



Newsletter

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- Up Words # 18

GREAT KISS !



"You may kiss the bride." Those magical minister's words encourage an affectionate affirmation of the marriage nuptials. In front of their guests, the couple warmly embrace and sweetly seal their lips and their lives to each other. We shyly smile but never tire of these tender moments.

Wes Becker and Kelly Bradburn were married at our church on May 26th. When they began dating three years ago they agreed they would not kiss until their wedding day. That is a noble and honorable commitment that few would make and even fewer would keep but these two did. When it came time for Wes to kiss his bride, with great delight he swept her into his arms and dipped her backward almost to the floor and put his lips on hers for the first time. That was a really great kiss to watch and I'm sure it was even more magnificent for the couple who had saved it for so long.

The word "kissed" occurs in the Bible only twenty-two times. Consider with me one account of a great kiss found in Psalm 85:10. "Lovingkindness and truth have met together; Righteousness and peace have kissed each other" (NASV). This Psalm from the sons of Korah identifies the couple as lovingkindness and truth. "Kissing" sentimentally communicates the sweetness of their relationship. When loyal love (lovingkindness) is wed with faithful fidelity (truth) the result is a wonderful union. When righteousness kisses peace ... great things happen.

The reality is that God's people, the Israelites, had often been unrighteous. Yet, God showed them favor and forgiveness and covered their sins (Psalm 85:1-2). When the people of God had experienced the mercy of God indeed they sought restoration and revival (Psalm 85:4-7). This coupling of God's mercy and the prayerful pleas of His people resulted in a really good relationship. The sons of Korah were so moved by this that they wrote a love song (Psalm 85) and gave it to the choir director for use in temple worship.

Do we sing of God's love? Do we marvel at God's mercy? Next time you see a great kiss ... remember we have a great God who loves us, seeks us and saves us.

Looking Up!

Pastor Chuck Circle