The Murfin Minute ay 25<u>th, 2012</u> Help for today. Hope for tomorrow.

Transformed. Changed. Happy.

"Transformed. Changed. Happy." This was one comment from a couple who attended a recent Weekend to Remember event in Honiley, Warwickshire, about 100 miles north west of London. God richly blessed those present that weekend. Other comments included:



"Most worthwhile experience no matter how or what state a marriage is at. Enrichment of something already good cannot be a bad thing. Saving something under strain is unquantifiable."

"Individual support with [2 of the speakers] was very helpful to

us and has helped to address issues in our marriage which have prevented us over the majority of our 37-year

marriage to be the couple God created us to be."

"It was an amazing opportunity to spend quality time together and invest in our relationship."

"A very special time that has enabled us to reconnect."

A Day Together

In addition to the Weekend to Remember, we're holding more one-day events for couples, aptly named A Day Together. Five events have been scheduled this year. We are seeing incredible responses to these events.

People desire to see real people serve a real God. With less than 15% of the UK population attending church even once per month, these day events provide that opportunity. As Mark Daniel says, "In our culture in the UK, to experience faith, people are invited to go into a church. I would love people to be saying if you want to know about Christianity, talk to a Christian. We are asking the church to go out and at the same time strengthen relationships." Turn this letter over to read how Christine Daniel reached out to her neighbors.

Between Homes

Since our last letter, our house sold, our furniture and belongings shipped to the UK, cleared customs, and are now in storage. Please give God thanks and glory for this miracle! We have traveled north to our home base of South Dakota and are meeting with our ministry partners here to give them updates and raise additional funding to cover the increased cost of living in the UK. It is an amazing rollercoaster of a journey, but we have been graciously blessed with wonderful hospitality while we are in this season of homelessness. Thank you for partnering with us. We're excited you're a part of what God will be doing in the UK.

"Ini and Lisa

Ethan's Escapades

We made it! I was able to celebrate my 12th birthday in Sioux Falls, Worthington, AND Rochester. Having family and friends treat me to cake in each location was an added bonus! I have had so much fun seeing friends and family and even getting to swim in May!







An Atheist Surprised by "A Day Together" By Christine Daniel



Mark and Christine Daniel, FamilyLife UK

When I invited Richard and Bim to our Day Together couples' seminar her first reaction was, "Have the neighbors been talking? I expect they hear us shouting!"

Richard, an atheist, didn't seem at all interested, noting it as *"a Christian thing."* I almost gave up, but I'm so glad I didn't because what happened couldn't have been more of a blessing for them, or for me.

I explained that the seminar was for couples to invest in their relationship. Since they had recently become empty nesters I thought they might be interested. I explained that it was based on biblical

principles of marriage as well as teaching of effective relationship tools. I also reassured them both that there was no group work, role play, or reporting back on their relationship – it would be a day for the two of them. Bim softened. "It might be good for us," she admitted.

As I left them with a leaflet to consider I had no idea whether they would come. Two weeks later I received their booking form!

Like the other thirty-four couples that day, they were in no hurry to leave after the event. Bim had a great time. "The speaker couples were excellent, the exercises very helpful, and I felt that the day had passed so quickly," she said.

Rich was equally positive. "It has helped me to see how strong we are together." He added, "The Christian content was minimal; nothing was forced and what was there was appropriate."

I was very encouraged by their positive responses. The UK is largely secular and in many ways anti-Christian. So to see an atheist moving closer to accepting and embracing Christianity is exciting! Later that evening I received the following text:

"Thanks for excellent day. We got so much from it. Well organized with good presentations. We also went over lots in pub after. Thanks. Bim & Rich xx"

Two and a half months later I received this text:

"Thought I'd let you know we're still keeping to our promises made on our day together. Things are calmer and our daughter noticed as well!! Thanks and hope you're all ok. Bim x"

Richard and Bim were blessed by the Day Together. So was I.

Praise Items

- · Praise for changed lives witnessed at our marriage events and getaways.
- Praise that our belongings arrived in the UK this week and have cleared customs.
- Praise that we've been able to connect with many people so far.

Prayer Requests

• Pray for the remaining support to cover our living and ministry costs in the UK.