From: Every Marriage Matters
To: tomdressel@comcast.net;
Subject: Five Minutes: Marriage Week USA and more
Date: Tuesday, January 31, 2012 9:50:29 AM

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EVERY MARRIAGE MATTERS

Five Minutes for Marriage

February 2012

Take responsibility [for] becoming the best YOU you can be. Once you're on the path to being the YOU, you're well on the way to being in the best marriage.
Corey Allen

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MARRIAGE WEEK RESOURCES

Date Night Challenge from Focus on the Family.
This fun, easy-to-host event gives you the opportunity to provide couples with a special evening out ... and a powerful challenge to discover how dating can strengthen their relationships. The webcast will be pre-recorded so that you can show it when it works best for you, during National Marriage Week (Feb. 7-14, 2012).

From Marriage Week USA: Ideas to nurture and celebrate marriage and Research and sermon outlines

The BULLETIN INSERT

for February encourages couples to evaluate their intimacy. Also, Art of Marriage seminar opportunities in our area are listed.

The CLASS LIST for February

offers many opportunities for couples desiring to encourage their relationship. Will you be offering classes/ seminars that should be included here? We would like to add them.

FEBRUARY'S FEATURED VIDEO

This month at EveryMarriageMatters.org we take a humorous look at expectations through a computer program called iMarriage, Part 3.

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LOCAL EVENTS and NEWS

Art of Marriage The Bulletin Insert lists a number of Art of Marriage DVD seminars being hosted in our area. Consider using this seminar to nurture the marriages in your congregation or small group. Learn more

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Your prayers and financial help to strengthen marriage are appreciated

Donation

Maxine Marsolini, Director of EMM and author of Blended Families, and her husband Charlie who leads Crown Financial Ministries in our area.

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RESEARCH FINDINGS

America's Marriage Rate Plunges Only 51 percent of Americans are currently married. By Mike McManus, President of Marriage Savers

The New American Divide The ideal of an 'American way of life' is fading as the working class falls further away from institutions like marriage and religion and the upper class becomes more isolated. By Charles Murray in the Wall Street Journal

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BLENDED FAMILIES

Marriage Experts Join Forces for Blended Family Help Ron Deal and Smart Stepfamilies are joining FamilyLife, one of the nation's leading organizations in marriage and family ministry, to better serve blended families and church leaders.

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DISTRESS AND RESTORATION

Can Marital Education Program Heal Wounds of Infidelity? from GoodTherapy.org.

Divorce Can Raise Risk of Early Death Your health could plummet as if you had taken up smoking, become overweight or started drinking excessively. By Anne Ryman in The Arizona Republic

Why I Stayed: A Wife's Focus on God Saves Her Marriage by Carla Anne Coroyand Why I Stayed, Too: A Husband's Focus on God Saves His Marriage byTrent Coroy, both for CrossWalk.com

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HEALTHY MARRIAGE

Beyond Happily Ever After Before we wrote our mission statement, we didn't realize how secular our goals were. By Kevin & Karen Miller at Kyria.com

Does a Successful Marriage Come with a Guarantee? Lists 15 predictors of a successful marriage. By Drs Charles and Elizabeth Schmitz at Simple Things Matter

Together on Holy Ground I put some of my dreams on hold to help my husband realize his - and experienced the presence of God. By Karen Beattie for Kyria.com

What the Bible Really Says About Sex The mindset of most people in our culture regarding sex - even if it's only subconscious - is that sex is a selfish act, a conquest of personal fulfillment. By Pastor Mark Driscoll for FoxNews.com

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YOUTH MINISTRY and PARENTING

Young, in Love and Sharing Everything, Including a Password By Matt Richtel for New York Times

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MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Online Marriage Prep for Catholic Couples Online education has many advantages - it's available any time of day or night; it's convenient; and it's effective. At Catholic Marriage Prep

12 Questions to Ask Before You Get Married, by Whitney Hopler at CrossWalk.com

How We Paid Cash for Our First Home (with a little help from Dave Ramsey),by J.D. Roth at GetRichSlowly.org

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PARTING WORDS

"Conflict Happens in Marriage It is simply unavoidable. But many people are not fully aware of the wealth of scriptural truth on this subject. Just following the admonition of a verse like Ephesians 4:32 - being 'kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ has forgiven you' - will change your life." Dennis Rainey

Toward Real Love Did you know that romantic love is supposed to end? Romance serves as the glue that initially bonds two incompatible people together so that they will do what needs to be done to heal themselves. The good news is that although many couples become hopelessly locked in the inevitable next stage -- the power struggle -- that too, is supposed to end. Real love does not give birth to marriage; marriage is born in the glow of romantic love. Real love is born in the heat of the power struggle. Now bonded by nature's trick, we are challenged to respond to the real needs of our partner, to grow beyond our self interest, and give the love they need. Real love is born in committed relationships. Through hard work and effort, couples gradually leave the frustrations or feelings of indifference in the power

struggle behind and grow toward a happy and fulfilling relationship. - Harville Hendrix

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Thank you for all you are doing to strengthen marriage, you are awesome.
Respectfully,

Tom Dressel

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