

FAMILYLIFE[®]

GLOBAL

*News and information
from FamilyLife
partners around
the world*



Dear FamilyLife Friends and Partners,

“Howard, how does the Christian life work practically for you?” Jonathan asked me as we met for a weekly men’s mentoring group in my home. I responded with, “What do the rest of you think?” trying to turn the question back to the group for discussion. “No, Howard, I want to know what you have to say; that’s why we’re in the group!” he retorted. As I started to explain the three circles and who was on the throne, the question came, “What circles?” This began what has now been a several-week discussion on the Spirit-filled life.

I share this story for several reasons. First, as I explained the Spirit-filled life, it became apparent that most of these young men had never heard of the truths of the Spirit-filled life, something most of us take for granted. Later my son Daniel said, “Dad, I knew these concepts because they were a part of our home, but most of my friends have never heard these things.” Lesson #1: We should not take for granted that others know these concepts. They were a central part of my spiritual development and probably yours but we can forget to share them.

Secondly, as I was sharing them, the Holy Spirit reminded me that some of my recent emotional reactions to life were due to subtle slipping into “doing the best I can do mode” instead of the “supernatural life” and failing to appropriate the empowering of the Holy Spirit for supernatural responses to life. Lesson #2: We should not take for granted that we are filled with God’s Spirit even though we might teach the content.

Thirdly, realizing what I did, I began to listen again to the basic messages by Dr. Bright. Oh, how sweet these are! His contagious enthusiasm for the abundant Spirit-filled life and his love for Christ and for telling others took me back to my roots of being a new believer 39 years ago. It reminded me of the many times I heard Dr. Bright and benefited from his constant returning to “the basics.” Lesson #3: We never graduate from the basics.

Finally, I was reminded of how important it is to “mentor” others with the treasures we have in Campus Crusade and in FamilyLife. As much as I love the HomeBuilders Couples Series and our events, I don’t think there is a replacement for small group mentoring, men-to-men, and women-to-women. We know that FamilyLife is primarily a “one-to-many” ministry, but I believe the man-to-men and woman-to-women ministry is also important for our own spiritual health, same-sex accountability, and for those we want to disciple. Lesson #4: The busy life is not necessarily the effective life. As has been said, “The Christian life is more caught than it is taught.” Do you have someone(s) close enough that they might get “infected?”

Let’s infect the
world,

Howard



Reclaiming the Family in Rwanda

Bill and Jenni Hunt and their children spent the months of May and June 2009 in Rwanda. People throughout Rwanda—and a few in Burundi—tasted FamilyLife. Bill and Jenni launched several

HomeBuilders groups, spoke at many exposure events, and taught seminars about God's blueprint for marriage and



family. Much ministry was with clergy, primarily Anglican, but also several other denominations.

They had a challenging task—asking husbands to break cultural barriers and spend up to an hour discussing how to pursue oneness in their marriages.

HomeBuilders—Rwanda's young couples ready to lead country's future ...

The three newlyweds pictured below were a load of fun—and potential. All married less than a year, they mentor a thriving singles ministry at a church that hosted the Before You Leap seminar on Friday nights.



They came to the Hunts' home for tea on a Saturday afternoon seeking input about building the

couples ministry. Bill and Jenni took them through a HomeBuilders session on "Receiving Your Mate."

During the project portion of HomeBuilders, the couples discussed the material that had been covered. The Hunts challenged them to begin a group—and they accepted. One man told Bill and Jenni that the material was especially valuable since he grew up in a Muslim home. "My mother was the only Christian of my father's eight wives," he said. "She died when I was 19, and my Muslim family refused to bury her. But her Christian friends buried her and helped me mourn her death. The love they showed brought me to Jesus."

These couples represent Rwanda's bright future, but they battle to revive a family culture torn apart by the 1994 genocide. These couples could be the core of a movement!

Seminar Preps Singles to Say 'I Do' or "Don't"

Every Wednesday and Friday, the FamilyLife partners in Rwanda facilitate a Before You Leap singles seminar for 70 professionals. This seminar teaches the five myths about marriage, God's plan for marriage, the importance of sexual purity, what you need to know before saying 'I do,' and much more.

Churches open doors to FamilyLife strategy

- **Rwanda Baptist**—a man Bill ministered with in refugee camps created by the 1994 genocide invited FamilyLife to minister in 65 churches he now shepherds. This will open doors into low-income communities.
- **Burundi New Life Church**—a judge who is the legal counsel of a denomination based in Burundi asked us to launch FamilyLife after attending three sessions of HomeBuilders leaders training in Rwanda.
- **Kigali's Largest Church**—a couple who lead the marriage ministry at Kigali's largest church plan to adopt HomeBuilders as their small group strategy after attending three sessions of leaders training.

2009 Events Calendar

Africa

Feb 10, 2010 Five Love Languages Conf. Pretoria South Africa

Europe (Eastern)

Dec 5 Couples Relationship Seminar Elbasan Albania
 Feb 6, 2010 Couples Relationship Seminar Shkodra Albania
 April 24, 2010 Parenting Seminar Tirana Albania
 May 20, 2010 Couples Relationship Seminar Vlora Albania
 June 21-30, 2010 FamilyLife Camp Albania
 Dec 5 Parenting Conference Walbrzych Poland
 Dec 12 Couples Relationship Seminar Dneprepetrovsk Ukraine
 Dec 12 Marriage Conference Moscow Russia
 Jan 20, 2010 Still Do Conference Poznan Poland
 Jan 27, 2010 Parenting Conference Wisla Poland
 Jan 23, 2010 Parenting Conference Tarnowskie Gory Poland
 Feb 20, 2010 Parenting Conference Poznan Poland
 Feb 13, 2010 Marriage Seminar Moscow Russia
 Mar 11-16, 2010 FamilyLife Ministry Summit Budapest Hungary
 April 10-11th, 2010 Couple's Relationship Seminar Bialystok Poland
 April 16-18, 2010 Couple's Relationship Seminar Koniakow Poland
 May 8, 2010 Parenting Conference Bydgoszcz Poland
 May 15, 2010 Parenting Conference Chelm Poland
 May 19-21, 2010 Parenting Conference Krakow Poland
 July 3-10, 2010 Parenting & Marriage Confs Gora sw Anny Poland

Europe (Western)

Dec 11-13 Preparing for Marriage The Netherlands
 Jan 8 -9, 2010 FamilyLife at the Wedding Fare Messe Switzerland
 Feb 2010 Premarried Seminar Barcelona Spain
 Feb 19-21, 2010 Weekend to Remember Lutherstadt Wittenberg Germany
 Mar 12-14, 2010 Love, Sex, Marriage for students The Netherlands
 Mar 13, 2010 Parenting Workshops Barcelona Spain
 Mar 26-28, 2010 Military Family Retreat Swanwick United Kingdom
 Mar 28-30, 2010 Weekend to Remember Neustadt Germany
 April 17, 2010 Parenting Workshops Barcelona Spain
 April 17-18, 2010 Premarried Seminar Malaga Spain
 April 24-25, 2010 Premarried Seminar Seville Spain
 May 8-9, 2010 Weekend to Remember Warwick U. Kingdom
 May 15, 2010 Parenting Workshops Barcelona Spain

Middle East and North Africa

Due to sensitive nature of these countries, please contact global@familylife.com for further information.

North America

United States—Phone 1-800-358-6329 or www.familylife.com for a complete listing of conferences.

Asia

Nov 22 One Day Marriage conference Khandwa City India
 Nov 24 One Day Marriage conference Burhanpur City India
 Nov 27-29 I Still Do Conference Malaysia