



CHAPTER 22

The Honeymoon is Never Over

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THE HONEYMOON IS NEVER OVER

You have heard the well-known expression that is “the honeymoon is over.” What does that mean? Obviously this relates to some change in the marriage after the honeymoon. Other chapters of this book also relate to how to keep the honeymoon in your marriage for life. Therefore I will not repeat those matters here. The purpose of this chapter is to clearly remind you to CHOOSE to keep the special excitement and romance in your marriage.

What is so special about a honeymoon anyway? Why would you think that it is good for the honeymoon to continue for a long time? The honeymoon occurs immediately following the end of the courting and dating phase. These were great days for the couple, when the man and the woman each were enraptured with thoughts of the other. They exchanged love notes. They gave flowers and gifts. They spent time and money to look their very best for each other. They put each other and spending time with each other at the top of the priority list. Their hearts jumped as they thought of each other and when they saw each other. They yearned for the embrace of the other. They laughed at each others' jokes. They were proud to tell others about their sweetheart. They were willing to sacrifice for the other. They dwelt upon the best qualities, gifts, and talents of the other and seemed to be blind to the imperfections and weaknesses of the other. Oh yes, courtship is sweet and glorious. During the honeymoon the reality of actually being married is fresh and new and wonderful. During the honeymoon there is the time of sexual intimacy seemingly without limits. It is as if the whole world stops and together the newlyweds take an endless, deep drink from the fountains of ecstasy. It is so beautiful. Nice, huh?

If you could bottle up the nectar of all of those good things about a honeymoon and then sprinkle it upon yourself and your spouse regularly thereafter, you would think that you two had a potion that is magical and unreal. Oh really? Unreal? Unattainable? I say no.

Let's consider again your CHOICES. On the honeymoon each spouse chose to overlook imperfections and faults, choosing instead to enjoy and celebrate the beauty and positive qualities of the other spouse. There is absolutely nothing stopping the couple from continuing to make those exact same choices five years, ten years, twenty years, thirty years, or fifty years, after the wedding. Those choices to do the sweet things and to keep the spouse as a priority are freely available throughout the decades of the marriage. But, of course, it takes daily CHOOSING, planning, thinking and praying ... and doing it.

There seem to be countless couples who have been married for a number of years who would only wish that they could regain that spark and recapture that special delight that was a part of their dating relationship and their honeymoon. This cannot happen merely by wishing. This comes from faithful obedience to the Lord's principles as set forth in the Bible for Christian husbands, for Christian wives, for Christian parents. Add to your obedience your rock-solid, unwavering commitments to the Lord and to your spouse. If you want a lifelong honeymoon, then I invite you to reconsider and reaffirm to your spouse the commitments listed in Chapter 6. See also Chapter 19, "Little Things Count." Please remember to do those same sweet things for your spouse that you did while dating. It is enriching and fun for the giver and the receiver. Planning and showing how you cherish and treasure your spouse will pay huge dividends in your marriage relationship.

It's Your CHOICE – The Honeymoon Is Never Over

Do you want that fire in your marriage for life? Then you do it. CHOOSE it. These are not difficult or secret principles. But unless you make right CHOICES there will come a point when the painful reality will be that your honeymoon is over. Hey, this boy shouts it from the rooftops, "I love my precious wife and she is my lady. Yes, we are still on our honeymoon. What we have is infinitely more delicious and wonderful and fulfilling after these thirty-five years than we ever could have dreamed of when we gazed into each other's candle-lit eyes at the altar on our wedding night. How about you?"

It's your CHOICE.