The Murfin Minute



Chris operating a camera during speaker-sessions.

Last month was busy with the launch of several new initiatives from FamilyLife. February 11th was the debut of The Art of Marriage, which we highlighted last time. Around the world the video conference had a positive reception and on the other side of this letter you can read more about the initial facts, feedback, and comments.



A Chance to Relax

February 14th saw the launch (pun intended) of the first Love Like You Mean It marriage cruise. Over the four-day cruise, around 1,150 couples learned more about God's blueprints for a healthy marriage through four main speaker-sessions. In addition, bibles were distributed to the around 900 international crew working on the ship. Lisa and I had chance to serve on the cruise operating the video cameras during each of the four speaking sessions. Please be in prayer for the couples, their marriages, and for the crew that are sometimes away from their families for six to eight months at a time. If you're interested in participating in next year's cruise, please contact us for more details.

Please rejoice with us in the gift that this cruise together was for us. With the exception of a training course, we had not been out of town for time alone since our first year of marriage. Although we worked a few hours a day, we also had much time to just relax and talk about all that God is doing in our lives and where we need to grow. This was a great investment just before Chris left for a three week trip to be with his parents.



An Initiative of FamilyLife UK Debuting on 6/4.

In fact, as we write this, I am in the UK trying to establish and provide care and support for my parents. My mother's memory problems seem to be worsening, with her finding it increasingly difficult to recall words and similarly understand written and verbal communication. My father is still struggling with anxiety and depression, and his medications are causing other side-effects. Since I work with technology, I am blessed to be able to care for my parents while continuing to remotely serve the software needs of the Ministry back in the US. Please pray for improvement through the work of mum's speech therapist and medical staff as they meet to take a second look at her diagnosis and treatment. Please pray also that my dad's anxiety and depression would be brought under control.

This last weekend, I was able to attend a training and review session of the FamilyLife UK team's new one-day event, A Day Together. In the UK more than three-quarters of couples live together before marriage, and one in four children is born to parents who are cohabiting. Studies show children born to parents out of wedlock have over a 50% chance of seeing their parents separate by the time they are 5. Now more than ever this nation needs to hear the Biblical truths of marriage. Please pray for this event that will launch in the UK on June 4th.



A Speaker Team Refining their Presentation

It's been a roller-coaster ride the last month or so, sometimes stressful with the situation with Chris' parents, but we know we are blessed and God will provide during this time. Thank you for your prayers and support. Ini and Lisa

Facts From the Launch Weekend...

- Over 600 events held February 11-13.
- Over 30,000 people attended.
- Events were held in 47 states and worldwide in Australia, Azerbaijan, The Bahamas, Canada, Korea, Marianas Islands, Mexico, New Zealand, & Nigeria.
- A total of over 900 events are already scheduled, covering all 50 states.
- 97% of attendees surveyed would be either "Extremely Likely" or "Very Likely" to recommend The Art of Marriage to someone else.

"This event was amazing. I have grown closer to my wife and look forward to growing closer as time moves on by growing closer to God."

"This has made a difference in my life and it probably saved our marriage. I'm so very thankful for that. I will fight for her and our family.

"The videos and conference were amazing. 90 couples attended, and 9 individuals indicated that they had received Christ. Praise the Lord!"

"This event was a do or die for our marriage. I had enough, which is HUGE, because I have been so super committed to keeping us together.
This conference has been a catalyst for healing for 2

the art of **marriage**

a six-session video event

for healing for 2 people at the ends of their marriage ropes."

"It went great!!! My husband and I even had the privilege of praying with one young woman to receive

Christ and she is being baptized today!"

"This was a great offering by a local church (not mine!). They had over 50 couples attend from a whole range of churches, and I attended as a pastor just to see what the course was like. It was wonderful."

"The Art of Marriage possibly saved our marriage."

If you're interested in learning more about The Art of Marriage or wish to host an event, please visit www.theartofmarriage.com or contact us.

Ethan's Escapades

I am on Spring Break this week and have been busy helping mom clean up the yard and house as a surprise for dad when he gets home. Spring is the best

time of year in Little Rock. It isn't too hot or too cold. It is just right! I am hoping to play more football (American and British) in our backyard now that we have it all fixed up.

I let mom know that I would like to learn Japanese. Please pray for Japan!



Praise Items

- Praise for our time together on the cruise and for how God worked in the lives of thousands of people.
- Praise God for the ability to work for Family-Life from afar, so Chris can care for his parents.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for Chris as he wraps up his time in the UK, and for Lisa and Ethan back in Little Rock.
- Pray for God's guidance as we seek to honor him in our daily life and work; specifically regarding a move to England and what we can do to provide for and honor Chris' parents'.