# Retreat Schedule

Same Sessions   Same Speakers   Different Days		
Thursday/Friday Retreat	2023 LIVING UNITED RETREAT BRANSON, MO	Friday/Saturday Retreat
Thursday Feb. 16th	Retreat Day 1	Friday Feb. 17th
2:00pm-3:00pm	General Session #1 Pastor Steve Brudnak	2:00pm-3:00pm
	Elective Sessions:	
3:15pm-4:00pm	The Romantic Couple-Biblically Knowing Each Other Pastor Jeremiah Metsinger - Great Hall The Connected Couple-Speaking the Right Love Language Pastor David Corley - Innsbruck/St. Moritz/Heidelberg The Strong Couple-Abundance During Adversity Pastor Noel Cwenar - Milan/Venice/Florence The Parenting Couple-Parenting With Purpose Pastor Tim Berlin - Madrid/Barcelona	3:30 pm-4:15pm
4:15pm-6:00pm	General Session #2 Pastor Tim Berlin	4:45pm-6:30pm
	Dinner Break & Dismiss for the Evening	
Friday Feb. 17th	Retreat Day 2	Saturday Feb. 18th
8:30am-9:45am	General Session #3 Pastor Tim Berlin	9:00am-10:30am
	Elective Sessions:	Lunch Break/Checkout
10:00am-10:45am	The Balanced Couple- Living in Balance Pastor Michael Wessburg - Great Hall The Purposeful Couple- Time Management Pastor AJ Potter- Innsbruck/St. Moritz/Heidelberg The Exemplary Couple-The Marriage Every Couple Wants Pastor Jeff Ferguson- Milan/Venice/Florence The Faithful Couple- The Kids are Gone, Now Finish Strong Pastor Jerry Pyle- Madrid/Barcelona	12:45pm-1:30pm
11:00am-12:30pm	General Session #4  Pastor Tim Berlin	2:00pm-3:30pm

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# 2024 Comples Retreat

February 15 & 16 | February 16 & 17





# **FEATURED PREACHER**

# Pastor Tim Berlin



Pastor Tim Berlin pastors Faith Baptist Church in Clinton Township, MI. Pastor Berlin is centered on helping people prepare to stand before God. Whether they need a personal relationship with Christ through salvation, or to develop a more intimate fellowship with Christ through sanctification, Pastor Berlin stands ready to help. The word of God has the answers to both these conditions and he puts a high priority on preaching. Drawing from Joshua

24:15, Pastor Berlin says his first and most important priority is to lead his family to love and serve God with all their hearts.

It was during a revival meeting with evangelist Tom Farrell that Pastor Berlin realized his sin would eternally separate him from God, and he accepted Christ as his Savior at age eight. Growing up in Columbiaville, MI, Pastor Berlin graduated from Juniata Christian School in 1987. He received his bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Bible from Maranatha Baptist Bible College in 1991 and his master's degree from Northland Baptist Bible College in 2003. He has previously served as a youth pastor for fourteen years, and eight years as senior pastor at Hillcrest Baptist Church in Logansport, IN. In October 2011, Pastor Berlin accepted the call to become senior pastor at Faith Baptist Church.

Pastor Berlin and his wife, Michelle, have loved the joy of parenting their four boys, Nathan, Stephen, Andrew and Jonathan, and are embracing the new experience of grandparenting as their family continues to grow.



# **HOST PREACHER**

### Pastor Steve Brudnak



Pastor Brudnak has been the Pastor of United Baptist Church in Springfield, Missouri for 19 years. At the age of seven, he asked the Lord to save him, and at 15, he surrendered to preach the Gospel of Christ. He began serving the Lord as a youth pastor in Michigan. From 1998 - 2003, he pastored Calvary Baptist Church in Charles City, Iowa. God then called him to become the pastor of United Baptist Church in Springfield, MO. He has a great burden to see marriages and homes

strengthened through the only answer, Jesus! In the last 16 years he has led United Baptist Church in the oversight of the Living United Couples Retreat. Pastor Brudnak has been blessed with his wife of 27 years, Melissa. They have three sons, Josiah, Jeremiah, and Zachariah. This year they will be adding two daughters to their family! They are beyond blessed and excited for this new stage in their lives!

