The Murfins - Serving with FamilyLife

October 4th, 2013



Equipped for Service

In August we attended Agapé UK's annual Staff Conference for ten days at Nottingham University. We were surprised at what an amazing blessing this time of fellowship and training was for our whole family. Ethan had all-day events with students his own age and was able to stay in his own dorm room next to us. This was a great chance for him to experience a taste of independence. We had five days of training in coaching and five days of church history. This was mentally grueling but very rewarding training. Lisa is especially keen to apply what she has learned in the coaching training to her network development position. Chris was blessed to see the power of the Holy Spirit work in another person as he coached them and it freed him to feel equipped to serve people in this way.



Our Autumn season is ramping up with a series of events. Last weekend, FamilyLife hosted one of our STEPS events, *What is Love Actually?*, in Newcastle. Around 20 people attended and our coworkers, Mark and Christine, were the speakers for the evening. Below are some of the comments we received from the attendees.

"Great! Thank you. A great chance to talk intentionally about our relationship. We have had conversations we might not have had otherwise."

"Good to have some time out to reflect on our marriage and think about what we can do to improve. Great use of video clips."

"Thought provoking, practical. Good to have the time to talk. I liked the structure."

"I really enjoyed the film clips and personal stories. Thank you for being vulnerable and encouraging."

Upcoming events that are scheduled over the next few months:

A Day Together - Nottingham - October 19, 2013
What is Love Actually? - House of Commons, London - October 26, 2013
What is Love Actually? - London Docklands - October 26, 2013
A Day Together - Birmingham - November 9, 2013
Speaker Training - Farnham Common - November 22-24, 2013
A Day Together - All Souls Church, London - January 18th, 2014
FamilyLife European Forum - Gerrards Cross - January 24th-26th, 2014

Please pray for these events, for the logistics involved in hosting them, for safety as we and the attendees travel to and from them, and for restoration and strengthening of relationships through changed hearts and lives.

We greatly value you and your support. We are seeing fruit develop as we continue to do God's work here and are privileged to continue to do so. Thank you!







Technology and Ministry

Chris has continued to support the Agapé Headquarters from an IT perspective through the end of September while they seek a new software developer, but he is now winding down that task to focus more on redesigning and developing three websites for FamilyLife: the UK ministry's main website, as well as sites for the A Day Together events and the Together bible study series. The idea is to bring them all under a new infrastructure to provide a fresh look and feel, as well as a framework which will allow many aspects of the ministry to grow as the FamilyLife network grows around the UK.

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Small Groups



October 14th, we are kicking-off a FamilyLife small group study, titled "Together". This is a 9-session study based on the US Homebuilders materials, but rewritten and modeled for the British audience. Please pray for us as we lead and the four couples attending. Pray that marriages would be strengthened and equipped to help other marriages in the area.



Lisa also hosts a CBS (Community Bible Study) group in our home. They have just begun the study of Galatians. Eight women from the local community attend each week. Please pray for fruit, a time to connect and increased numbers.

The Fall Weekend to Remember schedule continues with:

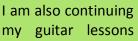
Fort Meyers, FL - 11-13 Oct, 2013 Memphis, TN - 25-27 Oct, 2013 Tampa, FL - 25-27 Oct, 2013 South Padre Island, TX - 8-10 Nov, 2013 Sioux Falls, SD - 22-24 Nov, 2013 Oklahoma City, OK - 18-20 Oct, 2013 Rogers, AR - 25-27 Oct, 2013 Dallas, TX - 1-3 Nov, 2013 Columbus, OH - 15-17 Nov, 2013



Please contact us if you or someone you know would like to take advantage of a discount off the normal registration price for these events.

Ethan's Escapades!

I started school on September 9th. It is slightly hard to get back in the groove after a summer of so much physical activity.



and am even learning a Skillet song at the moment. It is quite difficult requiring very precise & fast movements. My fingers are getting pretty calloused!



Praise Items

- Praise for the fruit we're seeing locally and across the UK.
- Praise for the terrific connections made and training received at our staff conference.

Prayer Requests

- Continue to pray for Lisa's mom's & Chris' dad's health.
- Pray for God's provision to cover a 33% increase in monthly UK taxes.
- Pray for the House of Commons event and that hearts of key political attendees would be changed.
- Pray for good bonding among our Together group members and for marriages to be encouraged and strengthened.



