

**February 7-14**

# National Marriage Week USA

*Let's Strengthen Marriage*

Did you know that married adults live longer lives, have better health, and greater personal happiness? Children who are raised by a married mother and father perform better in school, have fewer addictions, fewer teen pregnancies, and less trouble with the law. Research clearly shows that marriage boosts measures of human wellbeing for children, women, and men:

- Only 4% of homes with a married mother and father are on food stamps at any given time, while 28% of single-mother homes are on food stamps.
- 78% of married people own their own home, while only 41% of cohabitating adults do.
- Married men benefit from an average annual economic “marriage premium” of at least \$15,900 per year compared to their unmarried peers.

The seismic shift in family structure over the course of the past few decades has broadened income gaps and deepened class divides. The New York Times highlighted sociological evidence of the impact of marriage on wealth, status, health, and happiness in an important article, “Two Classes, Divided by ‘I Do’”. Scholars at the National Marriage Project – a nonpartisan, interdisciplinary initiative at the University of Virginia – explain marriage as a “wealth-generating institution,” which is true for people of every race.

Research shows that marriage is the unsung anti-poverty program. Learn how to get help for yourself, help others or form a marriage committee at [www.nationalmarriageweekusa.org](http://www.nationalmarriageweekusa.org).

**Be a blessing this Valentine's Day to that special someone who is God's gift to you!**



**Marriage can be one life's most rewarding relationships.**

It is a challenge to build a strong, God-honoring relationship. Whether you are 18 or 80, dating, engaged, or married, there is a stimulating book, class or seminar for the two of you.

**Go have fun dates, and have them often!**

The spice of life can be found in enjoying your mate and becoming the best of friends. Need ideas? Find great them at [DateNightPDX.org](http://DateNightPDX.org).

**Northwest Marriage Conference** Join us for 104.5 WAY-FM's 2nd annual Northwest Marriage Conference. Strengthen, enrich and renew your marriage with speakers Mike and Laurie Sheffield, Dr. Steve Stephens, and Scott LaPierre. February 9 at Living Hope Church, Vancouver, WA

**Weekend to Remember** A time to renew your love and commitment to one another, to reminisce all the reasons why you married, and to restore a little romance in your relationship. It is a weekend to discover the blueprints for a healthy, happy marriage. March 8-10 at Sunriver ([WeekendToRemember.com](http://WeekendToRemember.com)). Save \$100 when you register using the group “MarriagePDX.”

**Marriage Coach Training** If you have a healthy marriage, you and your spouse are invited to become a coach couple. During our 24 hours of training, you will learn to use a proven curriculum that offers hope and practical skills to couples in all stages of their relationship. Couples are saving their marriages with the support of couples coaches like you! Beginning March 2 at US Digital Outreach Center, Vancouver. Details: [www.MarriageTeam.org](http://www.MarriageTeam.org).

**RESOURCES FOR COUPLES**

**February 2019**

**Every Marriage Matters**

*Helping Marriages Become All God Intended*

Check out additional resources at [www.EveryMarriageMatters.org](http://www.EveryMarriageMatters.org)