# **SESSION PREACHERS**

# Pastor Jeremiah Metsinger



Pastor Metsinger studied at Heartland Baptist Bible College. Upon graduation he and his wife Melissa, moved to Sioux Falls, SD to work with the youth, where they saw great change and growth in the teens. After a couple years of being there he was burdened to pastor, and began seeking direction and further study. In August of 2006 God led Pastor Metsinger and his family to South Knollwood Baptist Church. Bro. Metsinger completed his Doctorate in Ministry shortly following their move to Topeka. Bro. & Mrs. Metsinger enjoy spending time with their four sons

and daughter, and involving them in the work of South Knollwood.

# **Pastor David Corley**



David Corley met his wife Charity at Bible college and they have been married 18 years. Upon graduation he became the founding pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church in Weatherford, OK. He has served there for 17 years. In that time the church has outgrown their current facilities and they have purchased adjoining land to expand. They have four children. The words used commonly by those who have attended his sessions are "Interesting" and "Indescribable".



### **Pastor Noel Cwenar**



A native Arkansan, Pastor Noel Cwenar was raised in a ministry home and accepted Christ as his Savior at a young age. After Bible college, he served in Christian education for several years until the Lord directed him to become the pastor at Gospel Light Baptist Church in Rogers, where he has served since 2006. Pastor Cwenar and his wife Lucinda have been married since 1996 and have two adult sons. Kyle was married just a few months ago a wonderful girl named Kora, and Cole serves on staff at GLBC.

# Pastor Michael Wessburg



Pastor Wessburg graduated from Pensacola Christian College with a degree in Bible with an emphasis in Youth Ministries. It was there that he met his wife Candace, who grew up in West Columbia, South Carolina. They were married on July 31,1999. For the next five years the couple served in two different churches as the youth pastor and as Christian school teachers. In January 2005, the Wessberg's joined the Tozour Evangelistic Team to start a children's ministry and assist in music. In February

of 2016, God led the Wessberg's to Faith Baptist Church in Raymore, Missouri where he serves as senior pastor. The Wessberg's have eight children: Zachariah, Andrew, Chloe, Evy, Lilly, Isaac, Asher, and Kayleigh.



### Pastor AJ Potter



Pastor Potter was saved at the age of five at his home when he realized his need of a Saviour. He grew up in a Pastor's home primarily in Bear Lake, MI. He surrendered to full time ministry at the age of 16, and attended Fairhaven Baptist College, graduating in 2002. Pastor Potter and his wife, Karis have been married for 21 years. The Potters have four children: Trent, Seth, Ashlynn, and Breanna. Bro. Potter has been the pastor of Pleasantville Baptist Church in Pleasantville, Iowa since September of 2009.

# Pastor Jeff Ferguson



Pastor Jeff Ferguson grew up in Jackson, Tennessee. At the age of ten, he began to ride the church bus to Bethel Baptist Church. As a young person, God was leading him into full-time Christian service. Upon graduating High School, Pastor Ferguson attended Fairhaven Baptist College in Chesterton, IN. It was there, where he met and married his wife, of 18 years, Traci.

After graduation, the Fergusons spent several years on the East Coast in the suburbs of Philadelphia and Hunt Valley, MD serving as an assistant/youth pastor. For one

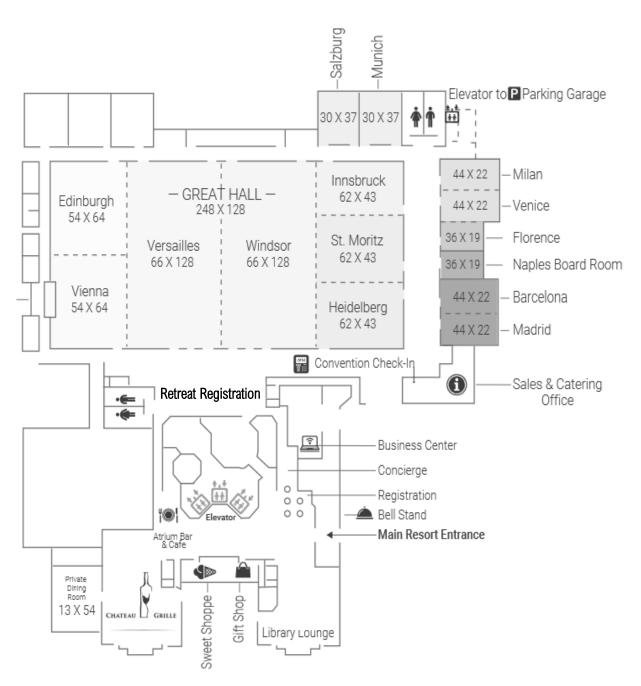
year the Ferguson's served as layman in Lyons, NY, while seeking the Lord's guidance before moving to the Des Moines area, where he pastors the Glory Baptist Church. The Fergusons have two children, Mackenzie and Elliot.

