

# *The Date*

*“An Inspirational”*



*Priscilla L. Miles*

LAURA HAS BEEN ASKED SEVERAL TIMES BY MICHAEL TO GO OUT WITH HIM. LAURA, THIS BEAUTIFUL WOMAN HAS TURNED DOWN OR IGNORED MICHAEL'S PERSISTENCE FOR FEAR OF GETTING HURT OR SIMPLY NOT TAKING MICHAEL SERIOUSLY. NOW, IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT MICHAEL HAS A PLAYERS ATTITUDE BUT NO ONE HAS EVER BEEN ABLE TO PROVE WHETHER THAT ATTITUDE IS BASED ON ANY ONE WOMAN.

PAT INFORMED LAURA THAT MICHAEL WAS IN THE HOUSE AND THAT SHE SHOULD STOP PRUNNING OVER HER SINGLENESS AND TO FINALLY SAY YES TO MICHAEL'S INVITATION TO GO OUT ON A DATE. AS PAT IS MOVING LAURA ALONG THE HALLS AND DOWN THE STEPS TO THE ROOM, WHICH MICHAEL IS IN, LAURA IS MAKING STATEMENTS OF DOUBT WHETHER HE REALLY HAS ANY INTEREST IN HER. PAT IS INFORMING HER THAT IF SHE DOESN'T AT LEAST FACE MICHAEL TO SEE WHERE HE IS COMING FROM BY ACCEPTING HIS INVITATION TO GO ON THIS DATE, SHE WILL NOT KNOW HIS REAL INTENTION OR RECEIVE CONFIRMATION ON THE MAN GOD HAS FOR HER.

AS THEY QUICKLY RUN THROUGH THE HALLS, THEY FALL INTO A ROOM FILLED WITH SEVERAL OTHER BEAUTIFUL WOMEN AND MICHAEL SITTING AMONGST THEM. WITH THIS AMAZMENT, LAURA TOOK A SEAT. NO ONE IS SAYING ANYTHING, BUT IT LOOKED AS THOUGH EVERY ONE OF THOSE WOMEN'S INTEREST WAS IN MICHAEL. BEFORE ANYONE COULD SAY ANYTHING, MICHAEL SPOKE UP GREETING EVERYONE WITH THAT SOFT-TONE VOICE AND ANNOUNED HIS SURPRISE COMMITMENT TO SARAH. BUT HE DID NOT STOP THERE, HE ANNOUNCED THAT HE THOUGHT EVERYONE OF THE WOMEN IN THE ROOM WERE BEAUTIFUL, LOVELY, AND INTELLEGT, GOD-FEARING WOMEN, AND THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN AN HONOR TO GET TO KNOW EVERY ONE OF THEM.

ALL OF A SUDDEN PAT STARTED TO CHUCKLE AND THE WHOLE ROOM BROKE OUT IN LAUGHTER.

IT SEEMED AS THOUGH SEVERAL OF THOSE WOMEN WANTED TO ACCEPT MICHAEL'S INVITATION TO GO OUT ON THAT DATE, BUT NONE OF THEM ACCEPTED, NOR SPENT ANY TIME WITH MICHAEL, EXCEPT SARAH. SINCE SARAH WAS THE ONLY ONE THAT WENT OUT ON A DATE WITH MICHAEL, HE FELT THAT SARAH WAS THE ONLY WOMAN THAT WAS INTERESTED.

NOW, SARAH ALSO IS A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN, AND A CHRISTIAN WOMAN JUST LIKE THE REST OF THE LADIES. MICHAEL STATED HIS COMMITMENT TO SARAH BECAUSE HE WAS A ONE-DATE TYPE OF MAN. IN THAT DATE HE WOULD TRY TO RECOGNIZE IF THE WOMAN WOULD BE THE ONE THAT GOD WANTED HIM TO MARRY. EVEN THOUGH MICHAEL IS A FINE-LOOKING MAN AND KNOWS THE LORD, HE HAS A PERSONALITY THAT WOULD CAUSE A WOMAN TO BE HUMBLE, WHEN SHE IS AROUND HIM. HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LORD IS SO STRONG, THAT MOST WOMEN WOULD BE INTIMIDATED WITH SUCH A STRICT RELATIONSHIP. HOW CAN WE SAY MICHAEL IS A LOVER ON ONE HAND AND A GOD-FEARING MAN ON THE OTHER HAND? NO ONE HAS SEEN MICHAEL WITH ANYONE, BUT HE ADDRESS THOSE SINGLE WOMEN IN THE ROOM, WITH THAT SMOOTH LOW-KEY VOICE, AS SWEETHEART, BUT SPEAKS WITH AUTHORITY AND POWER WHEN ADDRESSING GOD'S WORD.

