

# **LESSONS FROM MY SITUATIONSHIP ADVENTURES**

**HEPHZIBAH FRANCES**

# **Lessons From My Situationship Adventures**

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## DEDICATION

*To everyone desiring wisdom for navigating  
relationships*

*“Love can choose you and let you know that they have chosen you. Love can pursue and chase your heart wanting you to be theirs without hiding it. Love can love you in all the right ways. Love can marry you without going round circles with you. Love can heal you with its fresh new breath of air, different from what you’ve ever felt in the past. Love can be a gift from Jesus to you. Love can come alongside your journey and be your person in life and destiny with you. Love can fill up those places of fear and let you know you had no reason to fear all along Love can be your person. Love can be unafraid to love you and go all out for wanting you. Love can be... add yours”.*

# **PREFACE**

## **SITUATIONSHIPS**

*A situation that is not a relationship but seems like a relationship... and sometimes always ends in premium tears!*

The first experience I can remember ever having from situationships was in year 2015. I had this really great friend at Law School (we'll call him H). H was a friend to me in every sense of the word. We would spend days together at class, going to eat, going to read, talking, laughing, gisting, just having an all-round good time.

He was in a relationship at the time so nothing ever crossed my mind on wanting to be with him, until God tried to get me to break the friendship because we were catching feelings. But still, I was insistent that we were just friends. But I cried all the way from Law School to redeem camp the day God told me to break

the friendship. That should have told me I was in love with the guy but still I refused to admit it until one day at school, I looked at him, my heart was boiling over and I had to admit, *'hey, my heart don go'* (my heart is gone) .... for an engaged man!

He was in a relationship leading to marriage so both of us knew this was a no go area, but when you spend so much time with a person – what we call 'talking stage' – what happens? Feelings develop. And when those feelings are not acknowledged, neither is what you have together defined, what you have is a *'situationship'*.

*A situationship is a situation where you both are spending large amounts of time together, talking day and night. You have an elephant in the room in the form of 'I like this person' that neither of you want to talk about but still you persist in this situation you cannot define. And if you are not careful, you end up wasting your time with nothing to show for it at the end of it all.*

I have seen Instagram posts advocating for four months' maximum of 'talking stage' (a stage where you are getting to know one another) with things not yet defined. If you spend four months in a situationship that ends up not leading to a

relationship, and do that with four people in a year, that's one year gone with no tangible movement in your love life because situationships are like grasping at the wind. They give you the sense that you are with someone when really you are just grasping at air with nothing tangible in your hands.

I believe there is wisdom for dealing with situationships and relationships, so you aren't repeating empty circles. This is the reason why I wrote this book, to help you not go around in circles, finding yourself in the same spot year after year with no progress made in your love life. If you put the wisdom you learn here to work, hopefully you will be better for it, entering into a defined healthy relationship leading to an end goal clearly defined to both you and your partner at the end of it all.

As you read this book, my prayers for wisdom and divine clarity are with you.

**Hephzibah Frances**

**Nakuru Kenya**

**Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup> 2023**

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## INTRODUCTION

I stumbled onto a post I had made early this year saying, *“Love can choose you and let you know that they have chosen you. Love can pursue and chase your heart wanting you to be theirs without hiding it. Love can love you in all the right ways. Love can marry you without going round circles with you. Love can heal you with its fresh new breath of air, different from what you’ve ever felt in the past. Love can be a gift from Jesus to you. Love can come alongside your journey and be your person in life and destiny with you. Love can fill up those places of fear and let you know you had no reason to fear all along Love can be your person. Love can be unafraid to love you and go all out for wanting you. Love can be... add yours”*.

I wrote the above during a time when I was in a kind of stupid situationship. The guy was always checking on me daily. Wanting to call me, even pray with me

(spiritual abuse in situationships as a woman in ministry which I'd talk about later in this book) but when I asked what he wanted, he would be so unclear, mumble some nothings, withdraw for two or three days then come back again with the same attitude of wanting to talk to me daily etc.

In the midst of this time I stumbled on a love story between a lady called Iman Alford and her husband Stephon. I saw that this man had been clear from the very beginning with what he wanted from this lady. He gave her clarity right from the start. He was a marriage minded man. Through that story I saw that love can be easy. Love can be straight forward. Love can be straight to the point where I do not have to guess or wonder about a man's heart for me. I wanted this type of love. I wanted this type of clarity. I wanted to set standards for what I wanted and stick to them.

I would later ask this guy about his intentions four months after and he would say 'I am not ready'. My response was "thank you Jesus!". Thank you Jesus because from an advice God had given me when this whole situation was taking place, I was saved from wasting my time, investing my emotions etc. for four months only for the guy to say "*I am not ready*" at the

end. If I hadn't taken God's advice, my heart would have been so hit by that experience, instead, all I felt was gratitude at the end of it all.

I will tell us this story in the next chapter but for the purposes of this book, suffice it to say that what some persons (both men and women) are going through in the hand of what is called "situationships" is a lot.

From my lessons in this book, I hope you would learn how to avoid situations that have you grasping at the wind.

*Remember, love can be clear, love can be straight forward, love can want you and be clear about wanting you. And you do not have to settle for less.*

And oh, if you enjoy this book, make sure to please share the link - <https://selar.co/m/HephzibahFrances> - and book cover and invite someone to go get their copy also (don't re-share this eBook as it is, just please share the link to others to go purchase theirs. God bless you).

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# **CHAPTER 1**

## **THE FOUR MONTHS THAT WENT NOWHERE!**

So in the month of January 2023 I just got out of this long four years' situation where I thought that I had received a direction from God on the person who was my husband. I waited for four years, and he never showed up (you can watch my video of the story [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=kAJtM8BIw3k) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=kAJtM8BIw3k> )

At this time, I was asking God if I should move on. He confirmed that I should. Then I was praying concerning God joining me with my husband and the next thing was, I was connected with this man from seeming out of nowhere. It started out platonically, giving counsel and advise spiritually but then this guy started sending me messages every day, sending me pictures of himself, giving hints of "can you marry a man from here, etc. etc.". So I felt 'maybe' he is interested in me, though I wasn't sure (one

characteristics of situationships is the confusion surrounding the whole situation. Is he/she interested in me or not? You don't know).

After a while, I would get agitated and ask the guy "why are you messaging me?", he would say "he doesn't know if there's something there but if God speaks he will be ready". Then he would withdraw for two days then resurface again when it seemed like all was clear. This went on for a month plus and all the while it seemed I was catching feelings for him (mistake number two in situationships is when you catch feelings for someone who hasn't shown that he/she is worthy of your heart and would keep your heart safe).

The only good thing about this 'situation' was that I stayed accountable to a friend because I knew I had entered into my marriage season. God had spoken to this friend to tell me not to put all my eggs in one basket so to speak. He said that I was in a marriage season but it was also like an election season. Multiple men may come to me but I like Samuel should wait to choose the best man for the position. So I still went on dates with other guys trying to get to know them and

know if they were God's choice for me, leaving behind the fact that I had a 'situation' in my life. Well, that turned out to be one of the best decisions I ever made because fast forward another two months later, this guy was telling me he wasn't ready.

But before we get to two months later, I must tell us the drama that led us there.

So like I said, he would reach out to me all the time, then I'd ask him what he wants and he would withdraw then come back after a few days etc. etc. It got to a point, I had called him and re-established contact after one of his disappearances, then he wanted to turn that into me praying together with him daily. Remember that it started platonically with spiritual stuffs. He wanted us to go on a daily call, calling me even at 3am at night and saying it's because I am a pastor.

What pastor agrees to a call for prayer at 3am with a man just for a platonic relationship? And daily?

