

Husband & Wife for Life: Rejoice

Proverbs 5:18 exhorts – “Let your fountain be blessed **and rejoice with the wife of your youth.**” Solomon was instructing his son, but the same advice could be given to a daughter: “**Rejoice with the husband of your youth.**” This verse is applicable for married couples who are newlyweds and for those who have celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. The verse does not state that we should rejoice with our spouse in our youth but to rejoice with the spouse of our youth. There is a big difference! The longer a Christian couple is married, the closer and more united they should become. Even as years pass, Chell will still be my wife. I married her in my youth and she will still be the wife of my youth if we live to be elderly. I want to continually rejoice with her and have a happy, blessed marriage!

But how? How can we rejoice with our spouse? It begins with the realization that **marriage is not trivial; it is something of great value. Good marriages don't happen on accident. They must be cultivated and cherished.**

It's important to have fun with your spouse. Be playful. Laugh at your spouse's jokes. Complement your mate in front of others (privately and publicly). Read books together. Take trips together. Send your mate e-mails expressing how much you love them. Send a card with a handwritten note inside. Buy flowers or a small gift. Rejoice with the spouse of your youth!

No one should know better than you how to rejoice with your spouse. If you don't know how to make your mate happy, then it's time you learned. In marriage, it's often the little kindness and expressions of love that make the difference between a decent marriage and a phenomenal one! Look for ways to rejoice with the spouse of your youth. You won't regret it!

Donald