

5 MYTHS OF MARRIAGE

Linda Waite and Maggie Gallagher explore five myths about marriage in *The Case for Marriage*:

Myth 1 Divorce is usually the best answer for kids when a marriage becomes unhappy. The authors discovered that the vast majority of “bad marriages” that don’t end up in divorce eventually become good marriages. In a study of people in “bad” marriages who chose to stay together, 86 percent reported five years later that their marriages had turned around and were now happier. In fact, 60 percent said their marriages had become “very happy.”

Myth 2 Marriage is primarily for the benefit of children. In reality, marriage has significant benefits for children and adults. Marriage is an important social institution that delivers big benefits in virtually every indicator science can measure.

Myth 3 Marriage is good for men but bad for women. Waite said a balanced look at the research shows that married men and women both report less anxiety and depression, higher self-esteem, more financial stability, and a much higher level of general happiness. The research is compelling that people do better when they get married and stay married.

Myth 4 Promoting marriage puts women at risk for violence. In fact, the opposite is true: marriage seems to protect women from domestic violence and personal violence. Married people are less likely to be victims of interpersonal violence. In studies of domestic violence between partners, married people are substantially less likely than cohabiting people to say that arguments between them became violent (4 percent married, 13 percent cohabiting).

Myth 5 Marriage is a private affair of the heart between two adults. Marriage is actually a public, legally binding, religiously supported promise that two people will stay together and act as a team for their entire lives. “Marriage changes the way they see themselves, and it changes the way other people see them and treat them,” Waite says. “It also strengthens the bonds between children and their father’s side of the family.”

As reported by First Things First, Chattanooga, TN

Enjoy reading together the book
Fun Loving You by Ted Cunningham



RESOURCES FOR COUPLES

Marriage is 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.

Adventurous Life Marriage Retreat Treat your spouse to an adventurous weekend away this April 11-13 that will be fun and unforgettable. 2 nights in a gorgeous home overlooking the Oregon Coast focusing on your marriage. You will be pampered, eat fabulous food, and have fun with your spouse while being inspired through engaging and reflective experiences. The goal of the retreat is to grow to deeper levels of intimacy and joy in your marriage. Want more details? AdventurousLife.net

Marriage Encounter A weekend that can help married couples turn a good (or even ho-hum or boring) marriage into a GREAT marriage! Rediscover the spark that was there on your wedding day! Rediscover the best friend you had when you were first married! Join the millions of couples worldwide who have learned how to keep their marriage vibrant and alive! Sponsored by many Catholic Church April 12-14 at Powell Butte. Details at WWME.org

Marriage Redeemed is a conference to guide couples on their recovery journey from sexual sin. You will be provided opportunities to learn from four couples that have tested and developed the topics in their own marriages and have found success in “Learning a New Dance”. April 13 at Mountain Park Church, Lake Oswego. Details and helpful videos at TuffStuffMinistries.com

Blended & Blessed is a live event and livestream for stepfamily couples, single parents, dating couples with kids. With some of today’s most trusted and respected experts, you’ll be challenged, inspired and encouraged. If you are part of a stepfamily, or know someone who is, this is a can’t-miss opportunity! April 27 in your home. TinyURL.com/YBHPR7JH

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Every Marriage Matters

Helping Marriages Become All God Intended

Check out additional resources at www.EveryMarriageMatters.org