I remember one day this came to a head. He called me to pray and then as we finished, I said I missed him and he started acting all dodgy. He said someone was

calling his name, then said 'it's my father' (clear lies, wouldn't you know your father's voice from the beginning?), he ended the call and left. I remember laying on the floor that day, crying to God and saying this isn't what I want God. I want someone who is sure of me. I don't want someone who is shady with me. It felt like God told me to ask him outright, 'what do you want?'. I asked and that was when he told me 'I have feelings for you but I don't have money'. We spoke and I said I don't care about money, that's not the first thing I'm looking for in a man". Then he said he doesn't want me to live a hard life, in other words, its him not me. We left the conversation at that but we had cause to meet physically a few weeks later and he started trying to call me again, sharing his itinerary with me etc. He did this one day and I just couldn't resist showing my displeasure. I was like "what exactly do you want? Why are you calling me?". He started apologizing and then I asked some hard questions again. Do you have any intentions? He again came up with the 'I don't have money thing'. I again said that isn't my priority, then he said he would pray about it.

Almost one week later he had not come back with an answer. I woke up from a dream on choosing a spouse one morning and as I prayed, I felt like “ask this guy for an answer now so you don’t keep waiting”.

I asked him what’s up? What is the answer? And he said *“I don’t need to be in a relationship when I have no money. Feel free”*.

All I could say was thank you Jesus! Thank you Jesus that I did not allow this guy to waste my time. Thank you Jesus that I pressed for an answer as I was led to, because if this guy didn’t give me an answer for three weeks, is that how I would have been waiting for him to get back to me, hanging my life for a person who had no intentions from the start?

P.S: This guy was engaged and married a few months later.

## **LESSONS FROM THIS SITUATIONSHIP**

**1: My first lesson would actually be on my own mistake. I allowed myself to think something more from someone who had never verbally expressed interest in me.**

Lesson 101 in staying safe from situationships? Take my advice and do not let your heart catch feelings; seeing a man in your future who hasn't verbalized to you that he is interested in you. You save yourself from a lot of undue hurt by doing that.

No man, no matter how shy he is, would not be able to vocalize his desire and intention if he wants a woman. See the handwriting on the wall for what it is, if he wants you, he will make his intentions clear. Until then, stay safe and don't build castles on your head for him. Don't imagine yourself with him in your marital home, don't place his surname behind yours, daydreaming of what could be that is not and neither is the person in question approaching you for a relationship. Deal with his silence on the matter and his actions that aren't clear as nothing except he vocalizes what he wants with you. Stay safe!

## **2: I wish I had been very firm with this guy from the beginning:**

As a woman in ministry, I was amazed at how this guy wanted to exploit my "anointing" so to speak.

How could he tell me that he had nothing in mind but prayer, when he was waking me up daily, early in the morning to pray for him? Sometimes 3am in the morning and I stupidly went ahead because I thought maybe we had something together and I can bend and give more allowance to him than I would usually do to a guy. And this guy totally pleaded innocence in the matter. That he simply wanted prayer. At 3am in the morning? Daily? I fear some untrained Christian brothers.

But it was my own fault, I should have been firm and clear from the beginning that I do not give such time allowance to people I am helping when it comes to ministry. I help and counsel you for maybe that time period we meet, not giving you my whole time. What woke me up was his shady behavior on that call when I said “I miss you”. He knew what he was doing. That day was my wakeup call and I messaged him and told him this prayer calls have to stop. I can’t give you time that I should be giving to only my husband. And he still feigned like he didn’t understand.

***Lord, help us fear these unprocessed and unrefined and shady brothers!***

So be firm in your approach in your relationships. Know what you want and what you don't want and draw a firm boundary line. He wants to talk to you daily, he wants your time etc., and has done this for a month plus without stating what he wants from you? Perhaps it's time to politely ask the right questions and firmly state what you would allow or not allow when it comes to relationships or in this case "situationships".

### **3: Set Standards:**

After his shadiness on the call, I went to God and I said "this isn't what I asked of and from you Lord. I asked that my husband come sure about me. Sure and ready actually".

I had a journal where I had written this down that I didn't want a man who would come dilly dally with me. I wanted a man of God who had perhaps settled it in his heart that I am his wife before coming to me. I wanted him to be sure, certain and clear that I am his own so there is no degree of confusion of 'does he want me or does he not want me' when he comes.

So you must have and set standards, preferably before the relationship/situationship arrives.

What have you asked from God? Be clear. Be specific about it and don't settle for less.

#### **4: Move on quickly:**

When the guy finally spoke and said he isn't ready, of which my friend said it really wasn't money that was his problem, because he was given the option of building together and he still walked away... but when he said those words, my response was "thank you Jesus" and then I moved on quickly.

I did ask the Lord to heal any lingering pain or offense in my heart at the situation but I also knew that I was in a marriage season and the more time I spend with the wrong one, the farther the right one would be from me. I needed to release quickly and look forward to the right one God has for me.

When you get out of a situationship – which you can hurry along by asking the right questions on time – do not stay there regretting what has just happened.

Whether you contributed to it or not by your actions,

forgive yourself, forgive the person and move on quickly.

### **5: Have an accountability partner on your dating journey:**

I can't begin to tell you the great help my friend who was praying with me about my choice of a kingdom spouse and who I was open to did for me.

I told her everything happening and because she wasn't involved in the situation, she could step back and see things from a clear perspective and advise me based on that. She smelled foul play even when I was making excuses for this guy because I was already catching feelings for him.

She could see clearly what this guy was doing because she wasn't involved in the situation and was able to guide me with godly counsel on the matter.

Also, I took her advice. I weighed it and wasn't being obstinate. I truly needed guidance and in the multitude of counsel I stayed safe.

Who can you tell when these things come into your life and stay accountable to? Find them and open up to them. Let them guide you with the benefit of clear perspective. Be willing to be open and receive their counsel even when your own feelings and sentiments is wont to make a mistake. Counsel is powerful.

Finally, I would say, stay safe. Again, if a guy hasn't asked you out or verbally said that he wants to have a relationship with you, then stay safe by assuming nothing. God keep your heart safe in these streets!

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **THE ONE WHO SAID HE WAS LEARNING CHRIST FROM ME**

This was one situationship that was very confusing for me because I truly thought I had “found” the one.

Immediately after the other guy I shared about in chapter 1 said he wasn’t ready, I said ‘thank you Jesus’ then I proceeded to keep firing my prayers for my marital destiny and meeting my husband.

Now, something else had actually happened before my asking the guy in chapter 1 what was his intention that led to him saying he wasn’t ready. I had a dream where God showed me one of the things I was experiencing on the way to my marital destiny was that of multiple guys coming around me and the need to rely on him to choose right.

My husband as God has shown me is a David. God had given me specifics about who this man is in scripture etc. etc. So I had things/characteristics from God to look out for. So immediately after this situationship, I was at a host place at Dar es Salam Tanzania where I met a young man. This meeting wasn't planned. In fact, my host simply said her visitor wanted to say hi to her guest, she called me out, me and this gentleman shook hands and the next thing was we found ourselves speaking for six hours straight. As strangers at our first meeting, this seemed so strange (in a good way) as well as it feeling like "we were kindred spirits". I kept wondering "what just happened?" I felt, its either this guy is my husband or we are just friends. Either ways, this has never happened before in my life; to meet someone and have such a rapport with them.

We continued speaking and would speak for hours including at night time. Me, I was busy catching some type of emotions. *Oh he is calling me, maybe he likes me, maybe he is interested.*

My mistake number one was when I asked him and he said "let's keep it rolling; let's just see how it goes". I nodded my head and continued. No, I should have said

“you go pray, let me go pray, let’s see what this is before all these night calls and long hours of phone conversation etc.”

