

TAKING IT HOME

The success or failure of having fun in your marriage is one of the primary factors for whether your marriage flourishes or flounders. Recent marriage research has discovered a, “secret weapon”, of happy couples. *These couples consistently make statements or act in ways (silly or otherwise) that prevent any negativity from escalating out of control.* In other words, successful couples are those who have a way of introducing “fun” into their relationship even during times of disagreement, helping to diffuse the tension. What appropriate attempts will you make as a couple to be more “silly” and to have more fun together in general, including those times when you sense negativity between you and your spouse? If you are not married, how could this “secret weapon” concept be used with your family, in your friendships, or among your co-workers?

Have Fun

“I Do” – 3 of 5

April 21, 2013

Pastor John Fanous

HAVING FUN IS _____ TO A THRIVING MARRIAGE

_____ SAYS TO HAVE FUN IN YOUR MARRIAGE

“Enjoy life with your wife, whom you love, all the days of this meaningless life that God has given you under the sun.” Ecclesiastes 9:9

3 Types of Fun Every Married Couple Must Enjoy

1. _____ TO _____

“Your neck is like an ivory tower. Your eyes are the pools of Heshbon by the gate of Bath Rabbim. Your nose is like the tower of Lebanon looking toward Damascus. Your head crowns you like Mount Carmel. Your hair is like royal tapestry...” Song of Sol. 7:4–5

2. _____ TO _____

“Come, my beloved, let us go to the countryside, let us spend the night in the villages.” Song of Solomon 7:11

3. _____ TO _____

“Let us go early to the vineyards to see if the vines have budded, if their blossoms have opened, and if the pomegranates are in bloom— there I will give you my love.” Song of Solomon 7:12

Life Lesson for Fun...

_____ IT!

Growth Group Homework

For the Week of April 21, 2013

MY STORY

1. Share your name and a word that describes you using the first letter of your name.
2. Which of the 3 types of fun in marriage that Pastor John talked about was most interesting to you? Explain.

DIGGING DEEPER

When it comes to happiness and “fun” in life and in marriage, or as unmarried, having a proper perspective of God and of ourselves is vital. Some see God as a “Cosmic Kill-Joy”, deadly serious all the time, never wanting you to experience any satisfaction; while others see God as the, “Great Teddy Bear in the Sky”, always there to make you happy and never disciplining you, even when you need it. Read the following verses: *Ecclesiastes 2:24-3:4; 3:12-13; 5:18-20; 9:7-9*

1. Jot down the common words or themes you see in these verses?

2. What do these verses tell you about God?

3. What has been your general perspective on God? As the Cosmic Kill-Joy or the Great Teddy Bear in the Sky? Or, has your experience of God been somewhere in the middle? Or none of those? Explain.

4. Do these verses change your perspective on God and how He relates to your enjoyment and satisfaction in life and in your marriage? How so? If you are not married, how might these verses change your perspective on being single and do they give you a better understanding of the possibilities that God might have for you in marriage? Explain.

(see next page)