

# ***4 Questions as You Graduate***

## **1. Whose voice will you listen to?**

You live in a very noisy world filled with a countless number of voices. Thanks to that computer in your pocket and the Internet it's connected to, those voices can clamor for your attention 24/7. For example, there are over 800 million videos for you to watch on YouTube with 500 hours of videos being uploaded every minute (with *Baby Shark Dance* being the #1 watched video to date with over 14.5 billion views).

But there is one voice that you should listen to above all the others. It's the voice of your Creator. What He has said is written down, and you can choose to listen to it. Will you choose to take time to listen to Him, and will you take what He has said seriously? Will you trust His promises? Will you heed His warnings? Will you obey His commands? This is what the early chapters of the book of Proverbs call you to do. It's what it means to be a man who fears the LORD. Will that be you?

Will you be that man even when your professors, your pop culture, your peers, and others are trying to steer you in a different direction? Whose voice will win out in your life?

## **2. Will Christ and His cross be central or peripheral for you?**

This isn't about cross jewelry, cross window stickers, or cross lawn ornaments. This is something much deeper. What will you be passionate about? Will Jesus and what He has done for you and others be at the heart of who you are, and will it shape how you look at others? Will you continue living in the way we all start off living—living for yourself? Or will you be so moved by His love for you that you say, "He died for me. Now I will live for Him."? See 2 Corinthians 5:14-15.

## **3. Who will you choose for your closest friends?**

Who will you latch onto? Whose hearts will intertwine with and influence yours? Who will you go through life with? Who will you become one with?

It's been said, "Show me your friends. I'll show you your future." See Proverbs 13:20. Your life companions will also be influencers in your life. This will be especially true with your wife. It is likely that no other person will affect you more than your wife. What are you looking for in a spouse? What is on your list of requirements for the person you will marry? Remember: pretty does not mean godly, and nice is not the same thing as good. See Proverbs 31:30.

Will you pray and watch for a woman who understands the Gospel and genuinely trusts only in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of her sins? Will you ask God to give you a woman who knows Him personally and who is truly committed to Him? The kind of woman you want should be a woman who fears the LORD. And remember this: the woman you marry will likely become the mother of your children and she'll deeply affect their spiritual condition and direction. See Proverbs 31:10-31.

If you are a genuine Christian, then dating and/or marrying a non-Christian is not an option for you. See 2 Corinthians 6:14-18. "Flirt and convert" or "missionary dating" are not what you are called to do. If you are a genuine Christian (if you understand the Gospel and believe it) and she isn't (she doesn't), then you should not date or marry her.

#### **4. Where will you be on Sundays?**

So much of the NT starting with the book of Acts assumes that people who trust in Jesus will get baptized and then follow Him within the community of a local church. Faithful, personal, meaningful, active involvement in a local church is implied or commanded throughout most of the NT starting with the book of Acts. See Hebrews 10:23-25.

The local church matters to Jesus Christ big time. How much will it matter to you? Someone said, "Church should be the reason that you miss everything else, not the reverse." Where will you be on Sundays?

***How will you answer these 4 questions?** For God's glory, for your good, and so that more people will hear the Gospel, please listen to the voice of your Creator in His Word, be certain that you are personally trusting in Jesus Christ as your own Savior, choose carefully who you walk through life with, and make sure you're with a local church on Sundays.*