EVERY WOMAN IN THE ROOM FELT THAT MICHAEL LED THEM ON. BUT DID HE REALLY? MICHAEL WAS ALWAYS ON A TIGHT SCHEDULE WITH HIS MINISTRY AND DID NOT HAVE MUCH TIME IN HIS PERSONAL LIFE, SO WHEN HE GOT A CHANCE TO ASK A WOMAN OUT, HE EXPECTED A POSITIVE AND IMMEDIATE RESPONSE.

SARAH HAD A DIFFERENT AGENDA. EVEN THOUGH MICHAEL MADE THIS SURPRISE ANNOUNCEMENT UNBEKNOWN TO SARAH, SHE HUMBLY SPOKE UP AND STATED THAT SHE WAS NOT READY TO BE COMMITTED AT THIS TIME, NEITHER COULD SHE HANDLE ALL OF THE WOMEN THAT MICHAEL DREW AROUND HIM. WITH THAT STATEMENT, SARAH GAVE MICHAEL A GENTLE KISS ON THE CHEEK AND HEADED OUT OF THE ROOM. BEFORE LEAVING, SHE TOLD THE LADIES IN THE ROOM THAT THEY ALSO RECEIVED AN OPPORTUNITY TO ACCEPT A DATE FROM MICHAEL. SHE STATED THAT MICHAEL WAS NOTHING BUT A GENTLEMAN DURING THE ENTIRE DATE. HE ALSO SEEMED TO BE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING FROM HER IN THEIR CONVERSATION TOGETHER. SHE GAVE HIM HER POINT OF VIEW AND HUMBLY WAITED FOR HIS RESPONSE. THEY BOTH KNEW THEN THAT IT WOULD NOT WORK OUT, BUT HE WAS QUITE GENTLE AND NON-VERBAL. SARAH ADMITTED THAT SHE TRIED TOO HARD AND ONLY WANTED TO GO OUT ON A DATE, NOT TO BE CONFINED TO MICHAEL. THEN SARAH STATED THAT "THE WOMAN FOR MICHAEL MUST BE REAL WITH HIM, AND BE HERSELF. SHE DID NOT WANT TO HURT MICHAEL, SO SHE SUMMED IT UP BY SAYING, "THANKS, FOR BEING YOU, BUT, I AM NOT READY FOR A SERIOUS COMMITMENT!"

DO YOU THINK MICHAEL JUST DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO HANDLE SO MANY WOMEN PURSUING AFTER HIM, OR DID HE JUST BECOME CONFUSED WHEN GOD TOLD HIM THAT A

DATE WOULD GIVE HIM CONFIRMATION ON HIS WIFE? THERE ARE TIMES THAT NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU LOVE THE LORD, WE ALL FALL SHORT WITH IMPATIENCE.

WHEN SARAH LEFT, PAT SUGGESTED TO MICHAEL TO STAY IN HIS SEAT, LISTEN, AND OBSERVE. PAT THEN SUGGESTED TO THE LADIES "HOW MANY OF YOU PRAYED THAT GOD WILL SEND YOU MR. RIGHT?" EVERYONE LOOKED AT MICHAEL WITH A SIGH OF RELIEF, KNOWING THAT THIS WAS THEIR OPPORTUNITY TO MOVE IN ON MICHAEL.

