

God Is In Control

Recently, I heard about a Christian woman that had a longing desire to get married. She did what she considered to be all the right things like regularly attending bible study and Sunday services. She made a ritual of fervently praying and fasting for a Godly mate and was committed to doing things in a Godly way. She made a pact that when she dated a man, she would verbally declare her commitment to celibacy before beginning a relationship with him. Year after year went by and no husband, not even a dating prospect came her way. This reality began to take its toll on this Christian Sister, and slowly she started to doubt if God would bless her with the desires of her heart.

She began to confess, *"I'm tired of waiting, I have needs and the next guy I meet I'm going to do what makes ME feel good"*. How many of us can relate to feeling this way while we wait to be someone's wife. Let's keep it real, celibacy is no joke, but you see you can't keep your mind focused on the fact that you're abstaining from sex; that just makes you want it more. So don't do that. Instead keep your mind focused on the reward. You oughta' know that if you're faithful to the ways of Christ, he'll make sure that you receive a prize worth the wait.

Well, our Sista-girl wouldn't hear it. She got tired of waiting. So as it was, when she did in fact meet someone, they began to date and sure enough she threw her commitment to the wind and found herself giving in to her fleshly desires. Not only did she give up on her faith, she gave up on her relationship with God. She bought into what so many of us fall for, and that's the lie that *"God's way takes too long and my way will give me what I need and want."* This is dangerous...got to be mo' careful!

It's never a winning strategy to give up on our faith. You and I have no right to do this. We belong to the Father and He is always and forever in control. And let me state for the record, He never disappoints. Your gift-of-a-man will definitely be worth the wait, but sometimes the wait tricks us into doing exactly what this Christian woman did. Like her, some of us don't take God at His Word, and we forget that we need to let the Lord be our guide.

In Psalms 46:10, the bible tells us to be still and know that He is God. You see, the Father knows that we will become impatient, and He also knows the heartaches we bring upon ourselves because of that impatience. He knows that our flesh becomes weak, and when this happens we are vulnerable to temptation, especially if we've been waiting a while. But even though God knows our vulnerability, He also knows the strength He has given us through Christ.

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"God Is in Control" written by Kim Ayala, edited by Reverend Fran Times-Mack, for Sundie Morning Sistas ©2011. All rights reserved. All done to the glory of God through Jesus Christ, our Lord! SMS is dedicated to inspiring and encouraging Christian Women through the Word of God.

He has entrusted us with the best of the best, and He expects us to be calm—be still, and rise above our weakness through patience and faith. He expects us to learn to triumph through Christ!

Understand that if you don't have the strength to hold out for Jesus, you certainly don't have the strength to hold out for a marriage. Abstinence builds your spiritual resolve. It keeps your connection to God through Christ strong. It clears the channel so that you can hear directives like *"He's not the one! Leave that one alone! This one belongs to someone else already!"*

The woman mentioned in this article lost hope and tried to scoot over in the driver's seat. She took her eyes off of who's really in control. Anytime we do this we are headed for a collision. In this day and age, you can't afford to play Russian roulette with your body. It's too high a price to pay, because the moment you put one foot in the enemy's territory he pounces on your life and tries to tear it to pieces.

Understand that if you're emotionally drained and feeling defeated and mistreated in your current relationship, sexing before marriage is probably why. Again, you cannot win with this strategy. It simply doesn't work. Nothing will work out until you do things God's way. All you have to do is trust the Lord and take Him at His word. He will never fail you.

Don't panic when the wait seems a bit much or when things get crazy in your life, it's because your blessing is on its way. Things are shaking and moving to make room for another person. All kinds of toads will jump out of the woodwork when this happens. And if you fall for the tricks of one of those toads you'll delay the blessing of your prince. So stay faithful and focused, blessed Sistas. Stay committed to our awesome Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Go to him with your lonely heart and let him fill your cup.

God hasn't forgotten about you, He cares about every detail of your life. Sometimes we forget just how much He loves us. He loves us so much that He wants the absolute best for us—more than we could ever want it for ourselves. The more we accept and trust in God's love, the less we will need to be in control.

Deuteronomy 5:32 (NIV) says *"So be careful to do what the Lord your God has commanded you; do not turn aside to the right or to the left."* There may be times when you want to be the one behind the wheel doing all the driving, but if you want your life to go in the right direction, let God steer you and do what He says. Don't be tricked, stand ready and poised for His work. Keep your focus on Him and have confidence that when it comes to your future husband, or any other thing for that matter, God is in control. ◇