



August 2014

Dear Friends,

*Would you get in a car or a plane for a trip if you believed that **your rate of survival was 50%**?*

**The myth that 50% of marriages end in divorce** has contributed to lower rates of marriage and increased cohabitation today. Couples don't like the odds. **YOU can help combat that myth!**

**Myth?** Yes, myth. It's a statistic that we hear continuously in our culture today. Our rate of divorce in the U.S. has never been 50%, even at it's worse. According to a report from the Census Bureau, **72.5% of women** in the 50-59 year-old age group (includes widows) **are still married to their first spouse**. If we could take out those who are single because of the death of a spouse, the rate of divorce might be 25%. **YOU can encourage young married couples!**

**The effect of the myth is wide-spread discouragement.** If I am unhappy in my marriage, I might think that I only have a 50% chance of making it; I must be part of the half that doesn't. But if I know that 75% make it, then I might be able to figure out how to make it work too.

We have found that **the small things that we do or don't do in marriage can make a huge difference.** [See more on this in our enclosure] **Most marriages aren't having problems because of the big issues**, such as alcoholism or other destructive behaviors. In the book, *The Surprising Secrets of Highly Happy Marriages* by Shaunti Feldhahn, the author surveyed many couples and reveals how small things can change the climate of a marriage.

**TRY IT!** One suggestion from the author of **a small thing that any of us can do** is:

- **Women:** notice the little day-to-day things your spouse does and **say "thank you"**. Saying 'thank you' to a guy is the emotional equivalent of when he says 'I love you' to you! Sincerely say thank you several times a day and you will transform your marriage.
- **Men:** **take your wife's hand** when you are walking across a parking lot, **or put your arm around her** when you are sitting together at church. Those gestures deeply please the vast majority of women on my survey, because it says some important things like, "You're mine." That day-to-day reassurance that you would choose her all over again is priceless.

**THANK YOU for continuing to support the work we do with couples everyday in our office - strengthening marriages and preparing couples for marriage.**

**THANK YOU for your prayers and support for WISDOM Community School. Our next project is a security wall around the school property.** A recent break-in reinforces the urgency to begin the project. **The cost is \$22,000.** We currently have \$3500 donated towards that project. YOU may give by sending a check, online at our website, or through an electronic transfer. Please contact us for more info. Donations are tax-deductible; 100% goes to the project.

To see more about the school and current news, visit [wisdomcommunityschool.com](http://wisdomcommunityschool.com) .

**Thank YOU** for your continued support! **We could not continue this ministry without YOU!** We love and appreciate YOU and your support of what God is doing!

Our love in Christ,

Donna and Ed Edwards

**P.S. Pray for the protection of Wisdom Community School and the funds for a security wall around the compound.**

*The water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.*  
John 4:14b  
*Living Well is a life source, not a life style.*

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