# Pastor Jerry Pyle



Jerry was saved at 19 at Air Base Road Baptist Church in Alexandria, LA, while serving in the Air Force. He surrendered to preach in 1975 and began attending Baptist Christian College in Shreveport, Louisiana, while still serving in the USAF. After being honorably discharged in 1979 and graduating from Bible college in 1981, Jerry became Associate Pastor, Youth Director, and principal at Tabernacle Baptist Church and school in Longview, TX. In 1983, he became the pastor of Kingsway Baptist Church in Ringgold, LA, where he served for six years. In 1990, Jerry returned to Air Base Road Baptist Church and served for six years as

Associate Pastor, Youth Director, and Principal of the church's Christian school. In 1996, Jerry accepted the call to pastor Ash Street Baptist Church (now Bible Baptist Church) in Nevada, MO, where he served as pastor for 26 years. In May 2022, Jerry stepped down as pastor and his son, Joshua Pyle, became the next pastor. While in the Air Force, Jerry met his wife Barbara who was also in the Air Force. They were married in 1978, and have been blessed with three amazing children, Jonathan and his wife Andrea, Joshua and his wife Wendy, and Jodi. They have also been blessed with twelve wonderful grandchildren. Jerry and Barbara still attend Bible Baptist in Nevada, Missouri, where they are trying to finish their course faithfully serving their Lord.



Map of Chateau

### FIRST DAY SESSION LOCATIONS

- THE ROMANTIC COUPLE (Pastor Jeremiah Metsinger) Great Hall
  Biblically Knowing Each Other
- THE CONNECTED COUPLE (Pastor David Corley) Innsbruck/St. Moritz/Heidelberg

  Speaking the Right Love Language
- THE STRONG COUPLE (Pastor Noel Cwenar) Milan/Venice/Florence
  Abundance During Adversity
- THE PARENTING COUPLE (Pastor Tim Berlin) Madrid/Barcelona
  Parenting With Purpose

**NURSERY - Salzburg & Munich** 

# **SECOND DAY SESSION LOCATIONS**

- THE BALANCED COUPLE (Pastor Michael Wessburg) Great Hall
  Living in Balance
- THE PURPOSEFUL COUPLE (Pastor AJ Potter) Innsbruck/St. Moritz/Heidelberg
  Living in Balance
- THE EXEMPLARY COUPLE (Pastor Jeff Ferguson) Milan/Venice/Florence

  The Marriage Every Couple Wants
- THE FAITHFUL COUPLE (Pastor Jerry Pyle) Madrid/Barcelona
  The Kids are Gone, Now Finish Strong

**NURSERY - Salzburg & Munich** 





# **Pursuing a Great Marriage**

I Sam. 30:1-19

Iи	tr	$\sim$	luci	$\neg$	n

•••	li Ou	uctio	···
	?	Hov	v many people wanted a bad marriage on their wedding day?
	$\not \!$	Purs	suing a Great Marriage is something every couple can do by!
	₿	God	rewards couples who pursue Him in faith
			Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that <b>he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.</b>
١.	Yc	our _	Love (vs. 1-5)
	A.	Firs	st Care - Emotions
		1.	Remember that first love & care?
			Mal 2:14-15 Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. 15 And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.
		2.	Care wains with disconnection – "on the third day" (v. 1)
			$\square$ 1Pe 3:7a Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge
	В.	Firs	et Commitment - Will
		1.	You made a vow with your will and that can only be kept with your will.
		2.	A lasting marriage only comes through a commitment of your will.
			Mal 2:14c, 16a yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. 16 For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away [divorce]
	C.	Firs	st Engagement - Body
		1.	Your first care kicked in your first engagement.
		2.	What did you do for one another that you no longer do?
		3.	You did things that you don't do now.
			□ Thinking it doesn't matter is mocking God.
			Gal 6:7 Re not deceived: God is not macked: for whatspever a man soweth, that shall be also rean

