



MARRIAGE EDUCATION AND RESOURCE CENTER

August, 2022

Newsletter from The Marriage Education and Resource Center (MERCY)



In a Bible study I (Penny) was in last year we were studying the book of Matthew. In Chapter 4 we were studying how Satan was tempting Jesus in the desert. Satan still uses the same tactics today as he did then and in the Garden of Eden.

- Doubt
- Discouragement
- Diversion
- Defeat
- Delay

It was pointed out that if we do not know Scripture, we don't recognize his schemes. Wes Sheffield said in an article published in The Southeast Outlook about a year ago, "I was living for the flesh: How much can you drink? How much can you smoke? How many girls can you sleep with? It is easy to look back and snicker, 'What was I thinking' Sheffield asked. But I was lost. Sin was fun

Upcoming Marriage Events

Vertical Marriage

Thursdays 6:30 p.m.
August 18 & 25;
September 15 & 22

Southeast LaGrange Campus
401 S. 1st Street,
LaGrange, KY 40031



A more vibrant marriage is possible when it's built on a foundation of active faith.

This study utilizes humor-filled and relatable video teachings from Family Life leaders, Dave and Ann Wilson. Join John and Lorie Weires as they guide you through dynamic group discussion and intentional couple's connection.

To register, email
kberry@secc.org

because I didn't know any different."

Yes. Sin can be fun for a time, until it is not. We just need to be alert to Satan's schemes.

Grace and peace,
Penny and David

Help My Spouse Doesn't Hear Me - What Can I Do? - Some questions to ponder and some excerpts from Drs. Les and Leslie Parrott.



Something many couples struggle with is being understood. If that is your case, ask yourself:

- Has it always been this way?
- How do you know when your partner understands your feelings?
- How can you let your spouse know that you understand how he/she feels?
- Do you criticize their comments, try to fix them or come back with a rebuttal? If so, they may not feel safe in sharing with you and consequently, shut down. Try to just listen for understanding, ask if they would like to talk more about it and if there is something you can do to help.

In addition, here are some thoughts from the Parrott's that they recently shared that might help you reconnect with one another.

Note: Childcare is available if you register by email.

Cost: \$10 for workbook which couples can share.

Family on Mission
August 22 - 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

MERCI Indiana
8510 Highway 111
Memphis, IN 47143



Marriage is a gift and family is our first ministry. If we are to steward well what has been entrusted to our care, we will embrace the mission and vision God has for our marriage and family. This workshop is a follow up to "Marriage on Mission" and will be concentrated time leaning into creating a culture of discipleship in our homes and embracing the privilege or pastoring as parents.

Presented by: Ben and Crystal Woods from The Brave Way Home, a discipleship ministry focused on fixing eyes on Jesus and setting hearts on heaven.

To register, [click here](#)

Mark Your calendars now for
Comedian Juanita Lolita
October 8 - 7:00 p.m.
City Place
112 South 1st Street
LaGrange, KY 40031

1. Tell your spouse how you are feeling. They recommend approaching one another when you are feeling calm and steady. The first three minutes of a conversation will set the tone for the rest of the conversation. Therefore an angry outburst in the middle of conflict, such as, "You never listen to me," will not take you in the direction you want to go.
2. Put your feelings in writing - This is a technique that many experts suggest couples try.
3. Speak with a trusted mentor together. If your efforts to tackle the issue have been unsuccessful so far, it might be time to bring in an objective third-party. At MERCY, we work with couples a lot on communication and conflict resolution skills.
4. Get to know each other on a more intimate level. There are books, workbooks, conversation starters and other resources that can help you get to know one another on a more intimate level and build a deeper understanding of how to communicate better. If you need some recommendations, MERCY is here to help. Just email us at pdhud9@aol.com or call: 502 - 939-0121.

Ministry Luncheon



We were so grateful for those who took time out of their busy schedules to attend a ministry luncheon sponsored by MERCY and Capernaum Care. They were able to hear about the services MERCY offers



Cost: \$10 per person.
Registration coming soon. This can be a great date night for couples and a fun time for singles.

Weekend to Remember -
October 21-23
Hyatt Regency - Louisville
320 South 4th Street
Louisville, KY



Great Marriages Don't Just Happen

FamilyLife's Weekend to Remember is a marriage getaway that has equipped over 1.5 million couples with practical tools and resources. Don't just survive, discover a marriage that thrives.

Cost: \$350 per couple for registration fee.
Save \$100 per couple by using group name - MERCY.
To register for [click here](#) or call 1-800-6329.

and to learn more from Todd Claypool, with Capernaum Care, about the counseling services that are coming to Shelbyville. In addition, we were honored to have Ryan and Mandy Gossom, with FamilyLife joining us and sharing about the upcoming Weekend to Remember conference and services of FamilyLife.

Note: FamilyLife offers scholarships for pastors and discounts for military personnel . For more information, visit: familylife.com/pastorswtr
familylife.com/military

Meals and Hotel Accommodations are not included in registration fee. However, guests receive a discounted room rate (subject to availability.) Be sure to mention "FamilyLife's Weekend to Remember" when making your room reservations. Room rate is \$169 per night. To reserve room: Call 502-581-1234

More Reasons to Go To Church



In our June issue, we shared some reasons to go to church. Here are a few more:

- Go to church to stir one another to love and good works.
- Go to church to mentor others and be mentored.
- Go to church to train up your child.
- Go to church to celebrate baptism and fulfill the great commission.

Making the Most of a Messy Marriage- Online Course



Jay and Laura Laffoon are real people walking through a real marriage. They like to call themselves 'marriage edu-trainers,' combining education with entertainment. And the Laffoons put their real marriage of over 30 years on display.

They have been featured on Focus on the Family, AACC, Better Marriages, Life Today and the Joy fm.

They are offering an online course where you can:

- Understand how men and women communicate differently

- Go to church to celebrate the Lord's supper
- Go to church to care for one another.
- Go to church to suffer together.
- Go to church to rejoice together.

A Message from Bob Russell on Marriage

Bob Russell is a beloved pastor who brought a message about marriage to Southeast Christian Church on August 7. We thought you might want to hear what he has to say.



- Develop a satisfying sex life
- Learn the 4 messy areas of marriage that every couple experiences
- Develop the action necessary to make the most of those messy areas
- Unlock the simple secret to celebration in your marriage
- A step-by-step plan to transform your communication from an expert couple - delivered in a fun and entertaining way
- And so much more. . .

Cost is only \$29, normally \$49 (over 40% off).

Delivered in both audio and video for your convenience. Plus you may get some exclusive bonuses depending on when you sign up.

For more information, [click here](#)

Couple's Couplettime Activity



Serving Together

When we were going through one of the most difficult seasons in our marriage, one of the reasons was we were running our own ways, doing our own things.

It took the Lord to bring us back together and allowed us to run into the future together.

Ben Stuart recently spoke on two longings of the heart - belonging and mattering. Little did we know, when we became Christians 40 years ago,

- What are some projects you have worked on together that gave you joy?
- Brainstorm and try to come up with one new activity you could start doing together as a couple.
- Then, brainstorm and come up with one activity you could do together to serve others?
- Discuss what it will look like realistically to make these things happen.

that He would put us on a path that changed our lives. Once we were able to get our relationship with God right, then we were able to get the marriage right.

Attached is an article I wrote many years ago about how finding a purpose as a couple, enhanced ours and others marital relationships.

Note: Back when this article was written, there were things like Blockbuster and Movie Warehouse, but the concepts are still relevant today.

We hope you will please read the article and then answer the questions on the left.

To read the article, [click here](#)



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