

# The Murfins - Serving with FamilyLife

November 8th, 2012



## October Events in the UK



“A very helpful, non-threatening day which provides you with good tools to develop your marriage.” That was one comment from an attendee at *A Day Together* event that we held in Cambridge on October 6th, where Lisa was privileged to serve.

This was the first time FamilyLife held this event in a school. Rachel Snape, Head Teacher of The Spinney Primary School, told the team that the couples’ seminar fit well with the school’s ethos, where the motto is: Teaching and Learning Together. Aware that a stable family home life is good for children, Mrs Snape was encouraging of the aims of the couples’ seminar. Research shows that a strong marriage gives the best outcomes for children.



The couples attending clearly benefitted as feedback was extremely positive and the team have several couples eager to begin a *Together* small group study in their communities.



October 12th, Chris travelled to Exeter to help with a Men’s evening. Over forty men attended and the feedback was generally very positive, especially from the non-churchgoers. Many men said the evening was fun and helpful. The combination of the practical tools, challenge to be intentional, and encouragement to explore a relationship with God was well received. One churchgoer had been persuaded to come and bring two friends. He was nervous, he didn’t know how they’d respond to the “spiritual stuff”. The friends had a great time and now the inviter is delighted and resolved to bring more friends to these kind of events in the future.

Finally for October, on the 18th, Lisa and I both helped with an event at our local church, Gold Hill Baptist. Whimsically titled, “*What is Love, Actually?*” the event was sold-out. This is an excellent event to invite non-churchgoers into the church, as we serve a fantastic meal and Mark and Christine share The Five Love Languages through fun movie clips and personal stories. Many members of the church helped with decorating intimate tables for the attending couples, preparing an amazing three-course meal, and then with clean-up afterwards. Four couples expressed an interest in learning more about FamilyLife and participating in a *Together* small group Bible study.



This month has been full of new experiences and learning how FamilyLife UK operates. We have four events we’ll help host in November and we have much work to do to integrate into the team’s workflow. We also have a young lady, Kate, from the States spending part of her gap-year with us. Please pray God blesses our many varied tasks.

At this time where we would normally be leading into the Thanksgiving celebrations in the US, we want to thank you for your continued prayer and support. Please continue to pray as we search for long-term housing.

*Chris and Lisa*

## FamilyLife US

Since September 1st there have been 824 *Art of Marriage* events held. Please continue to pray for those attending these events, and also would you prayerfully consider hosting an event in your community. Contact us for more details if you're interested.

FAMILYLIFE presents  
the art of **marriage**<sup>™</sup>



The fall season of *Weekend to Remember* events also kicked off in September. Here are a couple of comments from recent events in Florida:

*"We were going to get divorced until a friend set it up for us to come to this weekend. It has saved our marriage and ignited the love for one another we had tried everything until this weekend and we decided we should get divorced. Thank you so much for saving our marriage. God is truly using this ministry and you have given us the tools to use for an awesome God-led marriage."* - Fort Meyers, FL

*"We feel that this getaway was the catalyst to saving our marriage. As empty nesters for 3 years we were drifting apart and did not know how to re-ignite our love for each other. We know that this getaway weekend we fell in love more deeply than our 24 years of marriage."* - Delray Beach, FL

## Stepping Up



Bring America's top men's ministry leaders and teachers to your church with the *Stepping Up Video Event*. Designed for use in a one-day event like Stepping Up Super Saturday, the kit's DVD-based messages combined with small-group discussions bring home truths to participants.

Dig deeper into living a courageous life with this 10-week Video Series. Dennis Rainey examines the five stages of manhood and leads men to evaluate where they stand in their duties of masculinity. With Voddie Baucham, Matt Chandler, Robert Lewis, and other leading experts.



Check out [www.mensteppingup.com](http://www.mensteppingup.com) for more information on these two exciting new resources from FamilyLife or, again, contact us for more details.

### Praise Items

- Praise for those that could attend our three events in the UK in October and for changed lives at those events.
- Praise God for Kate's safe arrival.

### Prayer Requests

- Pray for those that attended our events who are asking more questions about Christianity.
- Pray we can find long-term accommodation.
- Pray for God's wisdom in managing home, school, and ministry.

### Ethan's Escapades!

Before moving here, I had visited the UK many times over the years to see my Grandparents, but never actually visited London. It's so cool being closer now—it's just a 30-minute train ride away. Last week we spent a few hours there and got to see all sorts of things. Dad told me, at one point there was a bloke wearing a silly hat and carrying a gun following me, but I didn't believe him!

