



## He Said She Said: Is Hope Clouding Our Vision

EDITOR'S NOTE: He Said-She Said is a biweekly advice column for singles featuring a question from a Crosswalk.com reader with responses from a male and female point of view. If you've got a question about anything related to singleness or living the single life, please submit it to [hesaid-shesaid@crosswalk.com](mailto:hesaid-shesaid@crosswalk.com) (selected questions will be posted anonymously).

Other Note: Due to copyright restrictions, the only response is Kris Swiatocho below. To see Cliff's response, you need to go to [www.wng.org](http://www.wng.org) and sharing your heart. My first question would be to know your ages. Although I do think it's important for our families to bless our dating relationships and eventual marriages, I also think it's between you and your boyfriend. If you are young and still living at home, and if you respect your parents' wisdom (Proverbs 3:13: Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding), then perhaps they are correct in wanting you to not be together right now. With more time, maturity, and life experience (plus the Lord's leading) both you, your boyfriend and both sets of parents will be in support of your relationship. If this guy is who you believe to be your "soul mate," or your eventual spouse, then he will still be that person a year from now.

QUESTION: I'm not sure what to do. I've been with my boyfriend for two and a half years, and I've been uncertain the entire time whether he is God's pick for me. He says he knows Christ but his actions belie his claim. I've been in soul agony all along because I truly love him, but I somehow get the sense God has other plans. There is the impurity of our relationship, his less-than-stable track record at keeping a job, and worse, his penchant for marijuana. Writing all of that is causing a "Duh!" moment in me but I still cling to the relationship because of my love for him and my hope that what I see in his heart currently will make its way to his character eventually. Please help.

SHE SAID:

Thanks for your letter and your cry for help. I am going to cut to the chase because I am concerned for you. I too have been where you are and all I can say is: run, girl, run. Yes, it is a "duh" moment because you know in your heart this guy is not right for you. Please know God is not going to bless sin. You can't sleep with a man, allow his obvious love of drugs, plus support his lack of support in not working consistently and expect God to bless it. Also know God would not bring someone like this to you, in my opinion, to cause you to sin. I can tell you love him but wouldn't you prefer to love someone who truly loves you in Christ?

I need to ask - do you know the Lord as your personal Savior? If you do, you should also know that God desires us to date/marry those with whom we are equally yoked. Those that are spiritually where we are not only in what we believe but in how we live our lives. Now I know you say your boyfriend says he is a believer, but you are also aware that his actions are not matching his belief. Remember, even the devil believes. Actions will follow your faith follows trust in Christ. To me, your boyfriend does not sound saved. God's word that we will know others by their fruits. A man who loves God would not try to get you into bed. He would not be doing drugs and he would certainly want to keep a job.

He would want to lead you towards Christ, helping you in your walk.

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

Ok, so maybe your boyfriend is a new Christian and you are extending grace. If so, extend it as a friend, helping him to grow in Christ first before becoming his girlfriend. Now I realize you can't go backwards in your relationship, but you can stop where things are and tell him how you feel. That you do not want to have sex anymore. That you want him to get help with his drug problem. That you want to both go to church and get in a Bible study, etc. As you choose to follow Christ consistently yourself, you will become more and more like Christ. These changes will cause your boyfriend to either draw closer to Christ, or pull away. It's up to you on how long you wait to see any changes.

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land ().

SHE is ... Kris Swiatocho, the President and Director of TheSinglesNetwork.org Ministries and FromHisHands.com Ministries. Kris has served in ministry in various capacities for the last 25 years. An accomplished trainer and mentor, Kris has a heart to reach and grow leaders so they will in turn reach and grow others. She is the author of three books: Singles and Relationships: A 31-Day Experiment (co-authored with Dick Purnell of Single Life Resources); From the Manger to the Cross: The Women in Jesus' Life; and the most recent, Jesus, Single Like Me with Study Questions (includes a leader's guide and conference/retreat of the same name).

DISCLAIMER: We are not trained psychologists or licensed professionals. We're just average folk who understand what it's like to live the solo life in the twenty-first century. We believe that the Bible is our go-to guide for answers to all of life's questions, and it's where we'll go for guidance when responding to your questions. Also, it's important to note that we write our answers separately.

GOT A QUESTION? If you've got a question about anything related to singleness or living the single life, please submit it to [hesaid-shesaid@crosswalk.com](mailto:hesaid-shesaid@crosswalk.com) (selected questions will be posted anonymously). While we are unable to answer every inquiry, we do hope that this column will be an encouragement to you. Click here to visit the He Said-She Said .

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