

Single and blossoming for marriage



**Before "I do" Know who you are and
become what you know**

COACH OWIDI

Singles And Blooming For Marriage

*Before 'I Do', Know Who You Are
And Become Before You Belong*

By Coach Charles Owidi



The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom
(Proverbs 9:10)

© Coach Charles Owidi

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by means, mechanical, electronic photocopying or otherwise without the prior written consent of the publisher.

Introduction

A Must-Read for Every Single Who Desires a Purposeful Marriage

Before you take that life-altering step into marriage, before the excitement blinds you, and before emotions cloud your judgment—pause. Take a deep breath and allow this book to be your compass, your mirror, and your guide.

"**Single and Ripe for Marriage**" is not just another relationship book. It is a heartfelt collection of wisdom drawn from over 15 years of walking alongside singles—mentoring, teaching, and counselling through seasons of love, heartbreak, confusion, and hope. As someone who has been privileged to pastor since 2001, serve actively in singles ministries, coach countless hearts, and speak regularly on Pearl Radio on matters of the heart, I write

not from theory—but from the trenches of real-life experiences.

Guided by the Holy Spirit, and anchored in my deep reverence and love for God, I have seen what works—and painfully, what doesn't. I've watched countless young men and women jump into relationships without clarity, only to nurse wounds that could have been avoided. I've sat with tears, broken dreams, and silent regrets.

This book is born from a burden—a **desire to save you from regret and lead you into God's perfect plan for your future.** My inspiration came from the many silent cries I've heard, the ignored red flags, the inner wounds people try to carry into marriage hoping love will fix them. But marriage does not heal—it magnifies.

Whether you're just exploring love, waiting patiently, or feeling pressure to settle down—this book is your divine pause. It is your toolkit, your prayer partner, and your accountability friend. It will open your eyes to truth, stir

your spirit with conviction, and prepare your heart to love God's way.

Before you say "yes" to anyone – say "yes" to wisdom.

Welcome to a journey of clarity, healing, and God-led readiness.

This is your season. Your preparation starts here.

Let's walk it together.

Preface

A Sacred Journey of Becoming Before Belonging

This book was not written in haste or out of mere interest in the topic of relationships—it was born in the crucible of experience, prayer, and deep reflection. *Singles and Blooming for Marriage* is a product of many years spent walking with singles, listening to their hearts, guiding their questions, and pointing them toward God’s truth.

We live in a world where love is often confused with lust, where timelines are pressured by culture, and where many are more focused on weddings than on the work of becoming. I have sat across countless souls—some heartbroken, some hopeful, and some simply lost in the

maze of emotions and expectations that surround the idea of “settling down.”

This book is a call to pause. To step back from the noise. To evaluate not just whom you want to marry, but *why* and *how* you’re preparing for it. It is a guide, a friend, and sometimes a mirror—reflecting not just what you know, but what you need to grow into.

It is not for the faint of heart. It is for those who are willing to be stretched, challenged, and refined. It is for the single who wants to bloom in purpose, not just in romance. It is for you—because you were never meant to stumble into marriage blindly, but to walk into it prepared, whole, and aligned with God’s perfect plan.

May these pages stir your soul, renew your mind, and prepare your heart.

Acknowledgements

Gratitude from the Depth of My Heart

To my Heavenly Father—thank You for entrusting me with this assignment. You are the true Author behind these words, and without Your grace and guidance, none of this would be possible.

To the Holy Spirit—thank You for being my constant Counselor and gentle nudge in times of doubt. Every revelation, every chapter, every word was birthed from the stillness of Your presence.

To every single man and woman I have had the honor to walk with over the years—thank you for your trust, vulnerability, and courage.

Your stories, tears, triumphs, and testimonies have all become the threads woven into the fabric of this book.

To my beloved church family and the singles ministry that has been both my training ground and my source of joy — thank you for walking this journey with me. Your hunger for truth and your passion for purposeful relationships have inspired me more than words can say.

