

## CAN GOD BE UNDERSTOOD?

Today, probably more than ever before, there is a deep hunger for God in the hearts of people everywhere. But the question is, will they find Him?

Many times, God is hidden by our own shallow fascination of high ideas that don't come down to practical, daily experience. Do we need to be scholars to get to know God more?

Something within us rebels at the idea.

In *How to Be Really, Really, Really Happy!*, an amazingly humorous book that suddenly seizes its reader with its depth, warmth and wisdom, Bo Sanchez tells us that God is just around the corner. Because He wants to be understood.

From his own dynamic yet simple personal experiences, Bo presents to us different angles of the face of God that we have yet to discover.

This special collection includes the most loved of all of Bo's articles such as:

- Mr. Lonely Drives Home
- God Likes Washing Machines
- Bugs Bunny for Now, or Donald Duck Forever

*How to Be Really, Really, Really Happy!* is a KERYGMA Collection Book published by SHEPHERD'S VOICE. These writings first appeared in KERYGMA, a Catholic inspirational magazine. They were edited for the purpose of this book.



ISBN 978-971-92613-9-1

BO SANCHEZ

How to Be Really, Really, Really Happy!



# HOW TO BE REALLY REALLY REALLY HAPPY!



**BUT FIRST, LET ME INTRODUCE  
YOU TO MY UNCOMPLICATED GOD**

# BO SANCHEZ

THE FIRST OF "THE BOSS" SERIES FROM KERYGMA MAGAZINE  
(WITH A BRAND NEW INTRODUCTION)



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HOW TO BE  
REALLY  
REALLY  
REALLY  
HAPPY!



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**HOW TO BE REALLY, REALLY, REALLY HAPPY!** Previously published as **Thank God He's Boss!**, Copyright 2000, by Shepherd's Voice Publications, Inc. No part of this book may be used or reproduced without the written permission of its publisher — except in brief quotations.

ISBN 978-971-92613-9-1

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This is a **KERYGMA** collection book.

These writings first appeared in the early years of **KERYGMA**, a Catholic inspirational magazine, as monthly articles written by Bo Sanchez in his regular column, "The BOss."

Shepherd's Voice is a non-profit company committed to bringing people closer to God.

Cover design and Layout by Rey P. de Guzman

To Dad and Mom,  
who gave me wings  
and freed me to soar  
with the Owner of the sky.

I love you.



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## **FOREWORD**

God is simple.

We tend to complicate Him with our love for big words.

We like to impress people by using convoluted (and confusing) theological sentences.

What a pity.

Because I think God wants to be understood. Hey, I'm not a great thinker or anything like that.

But I do like telling stories — crazy ones that come from my own personal experiences with this wonderful God.

So put up your feet, relax and sip your Coke. And let me tell you my first crazy story.



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# INTRODUCTION

## HOW YOU CAN BE REALLY HAPPY

But First, Let Me Introduce You to My  
Uncomplicated God...

Gosh, I can't believe it.

I started writing the articles in this book when I was a young, green, idealistic, and immature 24-year-old single guy without a care in the world. With a Bible, a guitar and a toothbrush, I'd go off and travel around the world in a blink of an eye. Want me to minister in the frozen city of Winnipeg? Anytime. Want me to go in communist Xiamen? Sure. Want me to preach in Kota Kinabalu? Give me five minutes to pack and I'm on my way... (Yep, I went to all these places, and a hundred cities more.

Today, I'm a not-so-young, not-so-green, still-idealistic-yet-now-realistic 40-year-old guy married to the woman of his dreams and the father of two fantastic boys. Aside from God and faith and prayer and theology, my mind is now also occupied with the monthly electricity bill, monthly water bill, annual insurance premiums, etc.

And now when I travel, I bring my entire family along, dragging with me eight massive bags. It takes a bit more planning. It takes a bit more money. But I still do what I do.

So I decided to read through these pages again and find out if I've changed my mind on a few things...

As I read through this book, I said, "Wow, this kid's a great writer."

Kidding aside, I lambasted my writing style. Over and over again, I kept saying to myself, "Ugh. Lousy adverb. Ugh. Poor choice of adjectives. Ugh..."

But you know what? The content still blew me away.

In fact, there were parts in this book when I shed tears, remembering those moments in my life with great vividness.

More than ever before, I realize that truth doesn't change.

God is still the uncomplicated God.

Near. Real. And loving.

So wiped my tears away and told my staff, "This is a great book with a lousy title, *Thank God He's Boss*. Who thought of this title, anyway?"

"Uh, you did, sir," was their reply.

“Okay, fire him. I’m changing the title to How To Be Happy...”

“Yes, sir.”

“No, wait. Make it, *How To Be Really Happy.*”

“Yes, sir.”

“No, wait. Make it, *How To Be Really, Really, REALLY Happy!*”

Friends, I’m serious.

This is my “young” life in your hands.

How I started.

How everything began.

And how I discovered a simple path to true happiness.

Enjoy!

I remain your friend,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, sweeping 'B' followed by a smaller 'o'.

Bo Sanchez

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P.S. If you've not yet subscribed to the *The Bo Sanchez Soulfood Letter*, visit [www.bosanchez.ph](http://www.bosanchez.ph) and get my monthly inspirational email for FREE. Aside from giving you more strategies on how to live a fantastic life, you'll also get to know the newest things that I do. (Yes, life has been incredibly exciting for me these past few years.)

P.S.2. I hope to see you one day!

# 1

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## **PIMPLES AND MINISKIRTS**

When I was lying in my bed, yellow as a taxicab and afflicted with hepatitis, not a few incredulously asked why I was sick. They were shocked that I, “who’s so close to God,” could actually still get ill.

Wow.

Listen: Before any other ideas come to your minds, I’m going to straighten things out for you.

I’m human.

Would you believe I get pimples on my face?

I have six molars that are filled and two already root-canalled. No, not supernaturally by some angelic beings with laser beams, but by my wonderful neighbor dentist who always gives me a wonderful discount.

I’m dirty when I arrive home at night. The Lord does not cover me with an invisible shield throughout the day that repels dust, grime, smoke and mosquitoes.

Like many, I love (adore, worship and venerate) pizza, sushi, sashimi, and A&W Rootbeer floats. No, not some heavenly manna sent me by God that



suddenly appears at my breakfast table with holy water from a holy rock under the kitchen sink. And for crying out loud, I don't fast eight days a week.

Like the rest of you, I fall in love, get hurt and cry.

I sin. I get tempted when I see girls in miniskirts. I feel pride well up within me when people applaud what I do. I get envious when someone drives a car that's better than the one I drive (or push, which is often). I get lazy, jealous, greedy, ambitious, insensitive, selfish...

I'm human.

And so is this book.

That's why I hope you'll like it. (Oops. I'm feeling proud again...) Because we are all in this together, struggling to get up, falling again, standing up again.

This book will understand what you're going through, and it will speak about it unabashedly. It doesn't want to float in the air. It's about reality. Here and now.

P.S. Super saints. That's what you and I will be in heaven. In God's glorious home, I'm not going to have pimples. And from what I hear, everyone will be wearing very long, white, flowing gowns.