4. Your actions have brought you to where you're at!



A.		– In-Flow ( <i>vs. 6-9</i> )
	1.	You need to seek God.
	2.	You need to listen these two days!
	3.	You need to daily walk with God.
	4.	You need good people around you who make sure you don't become "god", namely a church family that you are close to.
		A lack of close friendships is the breading ground of homes that have serious and secret problems. When was the last time you had close friends into your home?
	5.	God gives clear commands with precious promises
		1Sa 30:8bPursue: for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all.
В.	Act	tion – Out-Flow (vs. 9-17)
	1.	"So David went" ( $v$ . 9) – Men where do you need to take your marriage?
		⇒ So went and
	2.	"And had taken the women captives" ( $v$ . 2) – Women where do you feel trapped?
		⇒ When women are trapped, they must trust!
		⇒ What could have the women done in this situation? Fight or trust?
		1Pe 3:1-6 Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; 2 While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. 3 Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; 4 But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the

3. Actions are faith decisions that come with the strength of God's blessing.

sight of God of great price. 5 For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: 6 Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as

4. God will put things and people into your life to help you (vs. 11-16)

long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.



# III. Your Full Recovery (vs. 18-19)

- A. Relief \_\_\_\_\_ over time
  - 1. Answers make them a personal commitment.
  - Process realize it will take time to show fruit.
  - 3. If you're hurt and your spouse makes decisions of faith, be thankful. Believe God can work!
    - Mar 2:7 Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?
- B. Repair Plan of God
  - Sod's plan for marriage is a powerful & joyous one flesh union!
- C. Relish Laugh Again
  - Take that great marriage & enjoy!
  - 2. Use it to minister to other couples
- D. Rest Relief that God Brought you here.
  - 1. Remember it is God who makes your marriage great, put the pressure on Him.
  - 2. Don't forget to give Him the Glory!

### Conclusion

- Pursuing a Great Marriage is something every couple can do by faith!
- ♥ God rewards couples who pursue Him in faith
  - Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.
- ♦ You can see the future of your marriage through the promises of God!
  - In 16:13-15 KJV 13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come. 14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. 15 All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.
- You have a great marriage, you might not see it yet, if you will pursue God by faith!

Romantic Couple	PASTOR JEREMIAH METSINGER

	The Romantic Coup
PASTOR JEREMIAH METSINGER	

Romantic Couple	PASTOR JEREMIAH METSINGER

	The Romantic Coup
PASTOR JEREMIAH METSINGER	

# **Speaking the Right Love Language**

☐ Genesis 29:31-35

				•	
I.	IhΔ	Language	Drin	cin	ı۵
	1110	Language			ľ

- A. Acts of service
- B. Physical Touch
- C. Gifts
- D. Quality Time
- E. Words of Affirmation

# II. The Language Philosophy

- A. Everyone has a \_\_\_\_\_\_love language
- B. You should express love to your spouse in the language they speak

# **III. The Language Predicament**

- A. We usually speak \_\_\_\_\_ languages (opposites attract)
- B. Your spouse's love language is not automatic
- C. When love is not given, it is not \_\_\_\_\_

ıv.	ın	e Language
	A.	There is a misconception of love
	В.	One person can be content while the other is
	C.	We tend to revert to our language
V.	Th	e Language Prescription
	A.	your spouse's primary language
	В.	Experiment with different ways of expressing it
	C.	Ask them to you

D. Be willing to work \_\_\_\_\_

E. Find in God your completion

# **The Strong Couple**

- + "I am the subject of depression of spirit so fearful that I hope none of you ever get to such extremes of wretchedness as I go to." C.H. Spurgeon
- + **Depression**: an emotional, intense state of feeling sad, discouraged... its apathy for a prolonged period, sense of helplessness and at times a sense of worthlessness.