THEN PAT HINTED, "HOW MANY WOULD LIKE TO BE MARRIED TO A LEADER OF GOD?" AT THAT TIME SOME OF THE WOMEN EASED OUT OF THE ROOM SAYING, "I JUST WANTED MICHAEL TO PURSUE ME ENOUGH TO FINALLY GO ON A DATE, NOT TO MAKE A COMMITMENT." WHEN THEY LEFT, PAT CONSULTED BOTH MICHAEL AND LAURA, THAT THIS WAS A NORMAL REACTION THAT MOST WOMEN WANT A FEW DATES, NOT A COMMITMENT, JUST LIKE SARAH!"

PAT HINTED, "HOW MANY OF YOU WANT MICHAEL TO MAKE DECISIONS FOR YOU AND RUN YOUR HOUSEHOLD THE WAY JOSHUA SAID ABOUT HIS HOME?" A FEW MORE WOMEN GOT UP TO LEAVE SAYING "I'VE BEEN INDEPENDENT FOR SO LONG, THAT I DO NOT NEED ANY MAN RUNNING MY HOUSE OR GIVING ORDERS!" AFTER THOSE WOMEN LEFT, PAT BROUGHT TO MICHAEL AND LAURA'S ATTENTION, THAT "MOST WOMEN HAVE STRUGGLED SO LONG BY THEMSELVES, THEY ENJOY BEING THE DECISION MAKER. A WOMAN OF GOD, WHO DESIRES MARRIAGE, MUST DESIRE A MAN THAT GOD HAS ORDAINED THE MAN OF THE HOUSEHOLD. THEY MUST DESIRE A HUSBANDMAN, WHO IS MISSING THAT RIB, IN WHICH GOD CREATED THAT IDEALISTIC AND ANNOINTED WOMAN, TO WORK GOD'S

MINISTRY TOGETHER. THEY MUST ALSO BE WILLING TO HONOR THAT MAN IN THE WAY GOD INTENDED.”

THEN PAT HINTED, “HOW MANY OF YOU LOVE MICHAEL WITH ALL OF YOUR HEART.” WHILE GAZING AT MICHAEL, THIS CAUSED A SMILE ON THE WOMEN’S FACES, BUT UNFORTUNATELY, SHOOK LAURA, A BIT.

PAT HAD ONE MORE QUESTION FOR THE REMAINING LADIES. “HOW MANY OF YOU KNOW, THAT YOU KNOW, THAT GOD HAS PROMISED YOU MICHAEL AS YOUR HUSBAND.” SURPRISINGLY ENOUGH, THE LADIES REMAINED AND GAVE AN EXPRESSION THAT MICHAEL WAS SURLY PROMISED TO THEM BY GOD, UNTIL PAT CONSCIENCLY QUESTIONED THEIR ABILITY TO TOLERATE THE INCREASING ATTENTION THAT MICHAEL HAS AND WILL RECEIVE, ESPECIALLY FROM WOMEN. IT WAS THEN THAT THE REMAINING WOMEN, EXCEPT LAURA, LEFT THE ROOM SAYING, “I LOVE YOU MICHAEL, BUT THE PRESSURE OF BEING YOUR WIFE WOULD BE TOO MUCH FOR ME TO HANDLE. I COULDN’T HANDLE YOUR OBVIOUSLY SINCERE AND OVERWHELMING DEDICATION TO THE WORK OF THE CHURCH, NOR COULD I ACCEPT THE WOMEN THAT YOU ATTRACT EITHER. I SHOULD BE YOUR PRIORITY, NOT ALL OF THOSE NEEDY WOMEN THAT JUST WANT TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION AND EVENTUALLY TAKE YOU AWAY FROM ME!”

PAT ASSURED LAURA, BY SAYING THAT GOD REQUIRES THE HUSBAND TO LOVE HIS WIFE AS CHRIST LOVES THE CHURCH. WHEN GOD SENDS YOU YOUR HUSBAND, KNOW THAT HE WILL NOT CHEAT ON YOU, AS CHRIST WOULD NOT CHEAT ON THE CHURCH.