Anyways, we continued until about a month later I was going to go back to Dar es Salam for a meeting but we also planned to meet one another. I confided in a sister, ‘this and this is going on in my life, let’s pray and ask God if this is the one” and after that prayer, things began to go haywire. I couldn’t reach the Mr man for some days. He wasn’t picking his calls. He later said he was sick but I wondered in that time if that was it. Because the day before we had just had a conversation on the ‘thing’ between us. He said “he thought this was “more” between us” (another mistake, what is more? Define more?). I also stupidly nodded my head. Actually, I was thinking when we see one another we would sort out this “more”. Oh the heart palpitations I put myself through unnecessarily when this thing is actually so simple! A man doesn’t need to be cajoled to state that he wants you *if* he wants you.

Guess what? That was in June 2023, I am writing this in October 2023, we still haven’t seen one another since then.

What happened then?

When he finally resurfaced, *oga* said he was sick. No problem. But in addition to that, he said he had nothing on his mind, he was just “learning Christ” through our conversations together. His life wasn’t in a state where he could make big life decisions right now.

My heart felt pain!

In the moment though, I nodded and we said our byes on the phone call (thinking of it now, that was the last time we spoke on call).

After the moment though, the “unfairness” of the whole situation dawned on me. How can he say he was “just learning Christ”? When we would talk for hours and even talk late into the night? Which of my disciples or mentees do I do that with??

What about him saying he thought there was “more” between us? Has he forgotten all that too?

I felt pain for a while. And even worse, I couldn’t call back to share all these with him because after all he never asked me out! I brought all these on myself.

I also felt denial rising up in me. Maybe he would call me back and apologize. I mean, we had something so good together, I have never met someone and felt such a kindred spirit with them. It took me a while to get over this situationship but thankfully not for long.

I would share a few things God taught me through this situation below.

### **1: To keep my heart right:**

Now, there was not only this situationship with this guy, there was also a matter of a rumor that almost tainted my name at the time, yes in faraway Dar es Salam Tanzania. As I said, it seemed like the guy had disappeared at a time, I needed to get something from him so I went on my own detective journey to find out what was going on. I decided to pray about the situation first (this is so important) asking God for light so I make the right decisions and not jump into conclusions (he had disappeared at this time. He later said he was sick). I remember praying and reading the scriptures and getting to this place in Matthew 18 that said:

<sup>35</sup> *“So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”*

*-Matthew 18:35 (please read from verse 22 for context)*

And the Holy Spirit specifically ministered to my heart to forgive G and to send him a message of forgiveness, and not drag the issue. Whatever it was, whatever had happened, God said *forgive*.

Now, this was before he resurfaced and said he was learning Christ.

I realized that in this situation, I was going through a heart test. God Himself was trying and searching my heart. The day he surfaced to say he was learning Christ, I remember bending in prayer to God and feeling an approval from God that said “hey Hephzibah, you’ve done good in this situation”.

No matter what have gone on in some of your situationships, you must never hold that person hostage in your heart. Again, situationships are simply situations that attempt to stop you from the real thing God has for you, if you stay stuck there where it

happened in pain, unforgiveness, bitterness and anger, you just may be stopping the one who God has for you that's right around the corner from coming to you.

Now listen, when a situationship that gives you pain happens, trust God for healing, forgive and move on (we will speak about healing later on in this book).

**2: Have Standards:** One of the reasons why I entered into this situationship was as a result of a lack of setting and keeping to my standards. When the guy said "let's just keep things rolling and see where we are going", I should have quickly told him I wasn't up for that. It is better we have clarity from the beginning, if it takes us stopping the constant communication, you going to pray and I also, then let's do that instead. This was my standard but I never said it to him. I believe we should set standards of what we would allow and not allow in our love life and stick to them even when we meet a new person because it never ends well when we decide to break those standards and bend to fit someone else's definition of how our lives should go.

So if you do not yet have standards for how you want the progression of your love life to go, please set them now when you are clear and eagle eyed and not blinded by emotions. Stop and write them as you are reading this book right now.

Some guidelines:

- What would you define as a “talking stage” for you? Is it getting to know one another by talking every day for six months to know if they are “the one”? Can you only deal with a few short dates just to get to ascertain if this is the one you want?
- At what stage do you ask the question to be sure of their intentions if they aren’t forth coming with it?
- Would this situationship have “relationship benefits” like the praying together my first situationship had? Talking into midnight like my second had? Buying gifts for one another? Visiting their houses? How would you keep this platonic enough and clear enough that you are not giving relationship benefits to one who hasn’t committed to you?

- Have a code for stepping out of the way as soon as things are made clear that this isn't the one for you. Purpose in your heart to forgive any hurt quickly and easily and move on.

### **3: If you can maintain a friendship with them after the fact, do so:**

I and situationship guy number two actually still had a working friendship/acquaintance for a while (I later just deleted his number and stopped communicating with him because I didn't see the need).

I never really told him the extent of how his actions hurt me, but since I had forgiven him, I would actually reach out to check on him and him on me. This guy had issues in his life and I now know he is someone I can't date but somehow with the love of God inside me, I was able to extend him grace without looking for anything in return though I know that he isn't my husband.

You also can extend grace to a man without the tag of thinking he is your husband. We will talk about 'naming men' in another part of this book, still on wisdom on navigating situationships. But I want you

to know that you can and should move on after a situationship without bitterness in your heart. That person may not be your husband but who knows? He may have a good business head on his shoulder and can help you in other ways. Forgive, keep your heart clean and if it's just friendship it ends up being, then so be it!

## **CHAPTER 3**

### **LET'S TALK ABOUT 'TALKING STAGE'**

There's this talk and constant debate online for how long a talking stage should last. Talking stage is defined as the time between when two people start getting to know one another, to before things get defined between them. Some say that this stage should last for as long as four months or more; four months of spending your time constantly talking to one person (where we know relationships and feelings are fueled by constant communication), forging and solidifying bonds with someone who isn't in a committed relationship with you, never sure of where you and the person stands but going on anyway because we are in a "talking stage" and this is allowed.

My honest opinion is that; it doesn't have to take up to four months for you to know if someone is relationship material or not. Most of the time we are staying in these talking stages based on imaginations

in our minds as to what actually we are into. We build castles in our heads of an imaginary relationship when this person has never asked us out or have never said yes to our proposal. Maybe they are using you to fill space, maybe they think you could be the one for them but you aren't the one for them yet. Nevertheless, they haven't asked you out in a committed relationship and your imaginations cannot stop that heart break from coming when they cease communications with you or withdraw for whatever reason, etc. etc. You cannot even grieve the relationship because it wasn't really a relationship anyway.

So what is the right way to run "talking stages?"

**1: Realize that except a person expressly asked you out and you accepted, you are not in a relationship with them:**

Get this into your heart. One of the things that cause us hurt is the imaginations we have during talking stages. Nothing is certain here. This guy hasn't asked you out yet, he hasn't come out clear on whether he wants you or not so you cannot let your heart run away with you. Keep it strong, steady and reasonable. Keep your heart in tight reins and don't go catching

emotions for someone who isn't worthy of it. Let the level of commitment you give be equivalent to the level of commitment you received. Do not give boyfriend privileges to talking stages; set boundaries with your heart especially for us women. Yes, you are getting to know one another but you don't owe them nothing and they don't owe you nothing also. Keep your heart steady, clear and calm.

**2: Understand that talking stages are for getting to know one another so as to know if you can be in a relationship with this person:**

To be honest, some talking stages shouldn't even run beyond more than a month. How many conversations does it take to hear a person's heart shine through? How many conversations does it take to hear a person's value system shine through as they talk to you? If you approach talking stages with the mindset of "I am getting to know this person so I can know if there can be more between us", you won't run away with your emotions with them, you will keep your eyes and heart open for things God may be revealing as you relate with one another – either bad or good

things – so you can make a well informed decision on whether to move ahead with them or not.

