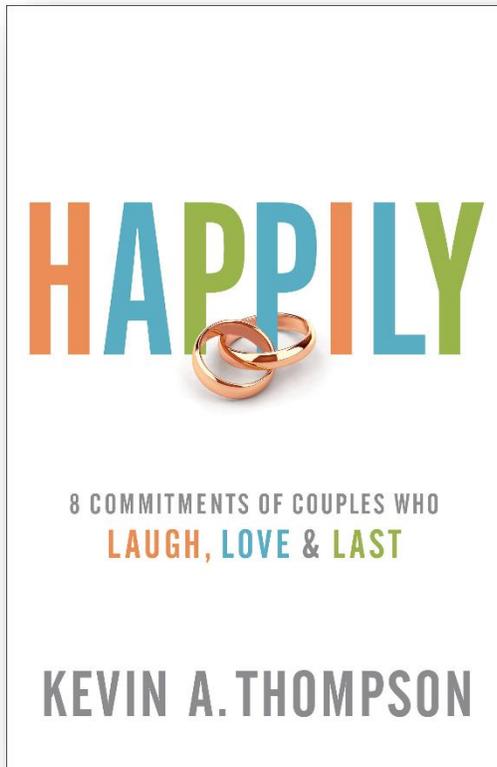


How to Make Your Marriage Stronger Than A Fairy Tale



Newlywed bliss has an ending. Marriage takes commitment, and often it doesn't take long for trouble to seep in and bad habits to become entrenched. Many couples wonder when the "worse" part will end, and the "better" part will begin.

Lead Pastor and marriage conference speaker, Kevin A. Thompson has good news: the "better" part is always within reach with eight specific commitments to each other. These commitments lead down the pathway to solve almost any problem marriages face and helps to prevent new ones from occurring. With biblical insights and engaging personal stories, *Happily: 8 Commitments of Couples Who Laugh, Love & Last* empowers couples to:

- see marriage as bigger than themselves
- avoid both apathy and aggression
- release the desire for power
- make and maintain peace
- endure difficult times

Happily, is a great resource that will help couples identify potential problems in a marriage, so they can prevent them from occurring. It encourages them to take an honest look at themselves, make the necessary changes to protect their marriage, and ultimately live in a climate of love, forgiveness and mercy. It is the road map to living "happily ever after."

***Happily: 8 Commitments of Couples Who Laugh, Love & Last* by Kevin Thompson**

ISBN: 9780800728120 | 208 pages, paperback | \$15.99 | October 2018

About the Author



Kevin A. Thompson (MDiv, Beeson Divinity School) is lead pastor at Community Bible Church, a growing multi-site church with four locations in western Arkansas. Every year he meets with nearly one hundred couples with a range of needs, from pre-marital counseling to navigating the most serious betrayals. A marriage and parenting conference speaker, he and his wife, Jenny, have two children and live in Fort Smith, Arkansas. He blogs at www.kevinathompson.com.

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Praise for *Happily*

"I loved this book! You don't find a good marriage; you *make* one. On each page Kevin offers practical insight and a wonderful ability to communicate hope for your marriage. This book is worth your investment of time. Great insight and life-changing principles."

- **Jim Burns, PhD**; president, HomeWord; author of *Creating an Intimate Marriage*, *Closer*, *The First Few Years of Marriage*, and *Getting Ready for Marriage*

"In his new book, *Happily: 8 Commitments of Couples Who Laugh, Love & Last*, Kevin A. Thompson has written an excellent guide to help couples achieve a happy, loving, and joyful marriage. Filled with interesting insights and powerful wisdom, it keeps readers turning page after page. Curl up in a comfy chair with a blanket and a cup of coffee--you're going to love this one!"

- **Rick Johnson**, bestselling author of *Becoming Your Spouse's Better Half* and *How to Talk So Your Husband Will Listen*

"Certainly, marriage is no fairy tale. But it can be full of laughter and love, and Kevin uses his insight and experience to describe actionable ways we can live out the commitments of the Beatitudes in the day-to-day of marriage. Having witnessed his relationship with his wife, Jenny, firsthand, I find it refreshing to read an honest account of the work and the fun involved in making a relationship not only work but last. There will always be stumbles on the path one walks with their spouse, but Kevin and his wife navigate them with practicality, humility, and a healthy dose of humor. I thoroughly enjoyed this book and look forward to putting it to good use in my own marriage."

- **Kristan Roland**, blogger, *Confessions of a Cookbook Queen*

"Marriage is not simply luck; it is a series of wise choices that make up the path to the happily ever after. At the beginning of our Love-Wise ministry, we made a commitment to help couples gain the how-tos that make for healthy relationships. In *Happily: 8 Commitments of Couples Who Laugh, Love & Last*, Pastor Kevin A. Thompson has created a practical, doable, and helpful road map so every willing couple can have the directions to journey successfully to a love that lasts--happily!"

- **Pam and Bill Farrel**, authors of forty-five books, including the bestselling *Men Are Like Waffles*, *Women Are Like Spaghetti* and *Red Hot Monogamy*

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Suggested Interview Questions

1. Explain how pride and humility can help or hurt a relationship?
2. What are some of the early signs of pride in a marriage?
3. What is a just-right perspective and what are some questions to ask for self-assessment?
4. Please explain the aspects of our true nature that may marriage reveal and why are these a gift?
5. How can couples mourn their imperfections to become healthy and empowered?
6. In your book you talk about meekness being the right way to act in a marriage, that it is the effective operating system for couples, what is meekness and what is it not, and how does aggression and apathy come into the equation?
7. What is the declaration of intent, who is it made to, and why is the true meaning of it so important when understanding that our marriage is bigger than us?
8. Why is mercy so important to a marriage, and what are some behavioral traits associated with no having any mercy in the relationship?
9. What are some reasons couples would lie and specially what are some of the most damaging?
10. What are some ways a couple renew their intimacy?
11. Why is proximity so important to a marriage and what are some intentional choices couple can make to be closer in proximity?
12. What are some characteristics of true peace, what are some counterfeits to it?
13. What is the best way to protect your marriage?

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