



MARRIAGE EDUCATION AND RESOURCE CENTER

June 2020

## The Marriage Education and Resource Center (MERCY) Newsletter

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As you can probably guess, we subscribe to a lot of websites, articles and organizations that focus on marriage. This allows us to pass on information to you and it keeps us up-to-date about current events in terms of relationships.

One that crossed our desk this month was called "3 Ways To Make Loving Like Jesus A Habit," by Drs. Les and Leslie Parrott. We can't think of a more timely article considering what our country is going through at this time. If we ever need to love like Jesus, it is now. We've included excerpts from this article below with a link to their entire blog on this topic.

Grace and peace,

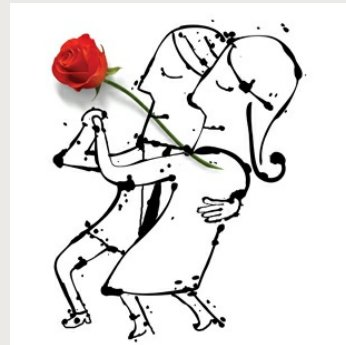
Penny and David

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[3 Way To Make  
Loving Like Jesus a  
Habit](#)

### Upcoming Marriage Events

June 26 - 8:30 p.m.  
Couplettime Zoom Meeting



Thanks to everyone who joined us for our last Zoom Couplettime meeting. We are launching another one on June 26 at 8:30 p.m. Hope to see you then!

We will be sending out a notice for the link in the near future.

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Friday, July 17, 2020  
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Survive or Thrive - Blended  
Family Survival Workshop



All you'd like is a little peace, right? However sometimes what

"Not only in marriage, but in life, we need to love like Jesus did.

Loving like Jesus allows us to step into all seasons and circumstances with the ability to love with mindfulness, approachability, grace, boldness and selflessness.

If we want to love like that automatically, we have to make it a habit."

Here are three ways the Parrotts suggest we can begin making it a habit:

"Less Talk, More Action - It is one thing to be motivated to love like Christ, but until we begin to act on that motivation, that desire is inert.

Making Christ-like love a habit means you need to make the time to pray, meditate, and read scripture daily. It also means you need to act on that love when you interact with others. Who do you see that needs help right now? How can you step in? How can you use your voice, time and resources to show them love?

Make Your Actions Automatic -As time goes on and you practice your daily habits, your actions and responses will become more and more Christ-like.

Listen For The Spirit's Voice - Spending daily time in scripture and prayer will help you hear the Holy Spirit - which in turn fuels your love for others. "

For more information, [click here](#)

In addition, Dr. Les Parrott has a great book called *Love Like That* that speaks more specifically on how to love like Jesus.



you get is chaos or, at best, someone isn't happy. More importantly, you want your marriage to thrive in the midst of confusing or confounding situations.

Tim and Brandy Gibson will present tips from the ministry they founded "In the Blender" and drawing from their own blended marriage experience.

MERCI Barn  
8510 Hwy. 11, Memphis, IN

To register, [click here](#)

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### June 24-28 The Regeneration Experience



These retreats have helped many couples who have been significantly struggling in their marriage for years, find healing and hope. Many of those couples have tried everything else - counseling, classes - to no avail, and came to give their marriage one last shot before divorce.

This retreat will be held at the beautiful Whitestone Inn in Kingston, TN

For more details, including cost [click here](#)

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**Marriage Dynamics**  June 26 - 28 and July 24 - 26  
INSTITUTE

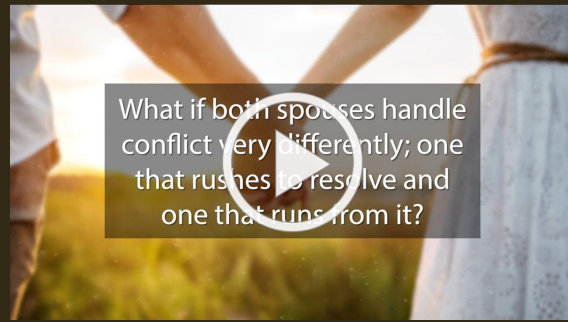
A New Beginning - If you are struggling in your marriage and can't attend a retreat, please consider this online workshop. It is a counselor-led

workshop for couples in crisis.  
For more information, [click here](#)

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## Moments with a Counselor

Heather Brooks, Licensed  
Marriage and Family  
Therapist



## 9 Habits That Lead to Divorce

Dave Willis wrote an article for Family Today outlining nine habits that lead to divorce.

- Being secretive with your online activity
- Dividing everything into "his" and "hers"
- Putting the marriage "on hold" while you're raising your kids
- Giving each other your "leftovers"
- Holding grudges and "keeping score"
- Trusting your "feelings" more than your commitments
- Making a decision without consulting your spouse
- Trying to change each other
- Planning an exit strategy

These are just the highlights of Dave's story. To read the rest of the article, [click here](#)

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### Need Some Financial Help?

"Andrew was at the end of his rope. Trouble was brewing in his relationship with his wife Kate as they were being hit from all sides; the pressure with twin baby boys, Kate's struggle with depression, a job he couldn't stand, and finances tighter than the bark on a tree. Andrew pleaded with God for wisdom and direction for their finances, but he always felt like something was missing. As a couple, their faith in Christ was strong, but they were woefully unprepared to manage money in a way that pleased the Lord and strengthened their family."



By God's grace, Andrew was introduced to the Biblical resources from Compass. If you would like some help with finances, check out the resources on this web site. [Simply click here](#)

This story was originally published by Compass - Finances God's Way

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