### **3: Realize that that talking stages do not have to be so long:**

Honestly, I feel four months is a long time to be on a talking stage with someone. What do you want to know about them that you can't know in a month?

Let's take for example that you do four months talking stage three times in a year with no results, that's a whole year with no results in the area of relationships. Why waste your time that way?

Set standards for how long your talking stages should last, what you would take and what you would not take in that time frame, questions you would ask as you are getting to know them, what sort of wisdom is going to guide you at this time. Set standards for this.

I must also mention that this stage would be easier if you actually have a kind of guideline from the Lord on characteristics your spouse should have. I have a book titled '*Prayers for your future husband*' (you should get it if you haven't) and one of the things we see is

how God would actually reveal stuff about your future husband or in this case future spouse to you as you pray for them, whether you have met them or not. God is the revealer of secrets, the One who tells us things to come.

*“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”*

**-John 16:13**

So God as a good Father can give you secrets of your spouse, something to look out for such as when these people come to you, in talking stages, you can actually quickly point out by the Spirit of God, ‘this one doesn’t have it or this one is it’. Discernment comes from what God has told you. You can’t and you shouldn’t do this without God’s direction and voice guiding you on. He can guide you down the straightway so you aren’t always crying from heartbreaks that could have been avoided.

Also spend time seeking God for this. What and what should I be looking for in the spouse who should be

my own? Show me Lord. And He will. Write it down as that can guide you through talking stages and save your time!

#### **4: Don't be afraid to ask questions:**

I woke up from a dream on April 27<sup>th</sup> 2023, a clear dream of God speaking to me about my choice of a spouse. At the time I was in situationship number one in this book and I had gone to bed tossing and talking to God, asking him if this man was my husband because I felt that he had been given multiple chances to step up and he never did. So I asked God questions, I slept and God graciously spoke to me the same night.

When I woke up from that dream (which I share in my upcoming book on “Making the choice for a kingdom spouse”) with the Holy Spirit urging me to again ask this guy for the last time what he wants from me and make sure I get an answer. This guy had been dilly dallying wasting my time. I asked that day as the Holy Spirit urged me and that was how he became plain saying “I am not ready”. And “thank you Jesus” was my response.

The point is if I hadn't asked that man that question at the time, he may have kept dilly dallying, wasting my time.

Don't be afraid to gauge the time of a talking stage and ask the right questions that either takes things further or breaks things up and either is great because you will not waste your time.

If you are talking with someone who is giving all the feel of relationship – constant communication, dates etc. – and it has been going on for a while, at least a month or something and they still show no signs of commitment with you, then ask questions. What are we doing? What are your intentions? What do you want from me?

If they want more, they would step up and if they don't, then they would step out. Either decisions it ends up being, accept it, move on and don't waste more time.

## **5: Set standards:**

I have said this before but it bears repeating again. Set standards for what you want. What have you asked

God for? Is this what you want? An endless talking stage with someone who is not committed to you and it is drawing on and on and on? Is this really what you want from God? If your goal is marriage at this time of your life, then the journeys you are taking should be the ones leading you to your goal. So don't be afraid to have your standards and state them clearly when it is looking like this person may not be on same wavelength with you.

If you are in a stage where your relationships are ones you want to lead to marriage then don't be afraid to state that to the person on the other end of the talking stage and if it's not their cup of tea, fine also. Believe them when they tell you what they think and don't waste time in moving on if it's not your cup of tea. Please believe them when they tell you their opinions and decisions and don't pine for what isn't. Your man is around the corner.

**6: Finally, realize that it doesn't take time for a man to choose you if he wants you:**

Listen, the same four months of talking stage you wanna do and argue with your life is the timeline for a man to know if he wants a relationship with you is the same timeline it takes for some people, to date, court and proceed to marriage and I kid you not!

Gosh! So many supernatural marriage testimonies of this kind abound. When a man wants you, he wants you and would do what he needs to get you without dilly dallying around. He would be a man on a mission, making it clear that he wants you, sees you as his wife and wants to go to the altar with you.

Honestly it doesn't take time, it just takes clarity and intention. So go for what you deserve. You deserve love that is clear about you, certain about you and follows it up with actions to make you theirs for real.

Don't accept less when you can have stable, secure love that values you and makes sure you know it by putting a ring on your finger. It doesn't take endless talking stages for a man to decide that he wants you, when a man knows he knows, so don't allow anyone to waste your time with excuses.

## **CHAPTER 4**

### **NAMING A MAN**

Not every man who comes to you is your husband; you have to name them appropriately.

In Genesis chapter 2, God's announcement of Adam needing a mate was followed up by Him bringing different animals for Adam to name and watching silently behind the scene to see what Adam called them. Scripture says that without God Himself telling Adam the names, Adam named them according to what was in God's heart for them and it was so. Adam did not name a dog a wife or a cat his helper. He didn't also name a chimpanzee his ride and die for life. No. He named the animals as they were – animals. He didn't even know who He was looking for as a helper because there was no reference point for him yet. Remember that this was the case of the first man and wife. Still, he

could discern (which was the test God was putting before him) and was able to say, ‘this one is this and this one is that’ even without hearing an “audible” voice from God.

*“For God may speak in one way, or in another, Yet man does not perceive it. In a dream, in a vision of the night, When deep sleep falls upon men, While slumbering on their beds, Then He opens the ears of men, And seals their instruction. In order to turn man from his deed, And conceal pride from man, He keeps back his soul from the Pit, And his life from perishing by the sword.”*

***Job 33:14-18 NKJV***

Would you be able to discern God’s voice about a man that’s standing right before you? Would you be able to name them accordingly as they are in God’s heart in relation to you? If God looks down on you today and brings maybe 20 men your way? Would you be able to discern and be able to say “this one is a friend or this one is a business partner, or this one is an acquaintance? What’s your spiritual antenna like?

*“But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.”*

*-Hebrews 5:14, NKJV*

This decision of a spouse is solid food. Are you given to discernment in your spiritual senses to be able to tell “this one should go with me and this one should not?”

Sometimes we are actually needless casualties of the dating scene all because we cannot discern. We should be like a dog in the Spirit, with an ability to smell things from afar. Smell the rotten meat, smell the tasteless food, smell the wrong motive, smell the lust, smell the deceit, smell the ‘taking you on a jolly ride’ even without them saying it. Smell it because your spiritual senses are awake and alert. And when we can’t or we don’t discern, we fall prey to pain that could have been avoided.

Today I challenge you to seek and ask the Lord concerning any man that comes your way before opening up your life to him. Ask the Lord:

Who is this man?

Is this someone that I should be going with? Is he just a friend? Am I meant to just be a spiritual, career, academic etc. help in his life?

What should I name him?

Lord reveal this man to me, does he have any ulterior motive? Is he clean? Clear? Should I proceed or not?

Sometimes it may seem like God isn't saying anything when you ask these questions, it simply means you should watch and pray. That is, proceed with caution, pray but at the same time as you pray, watch the life circumstances, situations etc. that may point to God's answer to and for you.

In scripture we see God giving commendation about men.

He said this of David:

*“And when He had removed him, He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, ‘I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will.’*

*-Acts 13:22, NKJV*

*New King James Version*

He said this of Barnabas:

*“Barnabas was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord.”*

*-Acts 11:24*

*Berean Standard Bible*

He said this of Nathaniel:

*“Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!”*

*-John 1:47*

He said this of Stephen:

*“And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people.”*

*-Acts 6:8*

God has commendation about men and if you ask Him, He will tell you who exactly this man is in his sight. You would know from the mouth of the One who created him, what this man is like in God's sight. This commendation you can stand and bank on. This commendation you can let influence whether you would name this man your husband or not.

