

The Murfins - Serving with FamilyLife

February 17th, 2015



All Souls— “Understand > Understood”



For the third year in row the FamilyLife team and speakers were invited to host an *A Day Together* event at All Souls church in London. This year we saw 50 couples in attendance. The comments again showed that couples deeply valued getting intentional time with one another in a safe environment and hearing from couples who are real and normalize the challenges of relationships. The most frequently mentioned lessons include learning about love languages, resolving conflict, and improving communication skills. At least three people indicated they wanted to learn more about becoming a Christian. Please pray for each of these couples, and for us as we follow up with those who requested further discipleship.

“Understand > Understood” (This was the feedback from a husband who was attending with his wife for the second year in a row. Using math symbols he humbly admitted that it was greater to understand than to be understood.)

“It doesn’t matter what stage you are at if you are engaged or married, if you are happy or struggling: there is so much to gain. Both times we have come we have been happy but we have gained great insight and left on a great high.”

“Don’t underestimate the power of talking about relationship issues in a fun, open environment!”

“Forgiveness doesn’t mean you’ll not feel wounded – and you may have to keep forgiving.”

“As a non-Christian, not what I was expecting. A very relaxed, yet informative approach to relationships that will benefit both myself and my partner.”

Vision & Equipping – Seeking to be more like Jesus!

Around 100 people came to our annual Vision and Equipping celebration and training days that we held over the last two days of January. This year’s theme was “Incarnate” – to embody or represent in human form. We aimed to encourage and equip everyone present to grow in the fruit of Christlikeness: individually and in community. From the feedback we were greatly encouraged to see that everyone left with at least one Bible verse and fruit of the Spirit that they wanted to incarnate in their lives. There was a tangible zeal to press out into our communities and share the help and hope of God’s principles with those who don’t yet know Jesus as Savior. Please be in prayer for the seeds that were planted to bring fruit and that God would preserve the energy He supplied for His work.



We host this event around the end of January each year. We would love to have you join us if you could.

“[I found] FamilyLife’s infectious enthusiasm for godly marriages and godly people [helpful]: Sincerity and encouragement, we are not alone in our walk.”

A pastor from an African church in the UK said, “First time - saw reality, vulnerability, authenticity, and discipleship at work. I had a great time today. Discipleship, Gospel, Marriage, Evangelism, and community are key words for me.”



What is Love, Actually? - Bournemouth



On Valentine's evening, FamilyLife hosted a "What is Love, Actually?" event in Bournemouth. Mark and Leonie, a couple of fantastic volunteers, helped us bring it to St. Troops Church in the heart of a housing estate. Over 20 couples of various beliefs and none came and were treated to an evening of food interspersed with couple time focusing on the 5 Love Languages by Gary Chapman. The team will return to St Troops on April 25th when we will host another of our day events there.

An Invitation To Move!

Agapé (known as Cru in the US) seeks to provide opportunities to equip their staff and network of ministry partners each summer. We would like to invite you, our partners, to attend the MOVE weekend with us June 12-14 this year. "If you love Jesus and you love people, Agapé's Move Weekend could be for you." Gavin Calver, the newly appointed Director of Mission for The Evangelical Alliance, will lead the main sessions inspiring us to share our faith. There'll be seminars to help you learn how to make a difference in your circle of influence, opportunities to hear stories about what God is doing across the UK, and times of reflection and prayer for our nation. Please let us know if you want more information. Our home is your home!



Thank you for your prayers, partnership and investment in our work as we continue to be your hands and feet in the UK and Europe.

Chris and Lisa

Praise Items

- Praise God for our events this year so far in Malta, London, Gerrards Cross and Bournemouth.
- Praise for the response to our year-end financial appeal.

Prayer Requests

- Pray that God will lift up new partners to support our ministry and living expenses.
- For Lisa's mom who's having surgery to put a third rod into her leg on the 19th of February; pray for a good recovery. Doctors expect 2-3 weeks recovery.
- Please pray and ask God if He might have you attend one of our equipping events to see what God is doing in the UK through our annual Vision & Equipping Weekend or Agapé's Move Weekend.

Weekend To Remember

Please don't forget to contact us if you or someone you know would like to take advantage of a discount off the normal registration price for a Weekend to Remember getaway.



Ethan's Escapades!

The past few months I've been getting more involved in setting up, running tech and also leading our church's youth group on Sunday evening. I really enjoy doing that.

