the basis upon which God's just and perfect interpersonal relationships can be glorified?
 Exodus 33:11
 Proverbs 17:17
 Proverbs 18:24
 Proverbs 27: 6, 9

What are the characteristics of relationships built on the web?

What have you learned from our discussion?

After our discussion, do you feel you need to do something or make any changes?

Leader 's Guide

Case Study:
 One of your non-Christian roommates spent a lot of time talking online with people around the world. She started dating online a couple of months ago with a guy who had been online for about a year. This man was a well-known university in Beijing. Graduate students, he plans to go abroad next year, recently he also suggested that your roommate apply to go abroad, so that they can be together, they never met, but he suggested that your roommate in the recent national holidays to Beijing and He met, your roommate 's parents do not know the matter, and she borrowed money to buy you a train ticket to Beijing, for her relationship with the man, your views? Do you think she should go to Beijing to meet him?

 Rob is a close Christian friend of yours who has the gift of evangelism and likes to talk about his faith on the Internet. He has been talking to you for a few months about a girl who lives in another city. A week ago and told you that this girl has become a Christian,

and every time you meet, he more and more often talk about this girl, and filed the girl hope to one day meet with him, you guess Rob may be on this girl Already has a romantic feeling. Rob to seek your advice, he intends to go home during the winter vacation to take the opportunity to visit the girl, but I do not know whether it is appropriate? He plans to send her a Bible and other materials to help her grow in faith. What advice would you give him?

Your good friend and her boyfriend broke up, she was very sad, feel hurt for months and very lonely, she began to swim the Internet to escape the feeling of injury and loneliness, the results on the Internet she met some interesting Friends, through the communication to eliminate some of her feeling of emptiness, she even know a man in the online chat rooms are particularly interested in one night she was very sure to tell you that the man gave her something to make her feel very comfortable, Although they have never met, but through in-depth communication, she has felt very close to each other, do you think this friend status? Do you have any concerns about the relationship your friends have created online?

Why do people seek to build relationships online?
One of the main reasons people make friends online is to seek an intimate relationship (romantic, sexual, or Platonic intimacy). An intimate relationship is a thorough understanding of each other and a love for the person, Because God also makes us desire to seek intimacy in the creation of our various relationships, it is terrible to be fully acquainted because it means that we are likely to be harmed, so we are heading towards less threatening places To seek a close relationship.

Why online love is so common?
Without face-to-face communication, it is easy for some people to hide their shyness, clumsiness, and inexperience in general appointments.
 People can use what they have always been eager to change into the image appears.
 People can use the way they like to share with others that he is willing to let others know things.
 As the attractiveness of appearance is not an immediate factor, some people claiming to be less attracted by the appearance of the Internet that others can be willing to more in-depth understanding of them.
 Seems to be a novel, exciting adventure.
 Online relationships provide a sense of accomplishment when some people are frustrated, frustrated or unhappy with existing relationships (friends, parents, male / female friends, spouses).
When the other is in the distance, people are more likely to maintain greater independence in this relationship; the relationship on the Internet allows one to retain some of the face-to-face, mutual commitment to the relationship between the loss of associated freedom, these freedom Including at the same time to pursue a relationship with a third party; and still have time with other friends and so on.

Online dating this relationship characteristics:

This relationship can easily be based on fantasy rather than in reality
. It does not have to be like in a normal relationship, to face good bad or happy and disappointing things at the same time.
. Both shortcomings will be hidden, and the advantages will be exaggerated.
. People use their own idealized point of view to describe themselves.
There is a lot of control space
. You can design anything you want to write, which is impossible in real-life face-to-face communication.

Tend to talk about sex or sex:
. People feel brave enough to speak online. "I even think I can be bold enough to write puns that I can not say in front of people," which are usually directed to talk about sexuality, advice, or Jokes, are both in the public or face to face communication, that is not appropriate and will not say.
There is no need for accountability or honesty in the real world
. "I do not know who the other person is, so I have a lot of room for imagination, I am very eagerly waiting for her photos, but when I received, I was very disappointed, she and I imagined completely not Her photo reminds me that there is too little of her knowledge, and the feeling of electrocution is hallucination, and that is the most dangerous part of the online relationship - 99% of the relationship is illusory - no responsibility or honesty The need.

The common denominator is people who do not share a common friend or acquaintance with each other:
. Not familiar with any one of the friends to give you advice to help you understand whether they fit each other, you rely entirely on their own wisdom and insight to understand each other without the parents, friends or any person you respect can give you the views.

Very time-consuming
This relationship is definitely Platonic, spiritual, but it is definitely a very time-consuming "She spent a lot of time on the computer - waiting for new e-mail come in, but also to write her answer, and gradually reduced her and Friends, but she was too distracted by her e-mail and she did not have time to get along with God. "Eventually, she finally ended the relationship, and she told her online friends Said the communication on the Internet accounted for her too much time.

Why can not online dating provide the kind of relationship God created for us?
If we are honest, we know that the intimacy we all want is that each other understands our true image, and no matter how many shortcomings are still able to be loved. This intimacy is when we are ready to do the same thing, can exist ... found each other all the advantages and disadvantages, still unconditional love each other. This process may be from the communication network to get, but ultimately need to face a lot of real-world communication, in the real world, we can put some things to talk about the desktop, we can have non-verbal communication, interpretation Emotions, analysis of

small hobbies and habits, which are sometimes in the future may make the other side become bored. Therefore, a truly intimate relationship can not be obtained entirely through the Internet.

Creating fantastic images and perfect conversations on the web makes it even more difficult for us to develop an intimate relationship with an imperfect person in the real world. The illusion that the temptation of a perfect companion will damage us makes us incompetent for our spouse. Of the expectations. In the Internet can cover up the shortcomings of the test, will make us not frank, honest communication, can not be further long-term, meaningful relationship.

You may experience the situation:
One of his disciples is dating people who have not met on the Internet
A disciple spends a lot of time online every week
One of his disciples was planning to meet someone who fell in love online
One disciple regularly chatted about the Internet, but declined to take part in church activities
A shy and discouraged disciple is hard to fit into his Bible study and student fellowships, but he has many online connections and spends a lot of time communicating online, but not with the people around him.

Relevant information:
nothing now

One to one individual deep into the discussion
How much time do you spend online chatting every day and every week?
What do you usually talk about? Where do you see each other online?
Do you like online dating that most?
Are you talking to someone regularly so that you start to feel that you are feeling each other?
Have you made an appointment with your friends on the internet? How do you handle this situation?
Are the needs in your life that network relationships can meet?
Are you talking about yourself or your feelings in web chat, and those that you would never say in a general face-to-face conversation?
Do you think your friends on the Internet to see you and your friends around every day you see is not the same person?
Have you ever arranged to meet an online friend?
Have you ever thought that your online chat could be kind of escape? What do you want to escape? Is this the right way to do things?
Do you chat with people when they talk about themselves or what you write about and they talk about sex?
After our discussion, is there anything you feel you need to do or need to change?