

The Riedy Reader

August 2021



This is the view from our hotel at the last Weekend to Remember® Getaway that Eric and I attended. Yep, those are palm trees! We were living in Arkansas and a friend offered their Florida home for us to celebrate our 25th wedding anniversary (less than 4 hours from where we are now living!). We decided to combine the trip with a chance to re-visit the event that first drew us to FamilyLife®.



That event ended up serving two purposes in our lives. Not only was it a great chance to reconnect with each other, but it also continued to confirm our commitment to FamilyLife. The logo and branding was different from our first event in 1992 (about 6 months into our marriage), and they used more technology, but the message was the same. Messages like: “Without God at the center, we naturally drift from oneness to isolation.” “The closer each of us walks with God, the closer we will be to each other.” “My spouse is not my enemy.” “We are in the same foxhole, fighting the same enemy.” “God made family, He has the blueprints.” These foundational truths have echoed through our almost 30 years of marriage now. We often say that we were FamilyLife ‘users’ for many years before we became FamilyLife staff.

The current Weekend to Remember Getaway has once again changed the look and now use LOTS more technology but those same messages echo through! The gospel is presented at each and every event. There is ALWAYS a prayer team on site, praying for each and every guest by name. Guests are not only challenged to move from isolation to oneness, but to then use their oneness to impact their neighborhoods and the world. Highlighting this path of **Isolation→Oneness→Impact** has led many to attend a breakout about how guests can impact their communities for Christ—exciting!



New logo



We appreciate you and care deeply about your marriage and family. Without you, this ministry wouldn't be possible. Thank you!

In gratitude, we invite you to attend a Weekend to Remember of your choice for just \$ 50 per person (\$100/couple), an almost 60% savings to you! Registration only. Travel & incidentals not included.

Registering is easy! Call **Eric & Deb Riedy** at **734-377-3379** or email **abcdefamily@comcast.net** and we'll send you the link.

This offer is transferable. Use this to bless your own marriage or extend your own ministry and bless someone you care about.

To check conference dates and locations, please visit FamilyLife.com or call 1-800-FL-TODAY.

With this crazy COVID year, the Weekend to Remember team has worked hard to do what they could, where they could, however they could! We have had postponed events, reduced numbers, distancing and masks. In the midst of this, God has continued to use this event to change people's marriages and bring families closer to Him. In the upcoming Fall season, we have extra exciting news to share! We as staff are able to offer more than half off the registration price to any of you who can attend AND YOU can also offer that same discount to others! You simply need to choose an event location, then call or email us, and we can send you a discount link for registration. If you would like to pass this along to others, feel free to tear off the bottom of this letter to give them, but they actually don't need the physical paper—they can just call or email us as well!

Be aware that we will be continuing to monitor COVID protocols and follow local/state/hotel guidelines for each event so check your specific event for details. Which leads to a huge ministry prayer request. Of course we are all praying for the end of this virus, but could you also pray specifically for our events team as they navigate planning during the changing COVID conditions this Fall?

In Him,

INTERNATIONAL UPDATE: We have kept you updated on how FamilyLife in the U.S. has made digital pivots to continue ministry through COVID. We thought you might like to hear from Neil Josephson, director of FamilyLife Canada about their 2020 adventures!

"When the health crisis first arrived, our team had a choice: wait it out and hope for the best or roll up our sleeves and take advantage of the opportunities we did have. Marriages needed even more help than usual. So our team prayerfully dove right into hosting webinars, mentoring couples over Zoom, and running online conferences. And what a year it was!

- **The Great Marriages Don't Just Happen Series** - with over 4500 couples registered, offered as live webinars last spring and on-demand since January.
- **The Together for Good Free Streaming Weekend** - with 3400 couples registered last November, representing 35 countries.
- **Equipping over 300 more couples as marriage mentors** - pushing us past our goal of having 1000 trained mentors.
- **This Day Forward Parenting Conference (in April)** - with over 1600 households represented.
- Over 32,000 in attendance at FamilyLife Canada events (compared to 14,600 in 2019). That's more than double the marriages and families helped!"

Tear & Prayer



Pray for the
Riedy
Family
Serving with

Brenna Deb Eric Amanda

FAMILYLIFE
Help for today. Hope for tomorrow.

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Charissa & Jon

Pray for our new Vice President of Content and his wife, Trent and Andrea Griffith—they have been Weekend to Remember speakers for the last 15 years (inc. speaking at the 2016 event in Florida I mentioned earlier!) & are now joining staff full time to lead us as we curate and create biblically rich, culturally contextualized, and clearly transformational content for marriages and families, as well as mobilizing families to disciple families.

Praise for Amanda's acceptance to John Brown University (Siloam Springs, AR) into their Construction Management program for Fall 2022.

Praise for the final Little Rock recording of FamilyLife Today, & the completion of the Orlando recording space—exciting new space!