WELL, IT LOOKS AS THOUGH LAURA AND MICHAEL WERE THE ONLY ONES LEFT IN THE ROOM. MICHAEL HELD HIS HEAD DOWN AND ASKED LAURA TO FORGIVE HIM. LAURA WANTED TO KNOW WHY MICHAEL THOUGHT HE HAD TO APOLOGIZE. SO HE STATED TO LAURA, "I HAD ASKED YOU SEVERAL TIMES TO GO OUT WITH ME, BUT YOU MADE NO EFFORT. EVEN THOUGH GOD POINTED YOU OUT TO ME SOME TIME AGO, I REFUSED TO BELIEVE THAT GOD WOULD ALLOW YOU TO REJECT ME SO MANY TIMES. THEREFORE, I THOUGHT THAT I MISUNDERSTOOD GOD."

MICHAEL CONTINUED AND CONFESSED TO LAURA, "GOD SAID THAT THE WOMAN FOR ME KNEW THAT I WAS 'THE ONE' FOR HER, AND FOR ME TO COMMIT MYSELF TO HER ON THAT ONE DATE, THAT I HAD PLANNED." MICHAEL CONTINUED BY SAYING, "BECAUSE YOU NEVER ACCEPTED, I MOVED ON THINKING THAT MAYBE SARAH, BECAUSE OF HER PERSISTENCE, MAY HAVE BEEN THE WOMAN THAT GOD WAS TALKING ABOUT!" IT WAS THEN THAT PAT IMPLIED TO MICHAEL, OH YE OF LITTLE FAITH, STAND STILL AND SEE THE GOODNESS OF THE LORD!

LAURA SAT IN FRONT OF MICHAEL AND LIFTED HIS HEAD SAYING, "GOD TOLD ME LONG AGO THAT YOU WERE MY HUSBAND, BUT I DID NOT THINK I WAS WORTHY OF YOU. THERE WERE SO MANY THINGS THAT I NEEDED TO GET STRAIGHT IN MY OWN PERSONAL LIFE BEFORE ACCEPTING YOUR INVITATION. I ALSO THOUGHT THAT MY OWN MINISTRY NEEDED TO BE MORE THOROUGH AND DEFINED, BEFORE BEING MARRIED. I KNOW YOU ARE A TRUE MAN OF GOD, BUT I HEARD SO MANY RUMORS ABOUT YOU BEING A PLAYER. NONETHELESS, I KNEW THAT COULD NOT BE TRUE BECAUSE YOUR SPIRIT DID NOT INDICATE THAT YOU WOULD BETRAY GOD IN THAT MANNER. I ALSO KNEW THAT GOD

WOULD NOT PLACE ME WITH A MAN THAT WOULD HURT ME. REGARDLESS, I TOO, STAGGERED IN MY FAITH ENOUGH TO ALLOW EVIL TO INVADE MY THOUGHTS, AND WAS NOT OBEDIENT TO GOD WHEN HE TOLD ME TO ACCEPT YOUR LAST INVITATION, PRIOR TO YOU GOING OUT WITH SARAH. SO I THOUGHT IT WAS TOO LATE! BUT NOW, I CAN SEE THAT GOD IS GIVING ME ONE MORE CHANCE TO MAKE MY FEELINGS KNOWN TO YOU, IF AND WHEN YOU ASK ME OUT, AGAIN!"

PAT SAID TO MICHAEL, "YOU HAVE DONE NO HARM TO ANYONE, ENJOY THE BENEFITS THAT GOD HAS PLACED BEFORE YOU!" MICHAEL THEN LOOKED IN LAURA'S BEAUTIFUL BROWN EYES AND SAID "I AM SO VERY HUNGRY, AND WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH IF YOU WOULD DINE WITH ME THIS EVENING! I MAY NOT BE WORTHY OF YOUR TIME, YOUR PRESENCE, OR EVEN YOUR KINDNESS, BUT I WOULD TRULY LIKE TO RECTIFY ANY MISFORTUNES THAT I MAY HAVE CAUSED YOU."

LAURA ACCEPTED MICHAEL'S INVITATION AND THE BEGINNING OF THEIR LIFE TOGETHER BEGAN THAT DAY WITH "THE DATE" THAT GOD HAD PROMISED THEM, A FEW YEARS AGO. PATIENCE AND OBEDIENCE WILL DELIVER GOD'S PROMISE AND BRING FORTH GOD'S GLORY!

**CAST:**

*MICHAEL = PASTOR*

*LAURA = MINISTER*

*PAT = **ANGEL OF GOD***