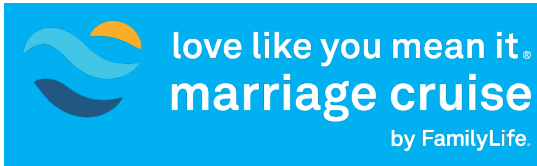


## The Riedy Reader April 2022



Spring has sprung and things are hopping! With Eric and I having a short turn around time between our trip back to CT and PA and the President's Getaway in Arizona it seems like a great time to get you caught up with all the Spring events at FamilyLife! Next month look for a bit more of a personal update about us (spoiler alert: A new role for Eric and maybe even a picture of our new grandbaby)



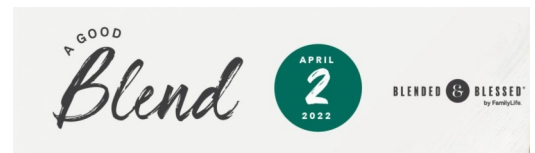
Our first Spring event was the Love Like You Mean It Marriage Cruise February 6-13. If you are thinking that February doesn't quite qualify as Spring, then you have not been to Antigua or St. Thomas (or even Florida, I'd say) at that time of year-beautiful

weather! Though this year held many COVID challenges and the ship was less than half capacity, God still moved in those who were able to attend! Check out these exciting quotes below:

*I met a couple that were also on the cruise. She has been married for 44 years. Her husband doesn't go to church but enjoys cruises. They went to every session together! She said this was life changing for her marriage. Of course this is her story to share but I wanted y'all to know. This cruise is making good marriages better and life changing for marriages like this! - Wife, Age 50-59*

*Thank you for EVERYTHING! My goodness this was our best marriage experience in 20 years of marriage! We felt extremely spoiled. Thank you for being content that wasn't the status quo behavior modification but rather **gospel centered soul care teaching** that was really transformational for the long run. - Wife, Age 40-49*

**Blended and Blessed**-the only one-day live event and livestream just for stepfamily couples, single parents, dating couples with kids, and those who care about blended families. On April 2nd we had live attendees in Houston, 89 churches hosting, and 473 home sites from 40 states and several foreign countries: Australia, Bahamas, Canada, Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Hong Kong, Mexico, Panama, Netherlands, South Africa, United Kingdom, Venezuela. Exact numbers of how many people participated are difficult to nail down but our



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## The Amtrak Auto-Train

Many have asked about our experience using the Auto-Train for our trip back East so here is a quick recap. The Auto Train is an 855-mile-long overnight train service for passengers and their cars operated between Lorton, Virginia (near Washington, D.C.), and Sanford, Florida (near Orlando). It started as an independent line sometime in the 1950's, and was taken over by Amtrak in 1983. The Auto Train is the only one of its kind in the United States! It may sound outdated but it runs EVERY DAY and still going strong. On our return trip, for example, there were 15 passenger cars carrying 238 coach and 239 sleeper passengers, attached to that were 32 car carriers with 251 vehicles (including 4 motorcycles). For us, traveling to both CT and PA, as well as bringing along boxes of FamilyLife resources, it turned out to be a great way to travel.

low-to-high estimate is 3500–5000. For our numbers lovers, here are some statistics:

- ◆ First time watchers: 46% of English audience / 94% Spanish
- ◆ 97% watched three-fourths or more of the event (**89% watched all of it**-very high for streaming events)
- ◆ All of our speakers and the panel discussion received a 9.0 rating or higher
- ◆ 47% want to learn more about helping other stepfamilies.
- ◆ 100% of the attendees said the event was worth the cost!

And for our story lovers, here are a few impact quotes:

*"It blew away our expectations, and this was our first event! Sessions were packed with so many wisdom nuggets that we can apply."*

*"I feel seen. Like my family matters and our problems are real. And that God has an answer for us!"*



**Weekend to Remember®**  
by FamilyLife.

April 8th had several Weekend to Remember events of the Spring season—We hosted four events (Indianapolis, Lake Tahoe, Anchorage, and Anaheim). These events had a total attendance of 2,104 with 36 salvations in just that one weekend!

Here is a quote from the Indianapolis event:

*This getaway was a reminder to both of us of the blessing we have in each other. After nearly 23 years of marriage, the tendency toward complacency is strong-but this weekend reminded us that **God is stronger**. In the recent past we allowed the enemy and his lies to almost destroy what God created, and we have committed to each other to never allow that again.*

Wife, Married 22 years

In Him,

### Tear & Prayer



Pray for the Riedy Family  
serving with

 **FamilyLife**  
A Cru Ministry

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<http://abcdefamily.net> Cru Account # 0592655

**Praise** for a smooth & successful trip to CT and PA -we had not been back to visit family & friends since before COVID-good to be face to face!

**Praise** for a promotion for Brenna-she is really enjoying her library job & they seem to like her too!

**Pray** for Brenna as she balances more library hours with online school & for her grad school application to FSU to be accepted & that path clear.

**Pray** for the Arizona President's Getaway that Eric & I will be helping staff 4/20-24-for great ministry connections with FamilyLife partners & the ability to cast a vision of what God has in store for us

**Pray** for Eric & I both as we adjust to what our new roles will look like & seek to serve God well.