

## Wealth

- \* *Married men earn 10% to 40% more money than single men with similar education and job histories.* Married men have greater work commitment, lower quit rates due to emotional support of wives (“Why Marriage Matters”).
- \* *Married couples build more wealth.* A couple nearing retirement builds assets of \$410,000 - three to four times that of divorced or never-married people. Even those who live together a long time do not build wealth (Waite & Gallagher).
- \* *A fifth to one-third of divorced women fall into poverty* (“Marriage Matters”).

## Better Sex

- \* *Married couples have better sex than singles.* One study revealed 43% of married men have sex at least twice a week, while only 26% of single men have sex that often.

Similarly, 39% of wives have sex twice a week or more often compared to 20% of single women.

## A Better Way to Test the Relationship

Living together seems to be a good way to test the relationship, but studies show that nearly half break up. Those who marry after cohabiting are 50% more likely to divorce than those who never lived together.

**Marriage Savers** points to a better way to test the relationship. Take a premarital questionnaire and discuss the issues it surfaces with a counselor or, even better, a mentor couple. Mentors also teach couples considering marriage practical skills to improve communication and conflict resolution. Of 288 couples who met with mentors in one church from 1992-2000, 53 decided not to marry. However, there were only seven divorces of those who married.

**That’s a 3% failure rate over a decade or a 97% success rate. *That’s marriage insurance.***



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# Health, Wealth, Longer Life and Better SEX!



Get All 4  
When You Marry!

*Marry?*

**Yes!**

Research says  
that’s how you can  
have it all!

## Facts on Marriage in America

The number one aspiration of high school seniors is to have a good marriage and family life, but each year fewer couples opt for marriage. If the same percentage of couples were marrying in 2005 as in 1970:

- \* *There would be one million more marriages a year* - 3.2 million marriages not 2.2 million (Marriage Savers).
- \* *The number of never-married people would not have jumped from 21 million in 1970 to 52 million in 2003* (Census).



## Longer Life

- \* *Married men live 10 years longer than single or divorced men* (The Case for Marriage by Linda Waite and Maggie Gallagher).
- \* *Nine of ten married men will live past age 65, compared to six in ten unmarried men.* Why?



- \* *Divorced men are twice as likely to die from the big killers - heart disease, stroke, hypertension and cancer as married men, 4 times as apt to die of auto accidents and suicide* (J. J. Lynch in The Broken Heart: The Medical Consequences of Loneliness).
- \* *A divorced woman is 2-3 times as likely to die of all forms of cancer as a married woman who is far less prone to physical illness as a single woman* (J. J. Lynch).



## Health

- \* *Married people enjoy better health than single or divorced people.* Spouses care for one another better and adopt healthier lifestyles, such as lower rates of alcohol consumption than do singles. Children living with both biological parents are less likely to use illicit drugs, alcohol and tobacco. Parental divorce reduces a child's life expectancy by four years. ("Why Marriage Matters," Institute for American Values).
- \* *"Divorce and the process of marital breakup put people at much higher risk for both psychiatric and physical illness...Being divorced and a non-smoker is only slightly less dangerous than smoking a pack of cigarettes a day and staying married"* (Dr. David and Susan Larson in Physician magazine).