Ask questions in prayer.

Then pay attention as the life situations and circumstances play out.

Watch and pray.

Discern according to the facts God put before you.

Then name your man accordingly.

And Adam said:

*"And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man."*

*-Genesis 2:23 New King James Version (NKJV)*

## **CHAPTER 5**

### **SET STANDARDS**

I remember laying on the floor in prayer to God the day I perceived the first situationship guy was playing pranks with me. I was praying to God. And the content of my prayer was 'Lord this is not what I want, this is not what I asked for'.

You see, I had a list of things I had written down concerning my husband and what type of man I wanted. I wanted this man to be sure of me when he comes, without going through the rigors of 'am I sure or am I not sure about you?'"

I wanted clarity from the get go; that this man was coming on to me because he was sure with full conviction from God that I am his wife even before he starts pursuing me. I didn't want what others go through when in the middle of the journey, the man would pull out citing 'I am not sure you are my wife'.

Coupled with my past and being with men who were *wishy washy* concerning me, I have a bit of trauma there so my requests concerning the man who would be my husband had ‘clarity and certainty concerning me as his wife’ one of the very first things I wrote down that I wanted to see in him. So when this guy started acting all shady, I went back to God, ‘I don’t want this’. And God’s response to me was to ask the man questions that would clarify his intentions and what he thought concerning me. And we know how that went from the very first chapter of this book.

The point here from this story is set standards even before you get into a relationship with the one you are aiming to marry. *Decide before you decide* were words sista Bidemi Mark Mordi shared with us at our ministry meeting in year 2018. When you are in the thick of a decision point in your life is not the time to start deciding what you want to do. Especially in the area of relationships. If you do not set standards before going in, then standards would be set for you and they won’t be what you want.

There’s a way the thrill of being in a new relationship, meeting a new person and getting to know them etc.

can get you all up in your head to the point that you don't even know how to separate fantasy from reality. Recognizing this and setting standards before the fact prevents your head from being up in the clouds, such that when you see something you had expressly said and written down that you don't want, you can go back and correct same.

Setting standards does not mean that you do not want to be loved; it simply means that you want to be loved in a way that is healthy for you and there is nothing wrong about that. Setting standards for example about premarital sex before you get into a relationship, keeps an alarm bell ringing in your head when that standard is about to be crossed. If you don't like something, then keep it away from you. Don't pretend to like what you cannot contain.

So also when it comes to the matter of being in a situationship or not, set standards. What do you want?

First, tell God what you want. Make it plain. Make it clear. For me, I already said I have trauma in this area so it was pretty important to me that the man God sent my way had clarity about me from the get go. I didn't want to deal with the self-esteem issues that arise from

when a man dilly dallies with me so my request, first to God in this area was clear.

What do you want in a marital relationship? Do you want a man who comes to toy with your emotions? At this point in your life, what would work or not work for you in a relationship leading to marriage? Make that clear to God. Write it down. Pray it to God. Then write it down as a list also now that you are clear headed. Let alarm bells ring in your head when a man comes who is breaking that standard you want for yourself.

For example, let's say you are 40 years old. And you have told God you are ready for a relationship leading to marriage. If a man comes your way who from discussions with him you know he isn't in that head space to settle down in a marital relationship, or maybe he wants to settle down in five years but you want to settle down in a year, that should ring a bell that 'this isn't what you want'. If having conversations and trying to come to a consensus doesn't work, then you should know what to do to move out of there and trust God to bring you a man who ties in with where you presently are in life.

Setting standards also ensures that you aren't wasting time on the wrong person when the right one is just ahead if only you would just wait a little more. Don't be afraid to wait if God says so. I'm telling you, *waiting isn't wasting*. Waiting isn't wasting your time. Wasting your time is being in a situationship or even a relationship with the wrong person going nowhere and after all you've done, you still end up at square one with no headway to show for it. Your life isn't a dress rehearsal.

Set standards. Speak them to God. God is able to meet them in the person He brings you and even do exceedingly, abundantly, above all you ask of Him as He said in His word in Ephesians 3:20.

Just make sure those standards aren't unreasonable. But when it comes to how you want to be treated, the kind of intentional man you want to make his way to you, time frame for what you want depending on where you are in life, the level of commitment to the next level from the man you want to go on a marital journey with, set standards for those using even what you've experienced in the past as a booster for the now and then move in that direction.

If you don't have a bird in hand, don't delude yourself that you have it. Be very clear and realistic in analyzing this "ship" you are in, in line with the standards you set and trust God to decide accordingly if it's worth staying in or not.

One thing I know; God would always answer you when you cry out to Him for help when you are confused. He is your Father and you are His princess. He knows how He wants you to be treated and what should come to you in your marital journey. If you aren't getting that and feel antsy inside you, then don't ignore it. Ask God in line with His standards for you what you should do and He would tell you.

## CHAPTER 6

### GOD'S STANDARDS FOR YOU

For I, the one who struggled with low self-esteem issues from relationships that didn't treat me right in my younger years, just one statement from God served to set me free from thinking I wasn't good enough for a man.

The year was 2020. I had a situation where I thought this man was my husband (I share this story here on my YouTube channel). At the time I felt really small in achievement compared to what this man had achieved. It felt like, what do I have to offer? He has this, he has that, what do I have to offer? I remember the Holy Spirit stopping me and saying two things to me:

1: *"Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, But a woman who fears the*

*LORD, she shall be praised."*

*-Proverbs 31:30*

The question was, 'do you fear God?'

Yes.

Then you are more than enough for this man as a wife. That's the standard of beauty and what you bring to the table according to the Lord.

2: He said, "are you good enough for Jesus?'

Yes.

Then you are good enough for any man.

God's standard for the way a man should treat you is Himself. When you actually think about setting standards regarding not allowing situationships in your life and how you want a man sure and certain about you, a marriage minded man who would take you to the altar as his intentions concerning you, the standard actually should be Jesus.

How does Jesus treat you as His bride?

He loved you enough, so much so that He pursued you with everything He had which was literally His life. He left heaven to make His home on the earth because He wanted you.

He shed His blood and died such a shameful death because He wanted you.

He went to hell for three days because He wanted you.

He fought demons, took shame, insults, beatings, was spat on, hung on the cross, simply because He wanted you.

He died and won back the right for our freedom and when we still don't accept Him, He comes for us by sending laborers to preach the gospel to us because He chose us.

No matter what we do, He holds His hand open to us, never making us doubt that He wants us.

There is no doubt in God's mind that we are the object of His love and affection. He makes us know this and would do anything and go to any lengths to make us His own.

God loves us as evidenced by His sending Jesus for us. He leaves no doubt as to His intentions concerning us in His mind. He sets His mind and heart on us and says “I want this one as my wife” and does everything to make it exactly so.

Do you see why you should never allow anyone to toy with your emotions? If you are good enough for Jesus – and you are – then you are good enough for any man!

No one should make you feel like an option. You are *the* option. You are God’s choice and also your husband’s choice. The one who God has for you would treat exactly as God does; He would choose you, see you as the object of his love and affection and set his sights on you to make you his wife. He would commit to you.

Stop entertaining a man who isn’t sure about you, taking you on a merry go round while you wait for him to come to his senses.

The balance to this spiritually is that sometimes a man or even a woman is blind to who may be their spouse. And this isn’t a conversation for this book; it is a conversation for my book titled *Ripe Marital Promises*.

But what we do when we contend with our marital promises includes praying for your God-given spouse's eyes to see you. If the reason why they aren't sure is because they haven't gotten revelation, then God would sort that out in the spiritual areas of things. But when it comes to the physical side of things where it seems like he is playing with you by moving in and out of your life without commitment, playing with your heart? That's not God's standard for you or how He wants you to be treated. Set your standards according to how Jesus treats you. So you may actually have to dig into the word of God to see His truth concerning you and how He sees you to know how a man should see and treat you.

