

A publication of  
Genuine Joy Ministries

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:**

- Women many times rely on their feelings... and feelings aren't that reliable. They come and go, they're up and down, they're off and on.
- Rely on the facts.
- "Act as if"
- Living God's way

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# The Hard Questions

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## Answers to Life's Hard Questions— Are You Ready?

Dear Joy,

**I'm a single woman in love with a married man. He promised to divorce his wife and marry me but not yet, he says. Also, we're both Christians, in fact we're both active in our church. If this is wrong why does it feel so right?**

This is a serious issue that happens all too frequently. I'll start with your question about how something wrong can feel right. The short answer is: because you feel loved. Women many times rely on their feelings because for the most part, we're more in touch with our emotions. The problem comes when feelings fade away. You see, even for women, feelings aren't that reliable. They come and go, they're up and down, they're off and on.

So what can we rely on? Facts head the list. What are the facts in your situation? You're doing something you know to be wrong. You're doing something you know God's word says is wrong. You're involved in an activity society knows is wrong. So if you go on facts instead of feelings, you can see, can't you, that getting out of this relationship is your next step.

However, knowing what you need to do and doing it are two different things. How do you stop "feeling" in love, anyway? Stop and think about how you would feel if you were in his

wife's shoes. Betrayed? Angry? Sick at heart? All of these and more would be your lot. You say you're a Christian. Christians are called to be Christ-like. A way that is different from how the world acts. We're supposed to be a light to the unbelieving world, showing God's love and grace to them. If we act like the world, what do we have to offer them? "Do as I say, not as I do?" Did that ever work for you when directed your way?

Let me tell you a little bit about our Heavenly Father. He extends grace and love to each one of us. Grace is mercy we don't deserve, expressed through love. Not one of us deserves His grace no matter where we are or what we've done. But He showers it in abundance upon us taking us from where we are in life to where He wants us to be. He wants us to take His hand and walk with Him. A suggestion for you, if you are sincere about changing your feelings, is to "act as if." You have the ability to "act as if" you are not in love with him any more. At first it feels like you're pretending but you soon find that you've taken control of your will through this method and

with God's help, placed your will under His control.

Further, the scriptures have all the guidance, information and instruction we need for a lifetime. Let me throw a few verses your way that speak to this:

*"But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people." (Ephesians 5:3)*

*"It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God . . ." (1. Thessalonians 4:3, 4)*



**Whose will?**

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Do not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.” (Matthew 5:27-30)



THE CHOICE  
IS YOURS.

I can guess what you might say next: “But you don’t know our situation. We both love and serve God and feel He’s blessed our relationship. And I love him.”

He’s still with his wife, according to your question. **IF** he were to divorce her, you would be helping to destroy a home. But he seems to be reluctant to take that step. He says he will, but not yet. You need to consider these facts also: he’s cheated on his wife, he will probably cheat on you; he made a promise but refuses to keep it. How many other promises to you will he break? What really are you “in love” with? Perhaps you are in love with the idea of love or in love with the ideal of a man and you’ve attached that ideal to him or you are in love with the idea of marriage and want to get there no matter who or what gets in your way.

The only real solution to your dilemma lies in realizing your sin, repenting of it and deciding to live God’s way. This will result in peace, joy and blessing from the Father with hope for a bright future. Anything else will only bring you heartache, unease and ultimately, despair. It’s your choice and your decision. Be assured that I am praying you make the right choice.

## Resources & Info

7 You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth? 8 That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who calls you.

*Galatians 5:7-8*

### Web Sites:

[Christian Dating Tips](#)

### Books:

***Unexpected Legacy of Divorce*** by Wallerstein, Lewis & Blakeslee

***Why Some Christians Commit Adultery*** by John Sandford

***Confessions of an Adulterous Christian Woman: Lies That Got Me There; Truths That Brought Me Back*** by Lyndell Hetrick

***Dateable: Are You? Are They?*** By Justin Lookadoo & Hayley Morgan

“LOVE DOES NOT CONSIST OF GAZING AT EACH OTHER,  
BUT IN LOOKING TOGETHER IN THE SAME DIRECTION.”

ANTOINE DE SAINT-EXUPERY

# Genuine Joy Ministries

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## Helping you find genuine joy!

Scripture quotations taken from the *New International Version*.  
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Sometimes you come up with really hard, tough questions that you don't have the answers to.

At times you're too embarrassed or uncomfortable to ask your friends and family... and when you are brave enough to ask the questions, even they don't always have the answers.

**You don't think you have anyone that you can talk to... well now you do.**

Genuine Joy Ministries is dedicated to helping you find the answers to life's hardest questions.

**Write us—Email us**

## Just for Fun

A gynecologist had become fed up with malpractice insurance and HMO paperwork and was burned out. Hoping to try another career where skillful hands would be beneficial, he decided to become a mechanic. He went to the local technical college, signed up for classes, attended diligently, and learned all he could. When the time for the practical exam approached, the gynecologist prepared carefully for weeks and completed the exam with tremendous skill.

When the results came back, he was surprised to find that he had obtained a score of 150%. Fearing an error, he called the instructor, saying, "I don't want to appear ungrateful for such an outstanding result, but I wonder if there is an error in the grade."

The instructor said, "During the exam, you took the engine apart perfectly, which was worth 50% of the total mark. "You put the engine back together again perfectly, which is also worth 50% of the mark." After a pause, the instructor added, "I gave you an extra 50% because you did it all through the muffler, which I've never seen done in my entire life. "



**"Love is a choice you make from moment to moment."**

**Barbara De Angelis**

