

A letter from a Father to a son...

What to look for in a wife,

First of all know that the woman you marry will be the lifelong mother to your children. All that she is, is the accumulation of her past experiences, there is not a more major decision affecting the future of your children's lives than your life partner. The relationship between a man and his wife has more effect on their children than any other factor. While you can carefully hide your differences from your children in private, you cannot hide the effects of your differences from your children. Your family will be no better than the relationship you have with your wife. It does matter that there is peace and love in your home, it's not disposable. Make sure to cultivate your relationship with your wife, meet her needs, make her happy, enjoy her thoroughly. Her state of mind is going to be 50% of your children's example and 100% when you're not around. If you will love and cherish your wife the children will love and cherish her also, if you are a servant to her your example will translate to their experience. When you look for a wife and a mother for your children, the first qualification is that she loves the Lord and is a true disciple. Nothing else will adequately equip her for the duration. There are a lot of quitters and you want someone who is a finisher. She will need to know how to pray, a girl who takes Christ for granted will do the same with her family. If a man and his wife are heirs together of the grace of life it takes two equally yoked to pull the family wagon safely thru the hostile deserts and minefields of the last day society we have inherited. It's alarming to me how quickly people will enter a relationship with someone who isn't spiritually pulling the same direction, your gonna have difficulty. Paul said he wanted to spare them difficulty. Think ahead, you can marry into situations that are gonna have difficulty from the day of marriage. Some people work strictly out of their emotions they don't think beyond "lip-sandwiches"! The second thing to look for in a prospective wife is cheerfulness, while some might ignore this qualification altogether, I cannot emphasize to fervently the value and practicality of this quality, a girl who is unhappy and discontent before marriage will not suddenly change afterward. Don't marry someone moody that you have to prop-up or pump up, nobody wants to be around a crank, it will get old cranking it! Every prospective wife out there has already experienced trials and adversities in her short life, the happy cheerful girl has learned to deal with them and still enjoy life, no man can make a discontented woman happy, a woman who does not find joy from a wellspring within will not find it in the daily trials of marriage and motherhood. Courtship is a garden in spring, everybody's looks promising then, but marriage as a garden in August when the quality of the soil and the quality of the seed begins to manifest itself, the fruit of work can be spoiled before germination. Before a child is ever born they can ruin the ground that child is going to live in. Give special prayerful care to the choice of a wife and mother. A girl who often and easily gets her feelings hurt and cries in order to manipulate will be a ball and chain after your married. Look for that cheerfulness when things are not exactly the way she would like them to be. The next quality to look for is thankfulness, when a young woman is unthankful toward her family or circumstances, she is critical if everybody doesn't please her she just makes it known, if it's not about her, "listen you're not the only one sucking air and the sooner you learn that the happier your life will be, it's not all about you ladies." When a young girl is unthankful toward her family and her circumstances a change of environment or relationship is not going to make her thankful. Thankfulness is not so much a response to one's environment as it is an expression or an outflow of their heart. Avoid a moody unthankful and unhappy girl, if she is not full of the joy of living before marriage she surely won't be afterwards. A young lady married a month said to her mother "I have never in my life been one to have had my felling hurt but since I got married I seem to go around with a chip on my shoulder, I guess it's just that I care more now than I once did". Her mother corrected her and said, no you don't care more now it's just that you feel you have more rights now and therefor you're expecting more. The thing to remember is that personalities and temperaments don not improve after marriage, when the social restraints are lifted the freedom that comes only from a secured union permits one to express true feelings, boys take note of a girls attitude toward her father, it doesn't matter what kind of a louse he may be if she is rebellious she will be twice as rebellious to you. If she speaks disrespectfully of him or to him she will do likewise to you. So look for a girl who is happy with life, loves God, loves and serves her family and humanity, is a modern day Proverbs 31 woman and she will be a kind and loving wife and mother.

Love your Father...