

every marriage matters

From: Every Marriage Matters [mailto:tomdressel@everymarriagematters.ccsend.com] **On Behalf Of** Every Marriage Matters
Sent: Tuesday, April 02, 2013 7:13 PM
To: tomdressel@comcast.net
Subject: Five Minutes for Marriage: Dating Weekly Has Huge Benefit

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Every Marriage Matters. Don't forget to add everymarriagematters@comcast.net to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

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Five Minutes for Marriage April 2013

**Before going to sea, pray one time. Before going to war, pray twice.
Before getting married, pray three times.**

Old Polish proverb

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The **BULLETIN INSERT** for [April](#) comments on the fact that before marriage opposites attract; while after marriage opposites often attack. But there is hope.

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The **CLASS LIST** for [April](#) 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.

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DATE NIGHTS: JUST FUN?

The Date Night Opportunity report from National Marriage Project seeks to answer questions about the potential value of date nights for couples:

1. How might date nights improve the quality of relationships for couples?
2. Is one-on-one couple time associated with higher-quality relationships and lower divorce rates among couples?
3. Is parenthood itself an obstacle to a good marriage?
4. Are particular types of couples-e.g., couples with children, secular couples, less-committed couples-more likely to benefit from regular date nights?

Couples who date at least weekly were about 3.5 times more likely to report being "very happy" in their marriages, compared with those dated less than weekly!

Maybe the best way to strengthen couples in your congregation is to encourage them to date more often? The report is at [National Marriage Project](#).

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Your prayers and financial help to strengthen marriage are greatly appreciated

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David and Kim Anderson, Directors of Every Marriage Matters. David is a counselor and coach. Kim is a payroll director.

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APRIL'S FEATURED VIDEO

This month relationship expert Dr. Sue Johnson addresses what constitutes a healthy marriage.

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NEWS

The Marriage Movement. Creating a renewed marriage culture by strengthening our commitment to marriage. ([Beliefnet.com](#))

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COHABITATION and AFFAIRS

Cohabitation: Good or Bad? When you move in together, live together outside of marriage, you start to learn some patterns that will not serve you well in the future. (Glenn Stanton, [FamilyLife Today](#))

'Hitching Up,' for a Strong Middle Class Strengthening the middle class starts at home (W. Bradford Wilcox and David Lapp, [Fredericksburg \(VA\) Free Lance-Star](#))

How to Prevent Cheating in Your Marriage We've become an 'anything-goes' society, in which the indiscretions of politicians, sports figures, and pop celebrities are practically daily news. ([FoxNews.com](#))

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RESEARCH FINDINGS

Children of Divorce More Likely to Become Smokers. Researchers found that people whose parents had divorced when they were children were at a significantly increased risk of initiating smoking. (By Lindsay Abrams, [The Atlantic](#))

College Fails to Lower Divorce for Black Women. A college education is linked to lower divorce rates for white women, but black women are not getting the same benefit. (Steve Manas, [Rutgers University](#))

Preschool Debate Obscures Core Problem. 'Fragile families' harm children's development. (The Editorial Board, [USA Today](#))

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HURDLES IN MARRIAGE

A Choice Between Feeding Your Children or Getting Married. Removing marriage penalties for low-income Americans is one step toward rebuilding our middle class. (David Blankenhorn, Elizabeth Marquardt , and Amber Lapp, [Huffington Post blog](#))

God Makes a Way Through the Impossible. He saved our marriage in the wake of unbearable tragedy (By Gerard Long, [Today's Christian Woman](#))

Is Your Patience Running Thin? My lack of patience and the love I said I had for my wife and kids were in direct contradiction of each other. Because if I really loved them I would have also been patient with them. (by Jack and Janet, [Redeeming Marriages](#))

Kids of Divorce Aren't as Resilient as We'd Like to Believe. The real effect of divorce comes when kids become young adults and begin to seek out their own relationships. (by Jeff Snow, [Northumberland \(Ontario, CN\) Today](#))

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MARRIAGE ENCOURAGEMENT

Alone Together. How does the one stated goal of marriage, God's desire to alleviate a person's aloneness, fail to come true for so many husbands and wives? (Tim Gardner, [Today's Christian Woman](#))

Couple Time. Marriage is not a "done deal" at the altar, followed by happily ever after. It's a continuous, daily "I do." (Tammy Darling, [Today's Christian Woman](#))

Equipping Couples for Lifelong Love. Bill and Geri Masuzzo are committed to helping engaged couples learn how to be married. (by Mary May Larmoyeux, [FamilyLife](#))

For the Love of a Good Marriage. We must promote long-term relationships in the black community (James E. Causey, [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#))

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MARRIAGE RESOURCES

Counting the Cost of Family Failure. The continuing upward movement of the cost of family failure doesn't even begin to take into account the often intense pain and suffering felt by those experiencing family failure. ([UK Relationships Foundation](#))

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PARENTING / YOUTH MINISTRY

Who's Your # 1 Priority - Your Spouse or Kids? When TV personality Giuliana Rancic said she puts her marriage first over motherhood her comments made headlines across the nation. It has spurred a debate over how couples should prioritize relationships. (Jim Daly, [Focus on the Family](#))

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MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Eat, Pray, Love - and Marry. People's expectations for their spouses have changed drastically and dangerously. With every generation over the last one hundred years, people have escalated their expectations. (Elizabeth Gilbert, [Mindful.org](#))

Premarital Wisdom: The Truth About Marriage. How would your marriage be different if you had been handed an honest, comprehensive guide on what to expect after the wedding? (by Sheryl Paul, [Huffington Post](#))

Preparing Couples for Marriage and for Life. A pastor of evangelism finds that using marriage preparation materials allows him to connect with couples at a key time in their lives. (by Kirk Bane, [FamilyLife](#))

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LEGISLATION

Florida Lawmakers Introduce Marriage Education Bills. Legislators filed bills last week that, if passed, would create a Marriage Education Handbook designed to help strengthen relation-

ships between couples. (by Bethany Monk, Focus on the Family's [Citizen Link](#))

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PARTING WORDS

50 Ways to Say I Love You. Everyone wants to be loved, here are 50 ways. (Stacy Edwards, Tim Kimmel's [Family Matters blog](#))

Young Adults Still Aspire to Marriage. 80 percent say that marriage is an "important" part of their life plans. But before they reach the altar, most are having their first child outside of marriage. -- from "Knot Yet: The Benefits and Costs of Delayed Marriage in America" report of the National Marriage Project

[Funny Church Signs](#). Enjoy!

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You are awesome! It's great to be on His team together.
Respectfully,

Tom and Liz Dressel

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