

MYSTICAL MOMENTS

with Val Ryan

Dear Val,

How do I find a good man? I'm 37 years old and a good Christian woman and I pray for a good man to enter my life but he hasn't shown up. Can you help me?

Signed, DC

Dear DC,

I've received emails from several women asking the same question. The first thing I need to know is what you're looking for.

Tall, handsome, attractive, loving, devoted, has a good job, good credit, doesn't drink or do drugs, never been in jail, Christian, black or multi-racial, never been married, no children, respectful, honest and trustworthy.

Wow, that's quite a list. Unless Superman has a multi-racial brother, the man you describe doesn't exist. You'll never find anyone who fills all of those requirements. A more realistic approach will serve you better. Let's start by looking at the list itself, because many of these things fall into the same category: Tall, handsome, attractive: basically, you're looking for someone you find attractive. But let's say you meet a nice guy who has all of these attributes except he's 5' 4" tall. Are you going to dismiss him out of hand? Respectful, loving, honest, trustworthy: a man who cares about you and shows it by being all of these things. Good job, good credit: he needs to be employed with a steady income. The good credit part might be a bit harder to find. For instance in my twenties, I went crazy with the credit cards, really loused up my credit and spent my thirties paying it off. What you may want to ask the universe for is someone who takes

responsibility for his debts, not whether his credit has ever been tarnished. Never been married, no children: since you're 37, you're not likely to find someone who fits this category. However, there's a big difference between a guy who's embroiled in an ugly divorce and a man who's been divorced for at least a year and sees his children regularly because he wants to stay involved in their lives.

No alcohol or drugs: I agree with you on the no drug policy, but try not to think too black and white about the drinking. There's the guy who has a few beers on Sunday while watching the game with his buddies and then there's the alcoholic. Observe his behavior and trust your intuition. If you're still not sure after a couple of dates, err on the side of caution, as one aspect of alcoholism is secrecy. Never been in jail: this may be a category that you decide is non-negotiable. Let's say you meet someone you like, but it turns out he's done some jail time. Walk away knowing that this is a line you won't cross and be okay with it.

Christian: If this is your preference then fine. Unless you're set on your denomination, attend as many social functions as you can at churches in your area. Check out some online "Christian Only" dating services and just see what pops up. If you choose this route, never and I mean NEVER give out personal information like your home address. People you meet online are not necessarily who they claim to be. If you decide to meet someone, do it in a public place and ask a friend to stand by the phone in case you need an out.

This is not about lowering your standards but broadening your definition of who the right one might be. And don't forget to ask yourself the same tough questions you're asking of your future partner. Do you fit all of these same criteria? How's your job

situation, credit, trustworthiness? As long as your house is in order, you'll be sending out the positive energy you seek in a partner. Being the right woman when the right man comes along is equally important. The timing has to be right for both individuals for a long-term relationship to succeed. In the meantime, focus on the positive aspects of your life so that Superman will be glad he waited for you.

This has been part one on the topic of relationships. Please look for part two in the April/May issue. If you have a question for *Mystical Moments*, please contact Val Ryan at ryanmystic@earthlink.net or 803.750.7117

Val Ryan is a Spiritual Consultant and Psychic Medium who offers private readings (in person and by phone) and Group Spirit Connections throughout the Carolinas. Contact Val at 803.750.7117 or ryanmystic@earthlink.net for more information.