

## Free Marriage Advice ☺

What is love?

Even though it is popular to think so, love is not a feeling.

Love is a commitment.

In married life, feelings will come and go. But even so, it is possible for love to never fail. (See: 1 Corinthians 13)

Here is God's example of love: God loves the world even though the world hurt Him by rejecting and killing His precious Son Jesus.

*"In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us [He took the initiative] and sent His Son to be the sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." 1 John 4.10, 11*

God has chosen to love those who do not love Him and may actually never come to love Him.

What can we learn in the context of married life from God's example of love? Just this...

You may feel happy or sad. You may feel loving or mad. You may feel close or distant. You may feel passionate or indifferent. No matter how you *feel*, you can *love*.

If Jesus is the foundation of your married life— both individually & together— then your life will be built on a solid "rock" that will never crumble or move when the world around you changes dramatically.

Jesus is the perfect foundation for married life because He created the concept of two people becoming one. In fact, He Himself is making plans to be married.

God's purposes and plans for each of your lives are *eternal* and they are always and only good— regardless of feelings and emotions you may experience at any given moment in *time*.

A beautiful and comforting passage in Scripture that I have run to many times while married is Colossians 3.12-17. Just after it talks about *forgiving as Christ forgave us*, it says, "*but above all these*

*things put on love which is the bond of perfection"* (v.14). Many people are looking for the perfect relationship. Well, here we find the key. Let love change *you* and you will find that love begins to turn *you* into the perfect companion. ☺

And finally, marriage is not a "thing" that exists outside of you. People often refer to their marriage as "our marriage is this" or "my marriage is that". Marriage is your commitment and behavior towards each other right here and now. You can't "have" or "enjoy" or even "fix" a marriage. You have each other. You enjoy each other (by treating each other with God's kindness). And you fix *yourself* if you find you are not behaving lovingly toward the one you have committed to live with for life.

God is love. God loves both of you. God's love will not fail you. You can always run to Him. Never doubt it.

May God bless you through the wonder of His Son Jesus as you live your new life together! Truth against the world. ☺