The Murfin Minute 1arch 8th, 2010





Help for today. Hope for tomorrow.

# **Over 8,000 Lives Changed**

The spring season for the Weekend To Remember conference opened two weeks ago and saw over 8,000 people in attendance, despite record snowfalls out east where most of the conferences were taking place! Here's just one testimony from a couple love like you mean it whose lives were changed:

"We attended in Hershey and loved every minute of it despite the tears as God spoke to our hearts.

We are hoping to be there again next year with 21 years of marriage, 22 years together! Thank you so much for your work with our marriage, as though it was personal to us!"

Lisa and I – and all of the staff here at FamilyLife - are always so blessed to hear the stories of what God does in the lives of couples at these events. When you see or hear of how God has worked in the life of a couple you invite, would you please pass it on to us? Thank you for your partnership. Pray with us that God will work powerfully in each and every event this year.

We pray that His hope, joy and love will fill your hearts this Easter.

( Ini and Lisa

## **Ethan's Escapades**

Snow! Can you believe it? I know it's nothing compared to back home, but this is Arkansas. We've had not one, but two snow days already this year. I think the snowplough has been working hard. Everything shuts down here when it snows.



## **Praise Items**

 Praise that, despite the bad weather, over 8,000 lives were changed at recent events.

 Praise that we have found a homechurch and are beginning to settle there.

# **Prayer Requests**

 Pray for safe travels and a chance to witness as Chris visits his parents—he's not been able to visit them for over 2½ years.

• Pray for Lisa and Ethan while Chris is away.

## MomLifeToday.com

We are excited to announce the launch of our new and improved site for our FamilyLife MomBlog community. We invite you to join us at www.momlifetoday.com ...where every MOMent counts!

Moms need friends we can walk through life with, but more importantly we need friends who will encourage us and equip us in our role as moms in an honest and transparent way ... and that's just what you'll find by becoming part of our MomLife Today community!

Being a mom 24/7 is not easy. Rather than lament the role of motherhood, however, we choose to embrace that role and learn from each other how to make it through each day with the right attitude.

We will continue to offer our daily posts that provide help and hope, but now there will be several other aspects of our site that we hope will serve you better. We have numerous ways you can be a direct part of MomLife Today:

- "She Says Saturdays" where we want to give you, the reader, a chance to place posts on the site and share how you are ministering to others.
- A MomLife Today Facebook fan page where you can become part of our daily discussions.
- Twitter updates so you can find out what's happening in our momlives.

We are very excited about growing in community with our readers and giving moms a place to pause, connect, and share what is happening in their daily momlife!

## Oksana

Friends of ours, Larry and Erin Loraine, who serve alongside us at Family-Life, have two sons, Clayton (10) and Evan (7). And now they've been called to adopt a soon to be five-year-old girl, Oksana, from Eastern Europe.

This little girl is a "special needs" child, with mild Cerebral Palsy. She is a bright little girl, but cannot walk, and is in much need of physical therapy. Because of her disability, she was due to be institutionalized in her own country, if not for God's call.



The Loraines will be traveling sometime around July of this year to formalize the adoption of their daughter. They are working diligently to expedite the process as much as possible, for the health and safety of this little girl. In addition to completing piles of paperwork, they need to raise about \$24,000 in order to make this happen. Lisa and I would ask that you prayerfully consider giving a special gift to the Loraines to help cover the costs of this adoption and that you keep all of them in your prayers. You can view their giving website and blog for more information:

#### http://www.reecesrainbow.org/sponsorloraine.html

http://www.lorainefamily.blogspot.com/

## **College Ready**

As a part of our commitment to assist lay partners launch and grow ministries, we mentioned in our last prayer letter that we would be sharing different parts of that initiative for a few months. This month we are sharing about College Ready. FamilyLife along with our LifeReady team launched the latest resource in the LifeReady series in February: College Ready.



It has been reported up to 88% of Christian youth will leave the church by the time they have completed College.

Robert Lewis of Men's Fraternity<sup>™</sup> and longtime college ministry vet John Bryson created College Ready to help equip youth leaders and parents to cast a vision for higher education and beyond, empowering students to make the most of their next great adventure.

College Ready is a video-guided experience that addresses six important topics:

- · Dating Right
- · Growing Spiritually
- · Empowering Friendships
- · Having Fun
- · College Starts Best with Vision
- · Excelling Academically

If God has given you a passion for youth and equipping students for the many changes, challenges, and opportunities that college will bring, this resource is for you! If you are a parent, we pray you will take advantage of this great resource! This tool is ideal to use with 11th or 12th grade high school students or freshmen in college. We have already sent one kit to our sending church in Sioux Falls. Let us know if you would like to preview that kit or want to get one for your family/church.

Get them ready for college AND life.