You are God's princess and God is so sure that He wants you. Rejection or someone toying around you romantically is not God's plan or best for you.

## **HOW TO DEAL WITH REJECTION**

Rejection also comes as a byproduct of dealing with situationships over and over again. You can begin to wonder 'why am I not good enough for anyone?' but

that's a lie from the pit of hell because if you are good enough for Jesus, God Himself, you are good enough for any man.

The opposite of rejection is favor.

## THE ESTHER FAVOR

*"The king loved Esther more than all  
the other women, and she obtained  
grace and favor in his sight more than  
all the virgins; so he set the royal crown  
upon her head and made her queen  
instead of Vashti."*

*-Esther 2:17*

When God heals you from rejection and the wound situationships have done to you, He would introduce something else to your mind called the advantage of favor. You see, what those men who treated you like an

option did to you is to make you feel like you are not worth being chosen by a man. But that's not true. You have favor that has been put upon you by the Lord and this favor is of the Esther type of favour. A favor that sees you as *the option*, not an option. This favor causes a man to see you as the best choice he can ever make in his life. This favor upon you does not require you to beg for attention, it's on you so when your husband sees you, this favor causes him to choose you above all others.

Deliverance is on both spiritual, mental and physical plane. Spiritually God breaks whatever may be a barrier but mentally there was a thought that was sponsoring the entrance of satan into your mind. Those thoughts of rejection believe it or not may be what is sponsoring your continually meeting men who do not give a hoot about you. So you must replace thoughts of rejection with thoughts of favor.

**Say this after me:**

*I am God's choice.*

*I am good enough for God, therefore I am the best choice any man can ever make in his life as his wife.*

*I am chosen by the man God has chosen as my husband.*

*My husband sees me, knows me and prefers me above all others.*

*I am not an option to him, I am the best choice he can ever make as his wife and he knows this.*

*My husband chooses me, prefers me, pursues me, places the royal crown on my head and makes me his wife just as Jesus does.*

*And so shall it be in Jesus name, amen.*

You can modify this confession with your own words and speak this over yourself daily till you notice that even subconsciously your mindset about yourself has changed and is now the mindset of God about you.

## **CHAPTER 7**

### **AN INTENTIONAL MAN**

When I was going through the second situationship, I had a sister I stayed accountable to; I had asked her to pray over and with me concerning my marital destiny (it had been a battle previously to get into my marital destiny so when God announced a new marital season for me I needed some who could pray and agree with me in this season of my life).

So when she started praying over me I stayed accountable to her. When this situation arose and started having twists and turns I also stayed accountable to her.

I remember when the guy told me he wasn't in a place in his life to be able to make life changing decisions, I told her his response also. She said to me that she didn't think God would bring me a man who wasn't ready to make a marital decision right now. She said

when David comes (the prototype of the man God promised me is a David), David would be ready to make me his wife, today, tomorrow. Meaning he would be ready right now, all things being equal, to make me his woman. I argued with her a bit because I was truly into this guy and not only that, I wanted to make excuses for this guy. I was trying to keep my heart pure but my head wasn't being rational. It took someone outside me to see through it and tell me the truth, she also being married and had passed through her own story so she knew what she was trying to tell me about an intentional man.

The truth is that the man God has for you would not *dilly dally* about you. I know as women, we tend to want to make excuses for men, trying to see which way and that way, *no he didn't mean it like that, yes let me give him a little time to make up his mind*, etc. etc. But the truth is an intentional man is an intentional man. When a man comes with 'intention' about you, his intention is to make you his wife. His dating and courting you has a goal, and that goal is to end in marriage. He isn't playing you, his thoughts are thoughts of good and not evil towards you, to make you his wife. I'm chuckling as I used that scriptural

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passage here but it's the truth. An intentional man is an intentional man.

During this period of my second situationship, I had a dream about this young man. The interpretation of the dream wasn't a good one so I kind of wanted to discard it. Then I stumbled on a post by Jbums (Mrs Black on Instagram) talking about this very same thing. Basically she was talking about when a man doesn't have intention towards you and how he behaves, shuffling his feet, winking his eyes (it's actually a scripture I'd post at the end of this chapter). He knows this relationship is going nowhere at least in his mind, so his actions prove it. He gives you all the vibes of being in a relationship – calling, checking on you, even going so far as saying the magic words 'I love you' – but he never verbally asks you out or defines the relationship he has with you. He does this so when the matter turns into a problem that hits the roof, you would never be able to say 'he asked you out' when that question arises. He was shady from the beginning but unfortunately many women fall for this. Jbums went so far as to say she thinks if a woman has to ask the question of 'what are we doing?' then that relationship is headed nowhere. I understand and

agree with her logic but I also know some of these types of situationships have moved ahead to relationships that led to marriage when that question was put on the table. But if that question was asked, and the man hedges about, then you gotta do what you gotta do which is move on!

When I asked God about this guy also in this situationship lesson of an intentional man, I remember God saying to me, 'Hephzibah, this man is unstable as water'. In the words of scripture literally and he was! He would promise to call and he won't call, perform disappearing acts etc. God was saying, 'this one wasn't an intentional man, there is nothing for you there, Hephzibah, move on'. Thank God I heeded His voice.

Some of us have never experienced what it means for a man to want you and chose you so it's kind of hard when we come to this junction for you to be willing to see the signs and make decisions according to the signs that you see.

Even a shy man can speak. If a man wants you, no matter how shy he is he would make his intentions known to you. You don't have to guess or be uncertain about his intentions for you. If a man is sure about you

being his wife, he would go for what he wants. You don't have to put words in his mouth or wonder about what his actions mean. He would make both his actions and his words mean the same thing to you so you are sure that he wants you and you are who he wants and he wants to make that clear to you so no one snatches you before him!

When a man wants you he would tell you himself. He would make it clear to you. There won't be any ambiguity as to what He intends and what he wants from you.

No man would want a woman and still leave her there for the taking by another man. He wants to snatch you up before another man gets there before him. He wants to put a ring on it and let everyone know that you are his. And if he isn't doing any of that, then please resist the urge to make those decisions or say those words for him when he hasn't said them or wait for him to say them, placing your life on hold indefinitely. That's an unwise decision. An intentional man is an intentional man.

Sis, I'm sorry to say it so plainly but this is the truth and hopefully if you are self-deluding yourself about

the man around you, this can spur you to tell yourself the truth and be free.

I once had a situation of a man I thought was my husband as given confirmations by God to me. I truly believe I saw what I saw and heard what I heard from God with signs following but this man never made a move towards me in four years of this situation going on as it was. We had met physically and even had social media communications but he never said anything about a relationship towards me but still I waited. What set me free? Ruth chapter 1. We can watch that story on YouTube here.

But one of the scriptures God had shown me during that period was Acts chapter 9, Paul's story where God had sent Ananias to go meet Paul to lay his hands on him. At the other side, Paul had seen a vision of Ananias coming to lay his hands on him. God has spoken to the both of them about one another. There was confirmation and there was action. I noted on the side of my Bible that God would speak to I and my husband on both sides of the divide. If this is a marital relationship God is trying to bring together, both of us will hear and the man would take action by asking me

out and I would also take action by agreeing to his proposal. There would be agreement.

