

# H<sub>2</sub>OPE

For Marriage

*"Many Waters Cannot Quench Love"*



By David Knight

# H<sub>2</sub>OPE – For Marriage

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## **Downstream from Eden**

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# H<sub>2</sub>OPE — For Marriage

## Introduction

*How priceless is your unfailing love,  
Your sky-high faithfulness,  
Your flowing river of delights.  
You are the fountain of life to me.*

The Bible is all about love — loving God and loving people.

It begins with God's love for his creation, lavishing it with light and energy. That energy spills over into our lives as we form families and communities that flourish as we practice love.

But love is not always easy to practice. Love is always a choice and we have this instinct to want things our own way. We compete and vie for power, often with disastrous results.

The Hebrew word for love, *hesed*, occurs 250 times in the Bible, weaving together ideas of steadfastness, covenant loyalty, self-giving sacrificial faithfulness. *Hesed* is love that always has your back.

When Tiffany and I got married we had our wedding rings inscribed with the Hebrew word '*hesed*'. We have discovered, of course, that having a golden word on our rings doesn't magically make affection and respect happen. Love takes work and commitment.

Tiffany is a hydrogeologist by profession, a field that deals with the flow of groundwater and harmful toxins that can permeate those underground currents. Her field of study inspired me to research how the Bible uses water to teach us about love — the invisible currents that run under the surface that can enhance or threaten the purity of our hearts.

This booklet contains seven excerpts from my book *Downstream from Eden*. I hope these seven segments intrigue and inspire you to a richer deeper life of love.

David Knight