

every marriage matters

From: Every Marriage Matters

Sent: Tuesday, January 6, 2014 at 12:06 AM

To: tomdressel@comcast.net

Subject: Five Minutes for Marriage: What Is Your Plan to Help Marriages In Your Church?



Five Minutes for Marriage January 2015

Nearly everyone cares about his or her spouse, but only half of those spouses believe it. ... Highly happy spouses choose to believe their mate cares for them -- no matter what they're seeing from their spouse at the time -- and they act accordingly.

Shaunti Feldhahn in Highly Happy Marriages

Dear Tom

Welcome to 2015, a year to encourage relationships: your own and those you shepherd. Here are couple opportunities to emphasize the importance of marriage as well as two resources to help you understand the changing landscape of relationships and enable you to better minister to those in your care.

In This Issue

Bulletin Insert Mario Mariota, Quarterback for U of O, comments how his faith guides his life.

Provide this marriage-nurturing handout to your congregation or business

Upcoming Events around Greater Portland. We'd like to include the event/class you are hosting

January's Video Clip: The Manslater: (Woman Language Translator) The woman language translator. Finally, the power to understand what she means.

Upcoming Events:

[National Marriage Week](#)

[Date Night PDX and Comedy Night](#)

Marital Research:

[Relationships in America](#)

[Why Marriage Matters, Third Edition](#)

Resources

[Books that make great gifts](#)

Last Words:

[John Piper comments](#)



February 7-14
National Marriage Week USA
Let's Strengthen Marriage

It's just around the corner! Take this time to strengthen relationships in your church.

Plan:

- A marriage sermon or start of a series
- A special couples Valentine's dinner
- Gifts of single roses to women, a chocolate to men

- Commit to going deeper in your own relationship by attending a marriage conference or retreat
- Many suggestions at NationalMarriageWeekUSA.org (while you are there, on the home page, in the lower, left hand corner you'll find a photo with the label "A Key to Success in Marriage on ABC News", click on it to find the 2007 report on the Clackamas County Marriage Policy)
- If you don't understand what all the fuss is about marriage, read "[The Case for Marriage](#)" by Linda J. Waite and Maggie Gallagher, or the third edition of [Why Marriage Matters](#), described below.

[Top of page](#)

DATE NIGHT PDX



The 4th Annual Date Night PDX will be here in August! Let's start planning to encourage couple relationships. They can thrive by restoring dating fun with the Date Night PDX emphasis on 4 Dates in 4 Weeks.

We'll have a great beginning with Comedy Night on Friday, August 7, 2015. Featured will be hosts Ted and Nancie Lowe and comedians Jason Earls and John Branyan ([their bios](#)). You have the options:

- 1) Encourage couples to attend the live event at City Bible Church, or
- 2) Host this event at your church via a streaming internet feed.

Last year was fantastic! This year will be bigger and better. Don't be left out. Learn the details and glean great marriage enrichment materials at informational meetings to be held:

- February 19: 10:00am at Luis Palau Assn, and 2:00pm at City Bible Church.
- February 26: 10:00am at New Hope Community Church, and 2:00pm at Living Hope Church, Vancouver.

Further details in our February newsletter. Save the Date postcards coming your way soon.

[Return to top](#)

[Relationships in America](#) survey, sponsored by The Austin Institute for the Study of Family and Culture.

American society has undergone a veritable revolution over the past half-century in the way in which its population understands and approaches family life, religious faith, and sexuality. Within that span technological, cultural, and legislative changes have shifted the way many think about each of these. The Relationships in America survey answers a wide variety of questions and provides up-to-date estimates, which can guide you as you and your staff seek answers to family matters.

[Return to top](#)

[Why Marriage Matters, Third Edition](#), Thirty Conclusions from the Social Sciences, by W. Bradford Wilcox, et al., Institute for American Values.

Divorce rates have come down since peaking in the early 1980s, children who are now born to

married couples are actually more likely to grow up with both of their parents than were children born at the height of the divorce revolution. Today, the rise of cohabiting households with children is the largest unrecognized threat to the quality and stability of children's family lives. More than four in ten children are exposed to a cohabiting relationship. One reason that the institution of marriage has less of a hold over Americans than it has had for most of our history is that cohabitation has emerged as a powerful alternative to and competitor with marriage.

For this reason, the third edition of Why Marriage Matters focuses new attention on recent scholarship assessing the impact that contemporary cohabitation is having on marriage, family life, and the welfare of children. The report seeks to summarize existing family-related research into a succinct form useful to religious leaders, professionals, and others interested in understanding marriage in today's society.

Also, a free [handout version](#) of Why Marriage Matters is suitable for distribution.

[Top of page](#)

Books that encourage healthy marriage and make great gifts:

- A Lasting Promise, Updated Edition - Dr Scott Stanley, et al.
- Highly Happy Marriages - Shaunti Feldhahn
- Sacred Marriage - Gary Thomas
- Devotions for a Sacred Marriage - Gary Thomas

[Top of page](#)

Last Words

I, at 42 years of marriage, feel very strongly that [Bonhoeffer] is emphasizing that romance and falling in love is a beautiful thing;, and re-falling in love, again and again, is important... [But] re-falling in love after seasons of pain can be sustained only if you elevate covenant above those affections and romance. - [John Piper](#)

[Top of page](#)



Tom and Liz Dressel,
Executive Director and
Director. Tom is a retired
mechanical engineer and
Liz is a retired registered
nurse.



Your spouse and your marriage are precious gifts from our Lord. Strengthen your relationship by having weekly fun dates. Pray together! Rejoice! Laugh together!
Respectfully,

Tom and Liz Dressel
Every Marriage Matters
tmdressel@comcast.net
Phone: (503) 468-7054
Cell: (503) 655-1489

Like us on Facebook 

[Forward email](#)

 SafeUnsubscribe™

This email was sent to tmdressel@comcast.net by everymarriagematters@comcast.net | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



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