

## Healthy Relationships

### Husbands, Wives, and Happiness

“I just want to be happy!” How many people have left a marriage saying that?

Happiness and marriage is not always compatible!

- Happiness is tied to circumstances... they are not always the best!

God has another way, it's called joy!

- Joy is tied to a relationship with Jesus Christ, not circumstances!
- John 15:11; Romans 15:13

How to have a JOYFUL marriage...

**J**esus first in your marriage. Matthew 6:33

**O**pen communication between the two of you.

- Listen to each other! Proverbs 18:13
- Speak honestly, in a way that encourages. Ephesians 4:15, 29

**Y**es to each other. I Corinthians 7:1-5

**F**ind fulfillment in other godly relationships. I Corinthians 12:20-27

- You cannot fulfill each other's needs completely.
- Friendships with others in the Body of Christ is necessary!
- Be careful to keep intimate friendships to those of the same sex.

**U**nderstand your biblical roles.

- Realize there is a difference between our roles and our essence.
- God, not culture or capabilities, defines our roles. Genesis 1:27-28
- God intends the husband to be the loving leader. I Corinthians 11:3; Ephesians 5:22-31
- God intends the wife to be the respectful companion. Ephesians 5:33; Genesis 2:18-25

**L**ove like Jesus loved. John 13:34

In the marital relationship we will not always be happy, but we can always have joy!