To Pearl Radio and every listener who tuned in to our heart-to-heart sessions — thank you for reminding me that truth, when shared in love, can heal and transform.

To my family — thank you for your unwavering support, prayers, and patience throughout the writing process. Your belief in my calling continues to fuel my obedience.

And finally, to you, dear reader — thank you for picking up this book. You are the reason it was written. May you find clarity, courage, and Christ-centered conviction as you read.

To God be all the glory.

My Inspiration for Writing This Book

On the evening of **June 13th, 2025**, during our free weekly life coaching session with singles, I was once again reminded of the deep hunger for guidance, clarity, and purpose in relationships. So many questions came my way—each one carrying its own weight, its own silent prayer for direction.

As I woke up the next morning, my heart heavy with reflection, I entered into a time of prayer, thinking, and meditating. In that sacred stillness, **the Spirit within nudged me—no, urged me to write.** To pour out all the wisdom, lessons, and materials I've shared and taught over the years. To gather them, shape them, and release them into the world, not as scattered advice, but as a powerful, structured guide for singles.

This book is my **act of obedience.** Obedience to the gentle but firm question the Spirit whispered into my soul that morning:

"How can you be a relationship coach and yet have no book to guide God's children in relationships?"

I knew, in that moment, that I had to answer the call, not for my sake, but for yours.

So here it is. A labor of love, birthed in prayer, guided by the Spirit, and filled with truth. My prayer is that **this book becomes your map, your mirror, and your mentor**—guiding you toward the relationship you've prayed for, the partner God desires for you, and the future you deserve.

May it help you avoid the avoidable. Heal what needs healing. And prepare your heart for **the best relationship ever—God's way.**

Table of Contents	Page
1. Before you say “Yes I Do” – the foundation of a God-fearing single 4	12
2. Finding a companion – choosing a godly marriage partner	17
3. Kingdom dating, not just feelings, but purpose ...	25
4. Healing before loving again: “ <i>you can’t build a holy union on a wounded foundation.</i> ”	32
5. The dangers of rushing love “ <i>When you rush what God is still building, you risk collapsing everything.</i> ”	36
6. Friendship before romance, building the right foundation	42
7. Looks right, feels wrong, discerning spiritual compatibility & spotting counterfeits	46
8. Know thyself first: the royal journey to meaningful companionship	51
9. Red flags – when love needs discernment, not denial	57
10. Green flags in relationships:	65

11. Boundaries that build, not block: “guard your heart, but don’t build a fortress.”	73
12. Boundaries are hard: but they’re worth it	79
13. Talk before engagement: A sacred prerequisite for a healthy relationship	87
14. Sex before marriage (fornication): why should we abstain from fornication?	94
15. A real man does not ask for sex before marriage	106
16. Dressing that glorifies god: your choice of clothing speaks volumes about your values	108
17. Outer beauty and relationships:	112
18. The role of a man in relationship: Redeeming manhood in a collapsing universe	129
19. The role of a women in relationships: submission & suitable helper	143
20. <i>Marriage is not a reward for loneliness, nor a cure for emptiness</i>	150
21. “Purpose before partner: to choose a god-ordained relationship”	158
22. Fall in love with your assignment before you fall in love with a person	171
23. Be bold enough to walk away if you need to	177

CHAPTER 1

Before You Say “Yes I do” -

The Foundation of a God-Fearing Single

There are basic principles to life that one must understand, accept, and respect to live well—especially when it comes to relationships. Relationships don’t just “work out.” They are built, brick by brick, on truths that are eternal, not trends that fade.

The Christian Single: What Makes You Ready for Marriage?

We live in a time where the **Christian dating** scene doesn’t look much different from that of the world. Swiping, shallow preferences, secret sin, vague

boundaries, and fast intimacy – it's all blended in a digital haze of confusion. Yet Scripture is clear:

“Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?”

– 2 Corinthians 6:14 (NIV)

God doesn't just give rules for no reason—He gives protection. When God refers to the ungodly as “unclean” or “pagans,” it's not to condemn, but to **caution**. He is a loving Father who knows what harms the soul.