You also must settle this in your heart about the man God has for you to marry. He would be an intentional man, having heard God about marrying you and he would come ready to make you his wife. His proposal would be intentional about you, it wouldn't be a 'let's see how it goes', it would be a courtship seeking for the final destination to be marriage. Also, he would be verbally clear concerning this to you, not giving you mixed signals. His mouth wouldn't say anything and his actions another. An intentional man won't give you reasons to doubt his intentions concerning you, including making things clear so you know what he is up to concerning you. This he would do because his aim is to make you his wife and to build a future with you. Know this and know peace. Know this and make right decisions when you are in your marital season.

If you have to choose between your pie in the sky man who has never verbally confirmed that he wants you for a committed relationship leading to marriage and a man who has made things clear to you, yet you are

waiting for a mirage that may never happen... then please chose right.

A bird in hand is worth more than twenty in the bush proverb applies here. If you have a man who has made his intentions known, and you have one who you are hoping on and have never said anything to you in the way of proposal, please do not wait indefinitely because for all you know, you may not even be on that man's mind. The proposals you bring to the table before God in prayer, are proposals that are definite, clear and verbally said to you, not the one you are waiting on. I am saying this to avoid stories that touch.

Many women wait on a dream they have had for a man that may not even know them. Am I saying that God cannot reveal your man to you through a dream? Yes, He can but remember the story of Ananias we referenced above? The spiritual would always match the physical plus there would be confirmation between both parties on what God has spoken to them concerning one another and so if the man you saw in your dream isn't approaching you for a relationship, you may want to go back to God to determine what is going on and not stay waiting indefinitely for a man

that doesn't even know you exist neither is he considering you as a potential wife. If he was, he would say and if he doesn't say so, then please do not say it for him, make excuses for him or wait indefinitely for a pie in the sky wish. Move on.

Remember again an intentional man is an intentional man.

A word is enough for the wise.

*"Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord."*

*So the Lord said to him, "Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying.*

*And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting*

*his hand on him, so that he might receive his sight."*

*Then Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he has done to  
Your saints in Jerusalem.*

*And here he has authority from the chief priests to  
bind all who call on Your name."*

*But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel  
of Mine to bear My*

*name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel.*

*For I will show him how many things he must suffer  
for My name's sake."*

*And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and  
laying his hands*

*on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who  
appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me  
that you may receive your sight and be filled with the  
Holy Spirit."*

*Immediately there fell from his eyes something like  
scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose  
and was baptized. So when he had received food, he  
was strengthened. Then Saul spent some days with the  
disciples at Damascus. Immediately he preached the  
Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God."*

*-Acts 9:10-20*

*"A worthless person, a wicked man,  
Walks with a perverse mouth;  
He winks with his eyes, He shuffles his  
feet, He points with his fingers;  
Perversity is in his heart, He devises  
evil continually, He sows discord.  
Therefore his calamity shall come  
suddenly; Suddenly he shall be broken  
without remedy."  
-Proverbs 6:12-15*

## **CHAPTER 8**

### **IT WILL BE UNCOMPLICATED**

I had a dream in November 2023. In that dream I was with a young lady and we were talking together about kingdom marriages.

I found myself saying to her ‘it will be uncomplicated. Kingdom marriages 2023/2024.’ Then I high fived her and laughed, so excited. Then I woke up.

I searched for the meaning of uncomplicated. I saw it meant simple, not difficult. So God was saying these relationships and marriages that is for His kingdom would be simple, uncomplicated and not difficult.

Have you ever been in a difficult relationship that stressed your life, gave you trauma and still ended badly even with all you were doing to salvage things (of which it ending badly is God’s mercy to you).

Those type of relationships can give you a scar such that even when it’s time for God to give you the one

He has for you; you would have to do a work of healing to mentally agree with Him that this one is not that one of the past. That this relationship can be easy, stress less, full of peace and leading into the future He has for you.

There is a scripture in the Bible that aptly describes this.

*"Comfort, yes, comfort My people!" Says your God.*

*"Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, That  
her warfare is ended,*

*That her iniquity is pardoned; For she has received  
from the LORD's hand*

*Double for all her sins."*

*The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the  
way of the*

*LORD; Make straight in the desert A highway for our  
God.*

*Every valley shall be exalted And every mountain and  
hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made  
straight And the rough places smooth;*

*The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, And all flesh  
shall see it*

*together; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."*

*-Isaiah 40:1-5*

You can say that the topsy-turvy relationships you've encountered were crooked places on the way to your marriage; rough places that weren't straight that brought you heart ache and ended in heart break. But God here is saying that what I am going to bring to you now will be uncomplicated. It will be easy. It will be simple. It would lead directly to the goal of a kingdom marriage that I have for you.

I want you to believe it.

One of the results of God clearing out the way for you, removing obstacles, bringing mountains down, hills low and lifting valleys up is that a way has now been made for you to go through into your marital destiny.

Whatever was blocking the way that caused cycles of wrong relationships, relationships that threatened your peace, situationships that went nowhere and left you high and dry – whatever that was responsible for this whether spiritual or a lack of knowledge, maybe even your own fault by making wrong decisions, God says He has taken them out of the way. Now you must pray the word and declare the word (for spiritual deliverance) and also believe the word and get it into your heart and as your reality (for mental deliverance), do not allow yourself to think thoughts about the next relationship God is bringing into your life as one that would be the same and follow after the pattern of the last relationship you had. God has delivered you from that.

Your physical body must also follow the word you believe. That is what you think about your physical appearance also. You are beautiful, attractive and the one God has for you would love you wholly and chose you as the most beautiful woman God could have given to him. You are not a blockade on your own way. The word God has given must inform the way you think about your journey into your kingdom marriage from now on. He has said it would be easy.

He has said it would be uncomplicated. He has said it would not be difficult. Your role would now be to believe what God has said and let God's word frame your thoughts, mindset, thinking pattern and what you expect from the next beautiful relationship God is bringing your way. Do the work of healing from the past which includes keeping your heart pure, forgiveness, not letting your past painful bad experiences color the beautiful future God has for you.

Believe God and expect only the best.

*"Do not remember the former things, Nor consider the things of old.*

*Behold, I will do a new thing, Now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it?*

*I will even make a road in the wilderness And rivers in the desert.*

*The beast of the field will honor Me, The jackals and the ostriches, Because I give waters in the wilderness And rivers in the desert, To give drink to My people, My chosen. This people I have formed for Myself; They shall declare My praise."*

*-Isaiah 43:18-21*

Forgetting the former things is key to receiving the new thing God has for you. Let the painful bad experiences go. Trust God to do a work of healing in your heart (see next chapter) and keep your heart open, ready to receive the beautiful future God has for you.

Remember it will be uncomplicated and your marital story will bring God glory in Jesus name, amen!

## **CHAPTER 9**

### **DOING THE WORK OF HEALING AFTER A BROKEN SITUATIONSHIP**

I was very hurt at a particular season of my life. So hurt. My heart was broken and it wasn't from just a broken situationship, it was from a relationship I had entered into really thinking that this was it. But somewhere along the line, "it" got broken and we split ways. This is the first time I'd actually be writing this anywhere but not so much as sharing but because I want to share how God Himself helped me heal and helped me become better through that breakup.

First I had a dream one night after a conference session where the Holy Spirit had convicted me of my own part that had contributed to the breakup. Prior to this, I was so self-righteous, I didn't or couldn't see where I could have been wrong. God convicted me and I prayed for my heart, repented, went to bed that night and had a dream. In this dream I was in classroom

with other people and the teacher was looking for someone to sing “reckless love”. I volunteered to sing. After singing I found myself singing another song “He touched me, God touched me, oh what joy filled my soul, something happened and now I know, He touched me and made me whole”. Then I found myself laying my hands on my head, saying “my mind is whole, my emotions are whole”, praying. Then I woke up under the hand of the Holy Spirit. That was the beginning of my healing.

