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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2009

My Love Story



I wasn't looking for marriage. In fact, I was very content just living at home with my parents and siblings. I loved my life with them and felt so happy loving and sharing every day together. We gardened together, played together, laughed together, and shared every part of our lives together. They were my best friends in all of the world and I cherished each relationship I had. I hadn't spent much time thinking about my "dream wedding" or pondering the most "romantic proposal". But the plans Jesus had for me took me by surprise and were more perfect than I could have ever imagined.

Jesus brought along a wonderful man when I was least expecting it and gave me a wonderful life to live with him. The Lord gave me the most beautiful wedding and the most romantic love story I could have every dreamed of. I praise Him and thank Him every day for giving me the blessing of such a precious man and for the passionate love we share. God is good.

Nathan said he first "noticed" me at a worship time that was at my family's house. He said he saw my heart as I was whole-heartedly worshiping. The passion for the Lord that I displayed that night met up with something inside of his own heart... He continued to see my heart as he saw me in passing while he was with my brother or when our families were together.

In fact, Nathan and my brother were good friends before I knew him very well. They went many places together and enjoyed sharing the Lord with each

ABOUT ME



Lauren
I am a wife to
my sweet
husband,

Nathan, and a

mother to my little blessing, Caleb. I love fulfilling my calling in God by loving and serving my two guys and the Body of Christ. I never thought I would be a blogger...In fact I was closed to the idea until a sweet older sister who I respect very much encouraged me to start a blog to encourage young women at home and young wives and mothers. So this is the product. The name "Wearing His Purity" came as an expression of my heart and desires. I want the only thing that shines from my eyes, flows from my lips, and adorns me to be the purity of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Sharing His Love

Rod and Staff Publishers (Great books for children!)

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Homemade Heritage other. During that time, He began praying and talking to the Lord about me. He called my dad and told him of his feelings so as to maintain the utmost integrity since he was visiting our family often. He didn't know if I was the one he was to marry yet, but he wanted my dad to know that he was praying about it. He also talked with his parents and they thought we were a good match.

As time passed, Nathan felt beyond a shadow of a doubt that I was the one he wanted to marry. He prayed, he cried, and he sought the will of the Lord. He went to my dad and told him that he really felt that I was to be his wife and asked if he would please pray about it. My dad gave him no promises and no guarantees. He simply said that he would pray about it. Nathan remained steadfast in his heart believing that God had spoken but fully honored and trusted my dad in what he thought was best.

Meanwhile, I began having feelings for Nathan that were different than I had ever felt towards anyone. I saw his precious heart for God and respected him more than any other young man I knew. I admired the way he was very vocal about his heart for God, how he took time to love young children, and how he wanted to please the Lord more than anything else in the world.

I hardly dared give myself any hope of anything ever coming of my desires and tried to stuff them inside. I was a little bit embarrassed and didn't know if Nathan would even want me or think of me in that way. But try as I might, my feeling persisted. I talked to my mom about it because I wanted to share every feeling in that area with her and allow her wisdom to guide me. She was (and still is...) my best "girl friend" and I felt so safe to share anything with her.

She encouraged me to give it all back to the Lord. She said that the best thing to do was hold it with an open hand before the Lord and trust Him to do whatever He wanted to. She encouraged me to not dwell on it, but rather give my thoughts and feelings to Jesus. She didn't let on that Nathan had said anything to them.

We continued on in this way for a while. Neither of us knew that the other one had spoken to my parents and both of us spent that season waiting on the Lord to see what He had for us. My parents spent much time praying and talking and listening for God's will. We got to know each other better in the safe and natural context of our families and became good friends. He felt like a big brother to me and I got to know him better as such. I saw in him a heart that was fully and completely sold out for Jesus. He was gentle, humble, sweet, loving, caring, and passionate about things of God. And he saw in me.... Well I guess you'd have to ask him....

After a while, my parents also felt like this was the Lord. They allowed us to continue getting to know each other instead of rushing into a formal "engagement" or "courtship" or "betrothal" or whatever you like to call it. We continued being brother and sister in Christ and waited patiently (or trying to be patient at least...) for the Lord's timing.

I continued keeping an open dialogue with my parents which was so easy because they were my best friends and confidants. They kept current with my thoughts, feelings, apprehensions, desires, and longings. My dad took many

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BUTTERFLY KISSES



I'd love to hear from you! Email me at: wearinghispurity@gmail.c

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drives with me and took me out on daddy/daughter dates and we shared and talked about everything. My mom and I talked all the time. They never told me anything that Nathan had said but instead helped me give my heart to the Lord and trust Him with my desires.

Because we knew each other well (even though we had never shared our feelings with one another) and were all equally convinced that this was of God, our relationship began officially with Nathan proposing. One night (I was really not expecting this...) in front of my parents, my big brother, and my little sister, my sweet Nathan asked me to marry him.

Somehow they made it work out so that it was just the two of us sitting on my parent's leather sofa (everyone else sat on the floor so that they could watch). He looked into my eyes and said, "Lauren, a while back I went to your dad and asked for you. I want you to be my wife. You're the one I want to wake up with, the one I want to go to sleep with, the one I want to share every day with. You are the one I want to be the mother of my children. You're the only one I could ever want to be married to. Will you marry me?" I passionately answered, "With all of my heart, yes!" We all celebrated and I felt like I could run a million miles that night. When Nathan left that evening, I went into my bedroom and lifted my hands as I high as I could and praised God with all of my heart. That was the beginning of our journey together.