Many Christian singles are **emotionally ready** for marriage but **spiritually shallow** in their understanding of God's design. As a result, they mistake chemistry for compatibility and attraction for covenant.

Why Identity Must Come Before Intimacy

God created humanity with intentional detail. Each person carries a unique DNA—physical, emotional,

spiritual. This means **your needs, desires, calling, and even love language are not like anyone else's.**

"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

— *Psalms 139:14 (NIV)*

Before you seek a partner, seek to **know yourself**. Not in a self-help, social media way, but in the deep, quiet place of **self-awareness guided by the Holy Spirit.**

Ask:

- What are my non-negotiables in a relationship?
- What traumas have I not healed from?
- What is my purpose, and how would marriage help or hinder it?

Many jump into relationships needing their wounds bandaged. But marriage is not a hospital, it is a **partnership of wholeness**. As one counselor says, **"What you don't heal in singleness, you will bleed in marriage."**

Current Day Realities

Today's world teaches us that **neediness is weakness**, yet deep down, we are all created with needs, spiritual, emotional, physical. A companion, by God's design, is someone who understands and responds to those needs. But how can your partner meet what you have not yet discovered about yourself?

This is why people get into relationships **that start with excitement and end with exhaustion**. There was no real discovery, just an emotional high that faded.

"Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it." – Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)

God is not against romance. He created it. But He wants wise romance, not reckless emotion. You cannot build a godly relationship on surface-level connection. That's like building a house on sand.

"Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain." – Psalm 127:1 (NIV)

Final Thoughts for the Ready Single

So what does it mean to be “single and ripe” for marriage?

It means you’ve allowed the Lord to:

Prune your heart

Refine your desires

Reveal your identity

Prepare your character

You don’t attract what you want, you attract who you are.

And if you want a godly partner, you must become one.

CHAPTER 2

Finding a Companion, Choosing a Godly Marriage Partner

Theme Scripture: Amos 3:3

“Do two walk together, unless they have agreed to meet?”

This foundational scripture reveals a profound truth: true partnership requires agreement, unity, and divine alignment. A marriage without agreement in values, vision, and purpose becomes a battlefield instead of a blessing.

1. The Foundation: Obedience to God in Choosing a Partner

Before you even consider *who* to marry, it's important to understand *how* to approach this sacred choice:

1 Corinthians 15:33 (ESV): “Do not be deceived: ‘Bad company ruins good morals.’”

Proverbs 13:20 (NIV): “Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.”

Obedience to God brings clarity, safety, and blessings

When we obey His principles:

- We avoid unnecessary heartbreak.
- We walk in His timing and grace.
- We attract partners aligned with our spiritual path.

2. The Non-Negotiables for a Christian

Amos 3:3: Can two walk together unless they be agreed?

Key Principles:

1. Christians marry Christians

- This is not just preference; it’s protection.
- *2 Corinthians 6:14: “Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers...”*

2. Don't choose based on familiarity alone (tribe, church, culture, etc.)

- Familiarity isn't divine confirmation.
- Seek divine alignment over cultural convenience.

3. Clarity of Purpose

- Know your purpose before picking your partner. You need someone who can **walk with you in your assignment**.

4. Work on yourself first

- Be an eagle before expecting to marry one. *Birds of a feather flock together.*

5. Faith over fear

- Even if the unexpected happens (e.g., she walks out), your trust must be in God, not the outcome.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10: *"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor. If either of them falls down, one can help the other up."*

3. What to Look For in a Marriage Partner

1. Fear of the Lord

Proverbs 31:30: "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised."

The fear of God is the anchor of integrity, humility, and commitment.

2. Wisdom and Discernment

Proverbs 3:13: "Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding."

Wisdom isn't just intellect; it's spiritual maturity, knowing when and how to act righteously.

3. Discretion

Ability to say the right thing, at the right time, for the right reasons.

