

Couples In Bloom – Complement and Compliment

October 2009

One complement, many compliments: this is one way to describe healthy interaction in marriage. Definition: **Complement:** something that makes up a deficiency in another thing. Definition: **Compliment:** expression of regard or praise. Praise comes easier to some people, and spouses often differ in this. Our *Intimate Anatomy* workbook looks at what leads up to praise and the greater things that follow it. Understanding what intimacy is made of enables ownership of it. Note: *Intimate Anatomy* is being published (details next month). For today, we want to take a look at how we view our spouse.

The **complement: two (unified) are better than one** ⇨ Ecclesiastes 4:9-12. God customized each spouse with qualities that specifically complement the other. These ‘qualities’ sometimes seem more problematic than helpful because they are **different** than what we are used to. It helps to realize the seriousness and exclusivity God intends for marriage. He made each marriage to positively impact souls for **eternity**. He wants both spouses together to help him do things no one else is doing. Whether for a family member, a stranger, or a nation, appreciate that our relationship with him (our spiritual bridegroom) and with our spouse is a holy alliance for such a time as this. This is **huge**.

The **compliment: value is praiseworthy** ⇨ Psalms is full of praise to God; the Song of Solomon is full of marital praise. Satan is an artist, having been the worship leader of Heaven. Permanently fallen in sin, he tries to stop the power he knows praise has. He perverts his God-given skill to promote negativity in many avenues of everyday life. We are aware of his schemes ⇨ 2 Corinthians 2:11, and can do something about them: genuinely build more praise into our character with God’s help, especially into the intimate relationships with him (our spiritual bridegroom) and with our spouse. This can help everything else we do and think about. Read ⇨ Proverbs 15:15b; Ephesians 4:29.

Please remember Couples In Bloom in prayer, specifically in these early ministry preparation stages. Feel free to contact us any time; we really enjoy hearing from you. We pray for special requests during our weekly times of fasting and prayer, and also as God leads ⇨ Luke 5:33-35. Prayer is intimate communication with our soon coming bridegroom, and we love spending time talking with him. You may also unsubscribe to these ministry updates simply by letting us know. We only want to send them to those who want to receive them. Thanks again for praying. Never-seen-before blessings to you!

♥ Loren & Kathy Falzone

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