

# FAMILYLIFE™ The Murfin Minute

Help for today. Hope for tomorrow.

January 31st, 2011



Toward the end of November we visited Chris' parents in England; the first time we had been as a family in over 3 years. Chris' parents continue to struggle with various health-related concerns and visiting them was a chance to evaluate their needs and pray about a long-term plan for their care.

As God would have it, our trip coincided with the FamilyLife UK team's annual "Vision and Equipping Day" on December 4th. Since we were relatively close by (in the same country, at least), we took time to visit with the team in Farnham Common, which is just outside of London. We were greatly encouraged to see the passion and work of the team there and to learn how God is ministering to families in the UK, through discipleship, events and "curry nights". (Ask if you're interested!)

Please be in prayer for us as we seek to know God's will regarding a possible move to the UK to work with FamilyLife there. We have a great passion for the work that is being done in Chris' homeland and we would welcome the opportunity to be closer, and thereby more available to Chris' parents.

In Little Rock, Chris continues his work on the eMentoring software by adding new functionality and implementing improvements to accommodate an increase in people seeking mentor relationships. Chris has also been working on a new HR process to improve efficiency in the evaluation and recruitment of new missionary staff for the ministry.

We remain humbled by your ongoing prayer and support. Without you, we would not be able to serve at FamilyLife and see lives changed.

*Chris and Lisa*

## FamilyLife: Around The World

Please pray for the work in the United Kingdom and for Mark and Christine Daniel, who are the FamilyLife Directors and sole-staff there. They are currently seeking to raise up 3 additional staff couples to serve alongside them in the UK to work on new initiatives and expand their reach across the country.



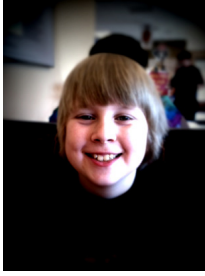
## eMentoring Update

Scripture says, "The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed" (Proverbs 11:25 NLT). Here's how one of our *eMentors* has recently experienced this refreshment:

"Of all the close friends that I have and women that I know, I am the only one that has been disciplined at length by another godly woman. That is so very sad to me. I am thankful that FamilyLife saw this need and responded... I have actually began discipling two women in my church (informally) since I began mentoring with FamilyLife. The skills and training that I received here has helped tremendously."

We hear this often. Our mentors are so thankful for the training and tools they're receiving. It's equipping them for ministry online and in their local church.

We're also graduating mentors more quickly than ever with over 20 new ones fully trained and launched in January! In fact, for the first time in over a year our available mentor-capacity is outpacing our incoming requests. In other words, more mentors are meeting more needs and feeling God's pleasure more than ever before in eMentoring.



### Ethan's Escapades

England had one of their worst Winters on record, but with that I got to play in the snow a bit — that was fun. I also learned about speed-stacking from some friends we were visiting. Speed-stacking is where you build-up and take-down stacks of cups in the quickest possible time. I'm still practicing, but I can take down 9 cups in less than 2 seconds now.

### 2-11-11

On February 11th, FamilyLife's *The Art of Marriage* video event will premiere in over 700 locations nationwide. To find one near you visit: [www.theartofmarriage.com](http://www.theartofmarriage.com)



For our friends in the Sioux Falls area, there are 2 events in the area:

Oak Hills Baptist Church on February 11th from 6:30-9pm and 12th, 9am-4pm. For more details, contact Andy or Sara Traub at (605) 275-4889. Online at <http://www.oakhills.net/marriage/>

Atlas/Embrace Church on February 11th from 6:30pm and 12th, 9am-4pm. (605) 271-3249. Online at <http://iamembrace.com/events/the-art-of-marriage/>

### 2011 Weekend To Remember Spring Season

The Spring Weekend To Remember season kicks off again in February with 121 events in 2011.

The Sioux Falls' getaway isn't until November, but it is in several of South Dakota's neighboring states in March and April. Treat yourselves to this wonderful event that can help strengthen your marriage. Here are the dates and locations for the surrounding states:



Omaha, NE	March 11-13	Minneapolis, MN	March 25-27
Des Moines, IA	March 18-20	Lincoln, NE	March 25-27
Rochester, MN	March 18-20	Davenport, IA	April 1-3

As always, you can sign up online at [www.familylife.com/weekend](http://www.familylife.com/weekend), call 1-800-FL-TODAY, or contact us for more information on how to attend. Use our group name MURFIN for a registration discount.

### Praise Items

- Praise for our safe travels to and from the UK.
- Praise for God's provision in our year-end financial appeal.

### Prayer Requests

- Pray for Chris' parents in the UK, their health, and for us as we seek God's leading in how best to care for them.
- Pray for the kick-off of a new season of Weekend To Remember getaways. Pray for changed lives.