* Bride ~ Groom Hunting
* Modern Day Dilemmas
* Objective
* The objective of this session is to facilitate discussion on pros and cons of different ways of finding a life-partner.
* Different ways
* Arranged Marriages
* Love Marriages
* Cross-cultural marriages
* Dating
* Matrimonial sites
* Chat room matches
* Arranged Marriages
* Biblical - Adam and Eve
* Isaac and Rebecca; Moses and Zipporah
* Parents initiated
* Dowry/Gift issues are handled by parents
* Love begins after marriage
* More surprises but higher commitment to make it work
* More harmony in family and extended family – all are taken into consideration
* Love marriages
* Biblical – Jacob and Rachel
* Song of Solomon
* Self-initiated
* Dowry/Gift issues are not dealt with
* Love begins before marriage
* Less surprises but more expectations
* Lose some support from family and extended family
* Matrimonial sites
* Good resource
* Poor credibility
* Agree on complete verification
* Have a mediator – Parents/Mentors
* Take time, do not rush
* Emotional risk
* What you see is not necessarily what you get
* Dating
* Dating is relating to a person to determine if the person is a suitable mate for marriage.
* Recent phenomenon in India
* Offers opportunity to know each other
* Personal responsibility is high
* Clashes with conservative culture
* An option for mature ones
* Risky for emotional ones
* I Kissed Dating Goodbye – Joshua Harris
* How to date responsibly
* Introduce your friend to your family
* Do things together with other common friends – serving, learning and growing
* If you meet, do so in open public places with parents’ permission
* Set clear boundaries – no kissing, no touching below the neck
* Avoid defective dating
* Don’t be secretive – it is deceptive
* Don’t go to secluded places – it is tempting
* Do not meet your friend in your apartment
* Do not minimize the consequences of sexual contact before marriage – rejection, bitterness, shame, guilt, unwanted pregnancies . . .
* Pre-marital sex takes away the joy of marital sex
* ‘No pre-marital sex’ oath - anyone?
* Chat rooms
* Many do not reveal their true identity
* More for play and fun
* Exceptions cannot become the rule
* Tend to make you secretive
* Like blind date
* Any other method?
* Cross cultural marriages
* Inter-caste
* Different languages
* Different Countries/cultures
* Different strata
* Education
* Denominations