We broke our relationship into two "phases." The first phase was devoted to preparing individually with marriage in view. My preparation was all about getting the things I needed to be a wife and one day a mother. I completed my education and continued to learn lots about nutrition, child development, and running a home. I got a chance to do everything from the laundry and cooking to scrubbing the bathrooms.

My mom taught me about budgeting and being efficient with my time as well as how to run a home in a peaceful yet orderly way. I also got a chance to teach each one of the younger children (with her guidance) so that I could the practice to one day homeschool my own children. I also cherished the opportunity to get lots of quality time with my younger siblings. I even shared a room with Zion and Rebekah (it was very girly of course...) up until I got married. The Lord did so much in my heart as I prepared to be a wife. I treasure those times and value the preparation I was given to be a homemaker in my future life.

While my life was filled with family, cooking, etc. Nathan's life looked quite different. He began doing tons of remodeling. Nathan had all new carpet installed and he painted all of my cabinets as well as almost every room in the house. He even had a bunch of green laminate taken off and new, beautiful laminate put in. The house looked just beautiful....my dream house. My sweet husband really did pay a bride price through all the money, sweat, and hard work he put into that house just because he loved me. I was so blessed and saw how much he cherished me through his labor of love... He would get home from his programming job, eat a quick bite, and then instantly start on the house. He would work some nights past midnight only to start the next day at 6:00 a.m. (We had our time on weekends.)

The second phase was devoted to preparing together. We planned our

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My Love Story

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wedding, honeymoon, and got to work on our future house together when accompanied by family members. We learned lots and lots about communication with each other and gained so much through the whole process. It was wonderful.

We were head-over-heels and totally in love with each other. We didn't want to live a day without one another. I knew with all my heart that Nathan was the only man for me. Maintaining purity in our relationship didn't stifle our love for each other at all. It actually just enhanced it! It was the most natural thing in the world. My parents allowed it to unfold and let us get to know each other well in a safe environment. We didn't have apprehensions or fears wondering if we were doing the right thing. We both just knew.

The Lord taught us so much about patience and matured us through the whole process. It's so easy to become self-focused and forget that anything or anyone else exists when you're in love. We were like this at first. But together we learned to serve, love, give, and be there for other brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ even while we were caught in the whirl-wind of our love for each other. We couldn't wait to get married but were very content with where the Lord had us. We knew that if we didn't yield to the season God had us in we would miss all of the wonderful blessings along with way. The Lord's timing was perfect for us and had we just "held our breath" waiting for our wedding instead of enjoying the present we would have missed so much.



We weren't blind about each other's faults either. By the time we got married we had seen the good, the bad, and the ugly. We had the opportunity to communicate and work things out before we got married and felt so blessed to have such honesty between us. We've been married over a year and a half and to this day we have never been in a fight. Praise be to God!

Our wedding was wonderful... We shared our first kiss on our wedding day (not just the first kiss between us, but the first kiss we had either one ever had!) I'll tell you about that in a different post though... Not the kiss... The wedding I mean!:)

Jesus gave us the most wonderful love story we could have ever asked for. He gave us so much time to prepare and get ready for being married. When we said our vows on our wedding day we both felt completely at peace knowing that it was time. We both were so thankful that we took the time to prepare our hearts and our home because just a month and a half later we

were pregnant with our little Caleb Matthew.

Our love is more passionate, romantic, and fiery than the day we got married. Time has only kindled our love for each other. The trials we've been through have only bonded us more. Jesus knew just when it was time to bring such a faithful man of God into my life. I can't believe I get to spend the rest of my life with my best friend, my closest brother in the Lord, and my only sweetheart. I feel so blessed to share such a wonderful love story with such a precious man of God. The Lord is good.

There is so much more I could share with you and tell you about. I will probably write more later about the things I learned about guarding my heart, being in a relationship, preparing for marriage, living at home, etc. Hope you enjoyed this little taste of what God had done in our lives.

Posted by Lauren at 5:23 PM

Labels: love, marriage, romance, wedding

2 comments:



Joy said...

What a beautiful love story, Lauren! You are so blessed to have been given such a gift. I really enjoyed reading this, and my husband and I have also enjoyed reading your parents' love story in the past. It helps give us a vision of how pure and lovely the marriage relationship can and should be.

May the Lord bless you! Joy

October 20, 2009 7:37 PM



Robin said...

Thank you for sharing your story, dear Sister! I am enjoying getting to know you in fellowship and here at your special blogspot!

Love in Christ, Robin Mureiko February 18, 2010 12:59 PM

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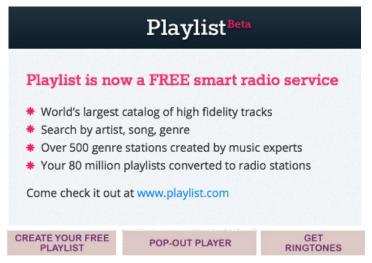
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