

The Riedy Reader

March 2022



*Matchmaker, Matchmaker, Make me a match,
Find me a find, catch me a catch
Matchmaker, Matchmaker Look through your
book, And make me a perfect match*



A while back Brenna brought home this record from the second hand store. Though we don't have a record player, seeing it displayed on our bookshelf has often started the music playing anyway—in my head! Just this week I have had this particular song, Matchmaker, playing on repeat and I'd love to share why. Maybe by the end you will be humming along with me.

I've previously mentioned that I am now working with our training and development team, specifically with our IBS courses (Cru theological training). As I'm integrating with this team, my new manager, Bill, sent me a video message to watch in order to help me understand his vision and motivation for working with Cru. It was a message by Rick Hove (Cru leadership) at our 2013 US Staff Conference in Colorado titled "What's ministry all about? A Metaphor"

2 Corinthians 11:2–3 (ESV): For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ. But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

Remember, a metaphor is a figure of speech that describes an object or action in a way that is not literally true, but helps explain an idea. Do you see it? Paul calls himself a 'betrother' or one could say a MATCHMAKER! He introduced the Corinthians to Christ. That's what ministry is all about—showing people God's beautiful offer to be a husband to us. Any program, resource or campaign is secondary to the idea of revealing who God is and His love for us. What a great picture of ministry—are you humming



Riedy Road (and train!) Trip



Connecticut and Pennsylvania here we come! Our first ministry partner trip since before COVID! Wow! We will be taking the AutoTrain from here to just outside Washington, DC and driving from there. Please let us know if you'd like to set up a visit or host a small group get-together while we are in your area. Below are a few 'come and go' connection opportunities:

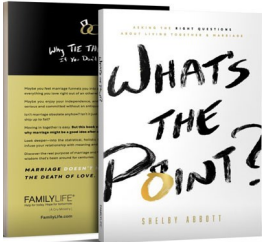
Connecticut-March 30-April 5

March 31st, 4-7 pm stop by for a visit at the Panera Bread, 220 Rt. 12, Groton, CT

Pennsylvania April 5-10

April 7th, 4-7 pm stop by for a visit at the Panera Bread, 6379 Hamilton Blvd., Allentown PA

yet?!? This metaphor can help in the context of evangelism. It is not our job to convert or fix people, but rather to radiate and reveal the beauty of Christ and a relationship with Him. It can also help in ministry to other Christians. For example, in my new role with theological training my goal is to draw people to learn more about Him and to continually fall deeper in love with Him. We are all 'betrothers' offering God's desire for relationship to those around us every day!



And speaking of betrothing....Do you know anyone who is wondering what the point of marriage is anyway? (nice transition there, don't you think?) One of our newest FamilyLife staff, Shelby Abbott, has been on Cru staff for years ministering on campuses around the country. He brings a great perspective on the younger generations views on marriage and family. His most recent book What's the Point? is aimed at a college-aged audience, and will help answer the questions related to cohabitation/marriage raised by nominally Christian or non-believing students.

Do you know somebody who doesn't see the point in marriage? Maybe they feel marriage funnels you into a traditional norm--one that will suck everything you love right out of an otherwise healthy, happy relationship. Maybe they say, 'Isn't marriage obsolete anyhow? Isn't it just an expensive way to set your relationship up to fail? Moving in together is easy.'

Send us an email and let us know, we'd be glad to send you a copy of this book to pass along to them (or check it for out yourself on shop.familylife.com). This book explores the side they might not hear: why marriage might be a good idea after all. It looks deeper--into the statistical, holistic offerings of marriage and how it can infuse relationships with meaning and value. Maybe you can help them answer the question 'What's the point?'

In Him,

P.S.-Keep an eye out for more on Shelby! He is the 'new Bob Lepine' aka the voice on FamilyLife Today. He will also be launching a new FamilyLife podcast geared toward 18-28 year olds. To hear Bob introduce Shelby, listen to the March 2 bonus episode at FamilyLifetoday.com

Tear & Prayer



Praise for all FamilyLife staff being able to board the Love Like You Mean It Cruise. A few guest were turned away due to last minute positive COVID tests, but all staff were able to board and there were no positive cases reported aboard ship
Praise from the Jesus Film Project--the films have reached 1 billion broadcast views! This number reflects the number of televisions across the world that tuned in to watch our films in just the last six years, from 2016 to 2021. Awesome God!

Pray for our upcoming travels, and our girls as they stay home to work-safety for all!

Pray for wisdom for Cru as a whole & esp. for those directly working in Ukraine as they seek to respond well to the crisis in that area

Pray for the Riedy Family
serving with

 **FamilyLife**
A Cru Ministry

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