

Couples In Bloom – Be It

June 2009

This is a special edition of the Couples In Bloom ministry letter to celebrate our wedding anniversary {26 years this month} and to share some of the heart of this ministry. We hope this will bless you and also help you pray more effectively for the work God has called us to. Thanks to all of you around the world for your prayer support!

Ministry is about improvement. Jesus came to make life more abundant, regardless of the past... and often because of it. Thank God the message he gives all of us to share is good news. This is no small thing. Notice that ‘newsworthy news’ is mostly negative, because there is no positive substance available that satisfies the soul and improves life like the power of God that comes through relationship. Couples In Bloom is one of many ministries that help couples connect to God and improve their marriage.

Understanding relationship with God as a pattern for marriage is central to how we minister. Scripture has an abundance of teaching regarding this. Our Intimate Anatomy workbook compares both relationships using a parallel, 16 step growth chart {the anatomy of intimacy}: one track for relationship with God and a matching track for relationship with the spouse. Christian couples have an unbeatable advantage over those without personal relationship with God. One relationship continuously fuels the other in endless and deepening intimacy. **This is not happy talk; we live this** and are called to help others out of their mess and into God’s will, just as God did and continues to do for us. There’s always room for more blessing, which is a really nice place to live.

The top two relationships are God and spouse, yet we often find both lack attention, with busyness labeled as the culprit. The fact is: **intimacy fits anywhere.** A one sentence love note to God or to a spouse can change an entire day. Days are what lifetimes are made of. Also, just omitting a thought, glance, or mouse-click can save a life. The devil hates God and his bride so recognize the evil set against relationships and intentionally build them up instead. **Love works** {this is an instruction as well as an outcome}.

Kathy has a phrase in Intimate Anatomy, “The best and getting better”. It is how she chooses to view God and Loren. One of our teachings is entitled, “Be The Book”. Simply put, **heroes are doers.** Why watch a movie when you can **be** the movie?! Set your eyes on your spouse instead of on the TV / PC screen. Invest time with the Holy Spirit, flooding you in worship and God’s love. All intimacy requires involvement.

We stopped at the park briefly before going home Tuesday. We leaned on each other and watched God paint a pastel sunset; an investment in intimacy. We **own** that experience; far better than watching others on TV. It gets even better: remember that marriage patterns off the original relationship: intimacy with God. Nothing compares to passion with God, the lover of our soul. **Couples who sow intimacy both with God and with each other exclusively reap the highest intimacy available on earth.** It is God’s will and is what Couples In Bloom is all about.

♥ Loren & Kathy Falzone

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