I stumbled later on a story of a woman of God who had also experienced heart break she didn’t understand before she met her husband and how God had spoken to her through the love of God scripture in Romans 8 (how nothing can separate us from the love of God) and how from that moment she prayed so much, those who would come to her house would have no option but to pray with her. She prayed so much and communed so much with God with all of her being, she didn’t have anything left and that was how her healing began. And she met her husband two months later in the midst of this (but that is an aside).

Sometimes we tend to brush off the fact that we are hurt without dealing with it but God says:

*“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden,  
and I will give you rest.”*

*-Matthew 11:28, NKJV*

Jesus wants to give you rest. He doesn't deny the fact that you are tired, that you've been through a heart break, that every situationship you've been through has chipped at a little piece of your heart till you now almost feel like you've gotten nothing left to give. Jesus wants to heal you; He is also the healer of broken emotions and broken hearts.

The first thing you must do in your journey to healing is not to just brush off what has happened. Admit that you are pained. Admit that you are hurt. Admit it to God. Talking to God is going to be a massive key in your journey to healing so make use of it. Tell God how you feel. Tell God how everything has weighed on you. Speak to Him. Do not hide that you are fine. He knows you are not.

Pray for your emotions. That dream I had is so instructive here. Wholeness is a state of total harmony in all of your body, soul and spirit. Jesus wants you whole. Your body maybe strong but your mind is in shambles, full of regret, pain, guilt and shame. Jesus doesn't want you to stay there, He wants to bring wholeness to you and its simple as you asking Him for this. This may be the time to put on worship music and sit before the Lord in worship, silence, tears and prayers, admit that you are broken, admit that these painful memories keep invading your mind and ask Jesus to make you whole. Sit, pray, cry if you will, pray in tongues if you feel the pain so deep you cannot express it in words. Do not skip this process.

Thirdly, actually allow God sift and convict you of your sin, fault or wrongs with this past relationship or situationship. You can journal through this process. What did you do wrong? What can you do better going forward into whatever new relationship God will bring into your life? Allow the Holy Spirit to assess you with His perspective as we can come out better refined people from every painful situation we have gone through. Was it that this person was an idol in your life? Was it that you made wrong decisions?

You forgot your standards? You didn't communicate well? You were proud and not humble? You were contentious and argumentative? Spoke out of turn? Can you work on your communication skills better? All these the Holy Spirit can work on you, convict you of and help you make right decisions to become a better person.

Release the gift of forgiveness after a break-up or ship gone wrong. Navigating the right blend of forgiveness, keeping your heart tender, while still keeping your heart tender for the future is one you have to trust the Holy Spirit to help you make. You don't want to allow pain make you hard-hearted. You want the Holy Spirit to still keep you tender even though you are in pain. That tenderness is what keeps your heart open even for future relationships. Release forgiveness. Give the gift of forgiveness. If you have to call their name in prayer, saying "I forgive you", do it. If telling them may ease things in your heart, you can send a message. Pray for them also, bless them not curse. These are hard but necessary for your complete healing.

Lastly, keep your heart open for true love. That one person hurt you doesn't mean that everyone will. Remember what I said about navigating tenderness of heart while going through pain? It is very possible for God to help you keep your heart tender, still believing in goodness in people, still holding out for your love story such that when the right person sent by God comes, you are not turning them away based on your hurt from the past.

Whatever you do, please do not skip this process. Heal before you close that chapter and move on to the next. It may be nerve racking and would see you being bare and vulnerable before God but do it.

*“The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart,  
And saves such as have a contrite spirit.”*

*-Psalm 34:18, NKJV*

He sees your pain and wants to help you heal. Let Him.

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Please also get this healing workbook and journal [here](#)



You need to do the work of healing, otherwise you will not be ready for the real kingdom man and relationship God is sending your way. This healing workbook and Journal will help you get ready for that which God has for you. It's a new day! Now, become the new you for the new day. Get the healing workbook and journal [here](#)

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## **CONCLUSION**

### **KINGDOM MARRIAGES 2023/2024**

I had a dream in November 2023. I was speaking with a lady who I high fived, laughed in excitement and said out loud “kingdom marriages 2023/2024. It will be uncomplicated”.

I looked for the meaning of uncomplicated and saw it means something that is simple and not difficult.

God saying 2023/2024 also gives a timeline that says some of these marriages may be relationships that started in 2023 and would be culminating in marriages in year 2024.

We are sitting in a time where words have gone on about God’s intention to connect His sons and daughters in their kingdom marriages for His glory.

What are kingdom marriages?

Kingdom marriages are marriages that have a purpose in God for the reason why they are put together. It is more than for just companionship, love or procreation but because God has a work He wants to do through these couples. There's a bigger purpose in view here.

I read through marriages like the one between Mary and Joseph, Ruth and Boaz, Isaac and Rebekah... marriages that were homes for children God gave that were in the lineage of Christ and in the case of Mary, Christ Himself. These marriages were for a purpose bigger than the couples themselves. They were drawn into the tide of the purpose of God being revealed for the salvation of the whole world. Oh what an honour!

For a kingdom marriage, even the children you birth isn't just for going to great schools, but they are children through whom God wants to reach out to save the world through them.

*"By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king's edict."*

*-Hebrews 11:23, NIV*

Your children from these marriages are special children; deliverers for their generation. God wants you use your marriage to do this upon the earth in this time.

I realize that we may have so many ideas on what these marriages may look like. Not all of them would be on stages; each would be with what God Himself has ordained for them to do whether silent or on stages. Do not judge the man or woman God brings you by a stereotype in your head modelled by social media or television. Whoever God brings to you and confirms to you as your spouse (and remember there would be agreement between you both) would be someone who is perfect for the call of God to be accomplished through both of your lives. Dave Meyer and Joyce Meyer for example, Dave works at the background and Joyce is the face, but you won't say he isn't a backbone for the call of God upon their lives though he is not on the stage. He is a rock solid influence on Joyce's life ministry and call. So you must judge from God's perspective as to the fit of the spouse He brings you and not hear kingdom marriage and think "it's a stage thing".

The last emphasis I would make is on the timing. God says this year 2024 kingdom marriages would break out upon the earth. If you have done your healing, yours can be one of them. Have hope, faith and trust to believe God again. But know that a prophecy and promise from God does not end there'; it must be processed to life. Meaning that you must wage a good warfare with prophecies to see them come to pass in your life.

*"This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare,"*

*-1<sup>ST</sup> Timothy 1:18, NKJV*

If you truly believe the word that God has spoken, you must prepare and get ready as a bride to be chosen by your king. You must be as the five wise virgins in Matthew 25 ready to go in when the bridegroom appears. Now is not the time to sleep without oil in your lamp. Oil which is a typography of the Holy Spirit is quite costly and takes time to make. Oil is gotten in prayer, through praise, fasting etc. as God Himself does a cleansing work in us, preparing us as

brides to be chosen by our king. Don't miss this moment.

I have some kingdom marriage praise, intercession and prayers you can follow to help you on my YouTube channel here.

I would end this with a post I made on Facebook on what to do after you've heard a word gone forth:

God Himself would help us all in Jesus name amen!

Congratulations on your kingdom marriage year 2024!

Yes, and amen!

*"For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us."*

*-2 Corinthians 1:20, NKJV*

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Hephzibah Frances is a VOICE FOR THE LORD called to the Nations. Through her songs, books and the new media, she proclaims God to the Nations. She is a child of God and the Lord's delight. She is a Lawyer, an author and a Christian Blogger. As a Social Entrepreneur, she is the founder of *Awakening Youthful Seeds for Christ initiative* ([AYSCAFRICA](#))

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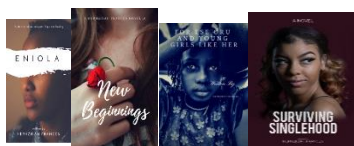
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