

## every marriage matters

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**From:** Every Marriage Matters

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 29, 2015 12:05 AM

**To:**

**Subject:** [Every Marriage Matters] Are You Taking Fun Seriously Enough"



### Five Minutes for Marriage August 2015

**A marriage without a sense of humor is like a wagon without springs -  
jolted by every pebble in the road.**

Henry Ward Beecher

Dear

**The table is prepared.** Come, feast on fun and laughter by planning 4 dates in 4 weeks during August. Having fun with the spouse God has gifted you with is sweet icing on the cake of your relationship with Jesus. Date Night PDX is for you! And the Date Night PDX Comedy Tour on August 7 will be a hilariously fun way to restarting the habit of having fun with your spouse.

This Sunday is your last opportunity to encourage couples you know to attend Date Night PDX Comedy Tour. You could make use of brief videos and handouts available at [DateNightPDX.org](http://DateNightPDX.org). Perhaps even give your audience a live demonstration by going to [DateNightPDX.org](http://DateNightPDX.org) during your services and purchasing your ticket.

**Pastors Need Laughter, Too.** Pastoring is serious, eternal business. It's in the best interest of your family and congregation that you minister with a joyful heart. Caring for the pastor's soul requires lighter moments. If we're serious 100% of the time, our souls drain. (by Ted Cunningham, Focus on the Family)

The team that brings Comedy Tour and the encouragement to further enjoy your marriage is much larger than Every Marriage Matters. A huge "Thank You" for assistance from City Bible Church, Gateway Communications, Marriage & Family Connections, Marriage Team, Northwest Family Services, FamilyLife and several individuals.

Tom Dressel

### In This Issue

**Bulletin Insert** Importance of Laughter (**Black & White** option)

**Upcoming Events** around Greater Portland. Let us know the event/class you are hosting

**July Video Clip** Bring Back Marriage with comedians Barnes and Miner

### Date Night PDX in August

**Take the Date Night Challenge** Logistics for a great summer ministry to couples

**Date Night PDX Resources** Resources to build fun dating experiences

**Jason Earls Video** Restore the years the locusts have eaten

**Barnes & Miner Video** How couples really communicate

**Ted Lowe Video** Marriage is a lot like a basketball

### Marriage in the News

**7 rules guaranteed to prevent infidelity**

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[Tom and Liz Dressel's 50th Anniversary](#)

**Resources for Pastors (Repeats from our May newsletter)**

[Financial help to pastor couples seeking counseling](#)  
[Inexpensive vacations for pastors and missionaries](#)

**Last Words:**

**Exhortations to laugh often**



### **The Date Night Comedy Tour**

**City Bible Church (Rocky Butte)  
Friday, August 7  
7:00 pm (doors open at 6:30 with fanfare)**

We challenge you to 4 Dates in 4 Weeks, to have fun and enjoy each other. It's the first step in restoring the friendship you shared before your lives got so busy. There is no better way to start than with great, hilarious comedy, join us for the Date Night Comedy Tour. You'll find helps for date ideas and brief clips of the Date Night Comedy Tour at [DateNightPDX.org](http://DateNightPDX.org).

Questions? Call Tom Dressel at (503) 655-1489

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**7 rules guaranteed to prevent infidelity.** Without the proper safeguards, infidelity could happen to anybody. Marriage, family, ministry and credibility as an advocate for stronger marriages could be instantly shot with one single act of infidelity. Refuse to allow that to happen. I can't rely solely on my willpower or good intentions to affair-proof my marriage and YOU shouldn't either! (by Dave Willis, Patheos.com)

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**5 Things Your Husband Should Expect from You.** Listed are certain fundamental expectations of a husband. (By Mark Merrill, MarkMerrill.com)

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**7 Things Your Wife Should Expect from You.** While wedding vows, personalities, responsibilities, and many other things will differ from marriage to marriage, there are nonnegotiable marriage expectations that should be the same for all spouses. Husbands and wives should be able to expect certain things from one another. So here are 7 things your wife should expect from you. Remember: Each is a way in which you demonstrate your love for her. (By Mark Merrill, MarkMerrill.com)

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**21 Factors That May Increase the Risk of Divorce.** Approximately half of all marriages in the United States end in divorce, according to Divorce Magazine, but that's much better than Sweden, where the divorce rate is 64 percent. In Canada, 45 percent of marriages end in divorce, compared with 26 percent in Israel, 18 percent in Greece, and only 12 percent in Italy. Listed are some of the warning factors that can increase the chance a marriage will end in divorce. (From: EmaxHealth)

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**Common Mistakes Husbands and Wives Make in Marriage:** Not putting your spouse before your kids; Not respecting your spouse; Not confiding in your spouse; Not being intimate with your spouse. (Mark Merrill, MarkMerrill.com)

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**Dating Your Husband: The Hows & Whys.** The Whys: Time is a valuable gift; We invest in what we value; When we short-change our spouse, we short-change the family. The Hows: Intentional connection; Keep it simple; Sometimes, go fancy; Either way, make it happen. (By Ann Swindell, AnnSwindell.com)

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**Marriage is Forever.** Couples would do well to consider: Marriage should not be entered into lightly; Love is a choice; Divorce is not an option; and It's not meant to be easy. (By Tamaara Rajakariar, Mercator.net)

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**Miracle-Working Angels vs. Divorce-Dealing Lawyers.**

The benefits of growing up in an intact family may transcend the normal limits of human understanding. A recent study at Williams College cites evidence that, compared to peers from broken homes, adolescents and young adults from intact families are significantly more likely to report that God is working miracles in their lives. (Family In America)

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**The best age to get married.** Research has generally told us that the older, the better (younger couples lack the maturity), and that your thirties are as good a time as any. But according to research collected in 2006-2010, these days the odds of divorce increase by 5% per year for each year after age 32. (By Tamara Rajakariar, Mercator.net)

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**The best marriage advice ever.** If you'll apply these twenty-five principles to your relationship, it could make a life-changing difference in your marriage! (by Dave Willis, Patheos.com)

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#### **Last Words**

**A merry heart** doeth good like a medicine. -- Proverbs 17:22

**A spoon full of sugar** helps the medicine go down in a most delightful way. -- Mary Poppins

**We cannot really love** anybody with whom we never laugh. -- Agnes Repplier

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Tom and Liz Dressel  
July 31, 1965

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What a precious gift my Lord has given me in my beautiful bride. She is in love with her Lord and with life. My Elizabeth is gracious, encouraging, gentle, and so cheerful. She's a wee bit Irish which means laughter comes easy. I am forever amazed by her insight into people and situations. Biz is my very best and special friend and a friend to so many. Thank you Lord and thank you Liz for this 50 year journey together through the trials and triumphs.  
Rejoicing,

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