4. True Character Over Charm

Matthew 23:26-28: Jesus warns about **external beauty without internal purity.**

What matters is not just how they look, but **who they are when no one is watching.**

4. Advantages of Obeying God's Design for Marriage

- **Peace of Mind**
- **Protection from abusive or toxic partners**
- **Godly legacy for your children**
- **Answered prayers and favor (Psalm 84:11)**
- **Shared destiny and purpose**

Malachi 2:15: "Has not the one God made you? You belong to him in body and spirit. And what does the one God seek? Godly offspring."

5. Christian Unity: Beyond the Walls of Denomination

Galatians 3:28: "There is neither Jew nor Gentile... for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

Don't discriminate based on the church someone attends, but look for their fruits in Christ. Your single agenda should always align with God's eternal agenda.

6. How Not to Choose a Partner: Red Flags

Signs to Avoid:

- 1. A sense of slavery or servitude in the relationship**

Galatians 5:1: "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free... do not be burdened again by a yoke of slavery."

If one party is manipulating or demanding service in courtship, it's a trap for future bondage.

2. Flattery and fake service

- Don't serve just to win someone.
- Wait until there's clear direction and commitment before engaging in deep acts of service.

3. Bitterness and unforgiveness

Ephesians 4:31-32: "Get rid of all bitterness... Be kind and compassionate... forgiving each other."

Someone who cannot forgive will build emotional prison walls in marriage.

4. Lack of accountability or spiritual guidance

- Don't make such a lifelong decision alone.
- Involve wise counselors and spiritual oversight.

7. Key Qualities to Seek in a Godly Spouse

Spiritual Traits:

- Fear of God
- Integrity
- Consistency
- Commitment
- Teachability

Relational Traits:

- Gentleness (*Proverbs 15:1*)
- Patience (*v. 18*)
- Good communication (*v. 23*)
- Respect and humility
- Honoring family values
- Willingness to grow

Deal Breakers:

- Disrespect
- Pride
- Emotional manipulation
- Self-centeredness
- Living a double life

8. The Beauty of Walking with the Right Person

When you marry right:

- You build a legacy.
- You multiply impact.
- You face storms together and come out stronger.
- Your marriage becomes a **testimony**, not just a testimony of love, but of **God's divine wisdom**.

Proverbs 18:22: "He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord."

Final Words: Let God Choose for You

Marriage is not a sprint. It's a journey, and journeys are best taken with the right companion. Wait on God, obey His Word, surround yourself with wise counsel, and choose purposefully.

Psalms 32:8: "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you."

To continue reading the rest of this book, kindly purchase the full copy by visiting: <https://coachowidi.org/book-launch/>

You can also pay directly via M-Pesa:

- **Paybill** : **400200**
- **Account** : **1037920**
- **Name** : **Coach Owidi**

Relationship coach

Or

• **Alternatively send Mpesa +254724994066**

After payment, send a confirmation message via

WhatsApp to +254 724 994 066 and the full book will be delivered to you immediately.

Thank you for supporting this life-changing mental health resource. Your purchase helps us reach more people with hope and emotional healing.

By Coach Owidi

Mental Health Relationship Coach

+254724994066

coachowidi@gmail.com

Single and **blooming** for marriage

Are you single, waiting, or wondering about love? Singles and Blooming for Marriage is a spiritual guide for anyone seeking a purposeful, God-ordained relationship. Drawing from over 20 years of mentoring singles, Coach Owidi shares honest, Spirit-led wisdom to help you lay a strong foundation before dating or marriage

Learn how to heal, discern wisely, set godly boundaries, and pursue purpose before partnership. Whether you're dating, healing, or step of the way.

Don't just prepare for a wedding-grow into the kind of person marriage is prepared for. Your love story deserves more than emotions. Start here.



Coach Owidi, a certified mental health coach and christian mentor, has served in the ministry for 25 years, teaching, counselling and guiding others through life's trials. He blends biblical truths with practical coaching to help singles, couples and divorcees find healing, hope and purpose.



COACH OWIDI
CHRISTIAN LIFE COACH