ı <b>.</b>		in Scripture
	A.	Elijah – 1 Kings 19:1-4
	В.	Job – Job 10:1
	C.	Jeremiah—Jeremiah 15:10
	D.	Many of the <b>Psalms</b> of <b>David</b> and <b>Asaph</b> .
	E.	Korah in Psalms 42:5, 11
	F.	? "Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death; tarry ye here, and watch with me." Matthew 26:38
Ω		or we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our

4:15

### PASTOR NOEL CWENAR

The Strong Couple

II.	Common									

- Trouble concentrating, remembering details, and making decisions
- Fatigue
- Feelings of guilt, worthlessness, and helplessness
- Pessimism and hopelessness
- Insomnia, early-morning wakefulness, or sleeping too much
- Irritability
- Restlessness
- Loss of interest in things once pleasurable
- Overeating, or appetite loss
- Aches, pains, headaches, or cramps that won't go away
- Digestive problems that don't get better, even with treatment
- Persistent sad, anxious, or "empty" feelings
- Suicidal thoughts or attempts
- Women feel anxious and scared; men feel guarded
- Women blame themselves for the depression; men blame others
- Women commonly feel sad, worthless, and apathetic when depressed; men tend to feel irritable and angry
- Women are more likely to avoid conflicts when depressed; men are more likely to create conflicts
- Women feel lethargic and nervous; men feel agitated and restless
- Women easily talk about their feelings of self-doubt and despair; men hide feelings of self-doubt and despair, considering it a sign of weakness.



# **III. Different Types of Depression**

	•	(Temperament)
	•	
	•	
A.		
	•	
	+	"To begin, our imagination can possess a darker edge. All our birds are owls or ravens. When one is born with a melancholy temperament, he sees a tempest brewing even in the calm." C.H. Spurgeon
	+	What helped Asaph? Look at <i>Psalm 77</i> :
		R
		R

fe Ph	That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, ellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his hilippians 3:10
fe Ph	ellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto hi
+ "P	
ra fo	Personally, I also bear witness that it has been to me, in sereat pain, superlatively comfortable to know that in every paracks His people, the Lord Jesus has a fellow-feeling. We are not one like unto the son of man walks in the furnace with purgeon
de	often feel very grateful to God that I have undergone epression. I know the borders of despair and the horrible brirulf of darkness into which my feet have almost gone."

# **Parenting With Purpose**

1 Timothy 4:8-12

# **Proposition:**

Biblical parenting is a transfer of the dependence they have upon you, to a dependence upon God and His word.

### Introduction:

# As seen in a magazine clip years ago:

- •Watch your thoughts, they become words.
- Watch your words, they become actions.
- •Watch your actions, they become habits.
- •Watch your habits, they become character.
- Watch your character, they decide your future!

God's design for the home is clearly laid out in *Ephesians 6:1-4*. It is for parents to be the authority and for children to learn. Unfortunately, we have watched a shift in our society to a child-centered home rather than a Christ-centered home. There are no children to are smart enough to run a family. It simply is not God's design. As we parent, always remember this truth, more is <u>caught</u> than <u>taught</u>!

# + What is parenting with purpose?

١.	ın	e Principle	
	A.	We	what we are!
	В.	We	what we are!
II.	Th	e Process	
	A.	Emphasize godly	
	В.	Emphasize proper	
III.	Th	e Pattern	
	A.	In	
	В.	In	
	C.	In	
	D.	In	
	E.	In	



## **IV. The Product**

A.	Will our children be	centered?
В.	Will our children be	driven?
C.	Will our children be	dependent?
D.	Will our children be	-controlled?

### **Conclusion:**

What are you producing? We must be actively engaged in much than simply informing or educating our children. We must be involved in the character construction of each child. If God states that what I am building will look like me, then the question is what is true about me?

This generation has a need for rescuers. However, the only way we will be able to help this generation or any generation is to help them form a biblical world-view of their life as they view our lives. **Remember, more is caught than taught!** 



# The Simple Secret!

■ Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband. Ephesians 5:33

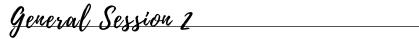
# **Proposition:**

A woman cries out for love as a man craves the respect that God has designed for them to receive in marriage.

# Introduction:

Too many marriages today find it easy to offend each other, but they lack the tools necessary to make minor adjustments that would turn off the flamethrowers. Feelings of being unloved or disrespected can start over the smallest of things and develop into a convincing argument, in a short time, that your partner is ready to leave the marriage or regrets getting into the marriage at all. The crazy cycle starts with the simple feelings of being unloved or disrespected in isolated instances.

