

## every marriage matters

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**From:** Every Marriage Matters [mailto:tomdressel@everymarriagematters.ccsend.com] **On Behalf Of** Every Marriage Matters  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 6, 2014 12:09 am  
**To:** tomdressel@comcast.net  
**Subject:** Five Minutes for Marriage: Do You Find Having Fun is Hard Work?

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](mailto: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 May 2014

**Having fun dates was easy before marriage, fun brought us closer.  
That was before kids and mortgages and stuff intervened.  
Bring back the fun, it's hard finding time but so worthwhile.**

**Click on the orange, bolded title to find the rest of the story.**

Let us know if a link doesn't work, we should be able to forward a copy of the article to you.

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The **BULLETIN INSERT** for May. It's a reminder that true love results from hard work.

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The May **CLASS LIST** describes opportunities to grow relationships. We would like to add classes and seminars your church will be offering.

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Your prayers and financial help to strengthen marriage are greatly appreciated

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#### ENJOY EACH OTHER

"**Couples who date at least weekly** remark that they are very happy 3.5 more often than couples who don't date weekly." You've heard this newsletter repeat that comment several times. It's amazing that something as simple as having fun can impact our marriages so positively. Review **The Date Night Opportunity** research, test drive dating weekly in your own marriage and then encourage couples in your congregation to date 4 times in 4 weeks during the August Date Night PDX challenge. You'll find date ideas and more at [EveryMarriageMatters.org](http://EveryMarriageMatters.org).

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#### DATE NIGHT PDX

**Date Night PDX** challenges you to date 4 times in 4 weeks during August. We'll provide tips, tools, and support materials via a special website. Here are a couple of super events:

**Barnes & Miner, Friday, August 1 at City Bible Church.** Jerry and Amy make it easy to laugh about the little things as they successfully marry over 30 years of comedy experience on stage.



Dave and Kim Anderson, Directors. Dave is a counselor and coach, Kim is a payroll director

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**Every Marriage Matters**  
1005 Woodlawn Ave  
Oregon City, Oregon 97045  
[tomdressel@comcast.net](mailto:tomdressel@comcast.net)  
(503) 655-1489

**I Still Do, Saturday, August 23 at Moda Center.** Presented in three locations this year: Washington DC, Chicago and Portland with a great lineup of speakers, including: Dennis Rainey, Al Mohler, Crawford & Karen Loritts, Shaunti Feldhahn and Ron Deal.

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### **MARRIAGE ENCOURAGEMENT**

**A basic review of what love is and what it's not**

Brides and grooms promise to love each other when they marry. They want love but struggle defining it in day-to-day, usable terms. Both theologians and secular scholars generally agree that the Apostle Paul's description of love is the best ever penned. Whether couples find the Bible inspiring or irrelevant, by applying the elements of love that Paul identifies they will add joy and vibrancy to their marriage. (by James Sheridan, (Ft Wayne) News-Sentinel)

**To Build Intimacy, Trust, Satisfaction,**

**Celebrate the Good Times.** Researchers say appreciating a partner's everyday accomplishments-is good for the relationship. Do you go out of your way to show your spouse you care? You should. Experts say a common cause of divorce is the feeling of being unappreciated by one's spouse. It is a problem that sneaks up on a relationship. (By Elizabeth Bernstein, Wall Street Journal)

**Kneeling in Prayer instead of Needling and Nagging.**

As flawed people we often don't have God's perspective on the issues of life that snag us. It isn't a matter of he's right and she's wrong. The Lord showed me how I felt that life was more manageable, more in control, my control, if there was money in the bank. If control was my motive for saving, it was wrong. If good stewardship was my motive for saving, that was right. But a right action with wrong motive is still wrong! (by April Motl, CrossWalk.com)

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### **PARENTING / YOUTH MINISTRY**

**Workaholic Dads Linked to Sons' Bad Behavior.**

Fathers who spend long hours at work may find that their young sons have more behavioral problems. In a study, boys ages 5 to 10 whose fathers put in 55 or more hours weekly at their jobs exhibited a higher level of aggressive behavior, compared with boys whose dads

worked fewer hours. (By Cari Nierenberg, Live Science)

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## DISTRESS AND DIVORCE

**A "Good Fight" Over Money?** A lot of couples fight some; some couples fight a lot. And according to a 2012 AICPA survey in the Wall Street Journal, numerous studies report that couples fight more about finances than any other issue. It's possible to handle currency conflict in a God-honoring way. Here's how. (Drs. Les and Leslie Parrott, Today's Christian Woman)

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## MARRIAGE PREPARATION

**Questions to Ask When Preparing for Marriage.** *Preparing for Marriage: Help for Christian Couples* is a new ebook from Desiring God aimed at aiding couples - whether dating and considering marriage, or engaged and preparing for marriage - to get to know each other better in some of life's most significant matters, and be more fit to discern God's leading for their lives. Along with the questions contained in this blog post, we've packaged three additional resources from John Piper in hopes of enriching such important preparation. (by John Piper, Desiring God blog)

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**Treasure your spouse:** Consider your spouse and your marriage a high priority. Pray together! Have fun! Remember the good times! Laugh together!

Respectfully,  
Tom and Liz Dressel

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Every Marriage Matters | 1005 Woodlawn Ave | 1005 Woodlawn Ave | Oregon City | OR | 97045