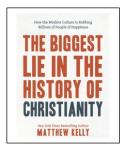
The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity (BLHC)

How Modern Culture Is Robbing Billions of People of Happiness by Matthew Kelly

Summary:

"God wants you to be happy!"



Do you believe it's possible to be happier than you have ever been before? Not for fleeting moments, but consistently?

Bestselling author Matthew Kelly believes it is possible—and in his latest book, *The Biggest Lie*, he explains how. We all want to be happy and live life to the fullest, but the answer isn't found in the world's definition of happiness.

Modern culture is constantly feeding us lies, and these lies affect you more than you know. The lies that affect you the most, however, are the ones you tell yourself. These lies steal your joy, sap your energy, and cause you to lose hope. They prevent you from discovering the kind of vibrant faith the first Christians experienced.

But as Kelly shows, we've arrived at a crucial moment in history. People are disillusioned with what the world offers. *The world is in desperate need of change*, and no one is in a better position to affect that change than Christians. We have an incredible opportunity to dispel the lies and cut through the confusion and false promises around us.

This book provides the practical tools necessary to help you regain your fervor and leave your mark on the world—and experience more happiness than you thought possible. Together we can change the course of history—with humility, generosity, kindness, and joy, one *Holy Moment* at a time.

"The world needs to be transformed, and nobody is in a better position to do that than Christians. In fact, I would argue that if Christians do not change the world, it will not change for the better." (Matthew Kelly, BLHC, p 56)

"The future of Christianity and the world will rise, or fall based upon the unconsidered possibility that the average person in the street is capable of collaborating with God to create Holy Moments on a daily basis." (Matthew Kelly, BLHC, pg. 56)

"The single idea that holiness *is possible,* effectively communicated to Christians of all ages and activated on a massive scale, is enough to turn the tide for Christianity in our society." (Matthew Kelly, BLHC, pg. 57)

"A *Holy Moment* is a moment when you open yourself to God. You make yourself available to Him. You set aside what you feel like doing in that moment, and you set aside self-interest, and for one moment you simply do what you prayerfully believe God is calling you to do in that moment." Matthew Kelly, BLHC, pgs. 35 – 36)

"The Saints were not HOLY. They simply lived more Holy Moments. They lived life just like you and I, one moment at a time. *HOLINESS* is possible for YOU, too! Jesus taught us how to have more Holy Moments than not. (Matthew Kelly, BLHC, pg. 37) (See LINK to HOLY MOMENTS for ideas on how to have a life of Holy Moments.)

What is the Principle of Spiritual Multiplication?

A method used that Jesus himself chose as the foundation of his ministry, and the strategy he put in place to change the world after he died on the cross, rose from the dead and ascended into heaven. It is based on one simple idea:

"Invest in a small group of people, teaching them how to create Holy Moments and become disciples of Jesus, then empower each of them to go out and do the same for another small group of people. You *collaborate with God* to create Holy Moments, and then collaborate with Him again to teach other people to create Holy Moments." (Matthew Kelly, BLHC, pg. 93)

YOUR MISSION: Disciple three people; teach them how to create *Holy Moments and* teach them each to disciple three more people.

MATH: You +3, plus their 9 = 39 39 x 3 = 117 117 x 3 = 351 351 x 3 = 1,053 1,053 x 3 = 3, 159 etc., etc... 767,637 x3 = 2,302,911 etc., etc...6,908,733 x3 = 20,726,199

It only takes 15 cycles to reach, to teach 20 MILLION PEOPLE how to create *Holy Moments!* AND only nineteen cycles to reach, to teach 1 BILLION people AND 1.7 BILLION to reach, to teach 5 BILLION...only 7 BILLION in the world today!

It's been done before!

The early Christians paved the way. They had huge challenges but also a hunger to transform the cultural norm and change the world. They left us a blueprint and we can use that blueprint to do it again. Transforming our culture will be a bit easier than our predecessors for three reasons:

- 1. We have legal rights that the first Christians did not
- 2. There are more of us
- 3. We have the technology that has been used so powerfully against Christianity, and we can harness it now for God and goodness

AND

We can imitate the strategy of the first Christians – they lived differently, they worked differently, and they loved differently than everyone else around them. *Holy Moments* were a daily part of Christian life from the very beginning. They differentiated their themselves from the dominant culture of their times. Today's Christians tent to blend in and that needs to change if we are going to establish a new, vibrant and positive identity in the midst of a culture that is proactively hostile toward Christianity. Remember the *Principle of Spiritual Multiplication*.

THIS IS HOW WE CHANGE THE WORLD! No more excuses! (Matthew Kelly, BLHC, pgs. 93 – 95)

"When excuses stop, change happens!"

REMINDER (Matthew Kelly, BLHC, pg. 7)

- Happiness and pleasure are not the same thing
- Getting what I want doesn't make me happy
- Focusing on myself almost never leads to happiness
- I am never happy when I pretend to be someone, I am not
- Too much of the happiness I experience is dependent on unsustainable circumstances or situations
- The more I help others in their quest for lasting happiness, the happier I seem to be
- Lying never makes me happy
- Happiness is always found by embracing the present moment
- It is impossible to be grateful and unhappy at the same time
- Anything that helps me become a-better-version-of-myself makes me happy even if it is difficult or painful
- Happiness is contagious

"There is nothing more attractive than holiness. *Holy Moments* are the answer to the world's problems."

Matthew Kelly, BLHC, pg. 69

RESOURCH: www.lighthouseideas.org TAB: PARISH LIFE: Holy Moments Worksheet