

The Murfins - Serving with FamilyLife

May 29th, 2013



Growing Together

How do you usually spend your weekends? Twenty two couples decided to spend a Saturday towards the end of April in Bournemouth attending our *A Day Together* seminar. Chris was blessed to serve at this event on England's south coast: his work was cut out for him with many technical issues that kept cropping up, but we pushed through and couples' relationships were improved and strengthened.



We always measure relationship satisfaction before and after our events using a tool called the ENRICH EMS scale. The average satisfaction rating before the event was 35.61 (Moderate), increasing to 37.60 (High) after. This is among the best improvements we have seen to date at a FamilyLife day event.



Twelve people expressed an interest in joining Together groups to follow on from the day. Five couples are interested in hosting the event in their communities which means that the FamilyLife UK network widens and more people will benefit. There will almost certainly be a positive impact on the attendees' families as well.

Some quotes from the day:



"Very honest speakers & topics were excellent!"

"It gives us time and space in our busy lives to give time and thought to our relationship."

"Unearthed issues we had not resolved, and helped us start to resolve them."

"This day helped get us back in touch with each other, what our needs are, and reaffirmed our relationship and the strength of our marriage."

"Good pace through the whole. Glad it was accessible to Christians & non-Christians – a very important strength."



FamilyLife's next *A Day Together* event is on Saturday 29th June in Gerrards Cross, near London and just down the road from us. There are more FamilyLife events in Shrivenham, Birmingham, Nottingham, Newcastle and London in the near future.

Thank you for being a part of our ministry here. We can only continue spreading the Good News through your support. Thank you!

Chris and Lisa



Always feel free to contact us (familylife@themurfins.com) if you need more information on the Weekend to Remember getaway in the US, or would like to take advantage of a special rate for you or somebody you know to attend.

On the same weekend as the Bournemouth ADT, Lisa was privileged to speak to over 100 ladies at a Women of Faith conference in Willesden Green. She was asked to speak on, "Nurturing Your Marriage—Challenges, Staying in Love, and Dealing with Abusive Relationships." All of this in one hour! It was an amazing experience, and we were grateful for the people God put in our path to help her prepare. Sadly, abuse is a topic the church is not well equipped to address, and Lisa felt the same. By God's grace, the talk was well received and many women responded that they were equipped and blessed. One lady remarked "I really appreciated the graceful way you taught about resolving conflict and the subtle ways we can each be guilty of abusing each other."

Last week, we were blessed to work at CRE, a Christian Resources Exhibition. We were manning a stand we had there three out of the four days and interacted with many people expressing interest or seeking out information on how we could help pour into their and their friends' relationships. Please pray for fruit from these meetings that will extend FamilyLife's reach in the UK.



This week Chris attended a First Aid and CPR training course in preparation for LEJOG. FamilyLife is holding a sponsored cycle ride from Land's End to John O'Groats; two extremities in the southwest and northeast of Great Britain. We're seeking to raise £30,000 (\$45,000) to fund our DVD project that we're working on this year. Our family will be part of the cyclists' support team the second week. We're praying we won't have to use Chris' or any of the other's training.

In the midst of all this, we have finally moved into our new house in Chalfont St. Peter. We are about 3 minutes walk from the church we attend here (Gold Hill Baptist) and can now also be more involved in the community. Please pray as we work to build a marriage and family ministry at Gold Hill here in Chalfont St. Peter.



Praise Items

- Praise for God's provision of a long-term home for us.
- Praise God for connections He is making for us here.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for Lisa's mom's & Chris' dad's health.
- Pray for safety for all those participating in LEJOG from mid-end July.
- Pray we can become fully integrated into the community and expand the Marriage and Family ministry at our church.

Ethan's Escapades!

Watch out! There's a teenager in the house! I turned 13 in April.

I'm also happy to have our furniture and belongings out of storage.

I was excited to help mum and dad at CRE last week.

Please pray I can finish all of my school assignments well this week.