۱.	You can be right, but wrong at the top of your
	A. Anger can show up as up.
	a. Solving problems is not measured in
	b. Solving problems is not mastered through



	в.	An	ger	can snow up as up.
		a.	So	lving problems cannot happen without
			1.	It must be verbally.
			2.	It must be non-verbally.
		b.	So	lving problems cannot happen without
			1.	Ask and do not make
			2.	Clarify and do not jump to
			3.	Provide and do not simply voice
				hifting is simply a lack of personal
	Δ	The	o m	an is commanded by God to his wife. (1 Peter 3:7)
		a.	Lo	ve is shown through
		b.	Lo	ve is shown through
		c.	Lo	ve is shown through
		d.	Lo	ve is shown through
ا	В.			woman is commanded by God toher husbander 3:1-6)

PASTOR TIM BERLIN



a.	Respect is shown through
b.	Respect is shown through
c.	Respect is shown through
d.	Respect is shown through

# **Conclusion:**

The crazy cycle always wants to spin, but couples can control it by remembering the simple secret to love and respect. The Energized cycle only needs one partner to decide to obey and honor God. The Reward cycle is the culmination of a marriage where a wife respects her husband in obedience to the Lord and a husband loves his wife in the same obedience.

# Seeds and Fruits Are Determined

☐ Galatians 6:1-10

# **Proposition:**

If we desire a specific result, we must plant the proper seeds that produce that result. The fruit of a seed is already determined, but they look distinctly different.

### Introduction:

Whenever we plan to plant something, we know nothing about, we look to some authority to tell how it is to be planted. We find out how deep the seed is to be planted, how far apart, how much water and how often, and whatever else we think is necessary to ensure a successful harvest. Our desire is for the authority to help us produce a good harvest. When it comes to having a Biblical relationship with our spouse, we need to be willing to go to the authority, the Word of God.

It doesn't take rocket science to figure out why some of you men struggle in your relationship, when the first thing you do when buying something needing to be assembled is throw away the instructions. Some of you are trying to make the relationship with your spouse work without ever consulting the "instructions," the Word of God. Or, maybe you look at the instructions from time to time, but are convinced you know a better way to put it together.



The first thing I want us to remember in this lesson is that seeds and fruit do not look the same. When you plant a pumpkin seed, it looks much different than the product. That, which was small, white, and oblong, grows into something big, orange, and round. What do the instructions say about a Biblical, healthy relationship?

# I. What are the seeds of Biblical Leadership. (Mark 10:35-45)

Α.	RIK	olical Leadership is	(VS. 35)	
	a.	True influence is not		·
	b.	True influence is not	·	
	c.	True influence is not a		
В.	Bik	olical Leadership is	·	. (Luke 16)
	a.	Stewardship is	·	
	b.	Stewardship is	·	
	c.	Stewardship is	·	
C.	Bib	olical Leadership is	(	(Proverbs 4:23)
	a.	Character is	_what is right, be	cause it is right.
	b.	Character is	_what is right, be	cause it is right.
	c.	Character is	what is right, be	cause it is right



# II. What are the seeds of functional relationship?

A.	We	reap	what we sow.
	a.	Seeds have a determined ha	arvest.
	b.	Seeds have a determined fo	rmula.
		1. 2+2=4	
		2. Husband + Wife = Same	old thing
В.	We	reap than	we sow.
	a.	This is a	principle.
	b.	This is a	principle.
C.	We	reaptha	t we sow.
	a.	We must have character to	live by
	b.	We must have character to	live by
	c.	We must have character to	live by

# **Conclusion:**

What kind of marriage do you want? God has outlined the kind of marriage He wants for us. Are you willing to plant the seeds that actually will produce the harvest that brings glory to God and good to us and others?

	The Balanced Coup
PASTOR MICHAEL WESSBURG	

r Balanced Couple	PASTOR MICHAEL WESSBUR

	The Balanced Coup
PASTOR MICHAEL WESSBURG	



## **Family Time Management**

#### Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

- → Our life is made up of time and none of us get special treatment in the arena of time. We all have the same amount of time each day. The difference between getting things done or never having enough time is that we either spend our time or steward our time.
- ★ Time is one of the most valuable and the most perishable of all our possessions John Randolph
- → Nothing is more characteristic in modern life than the complaint, "If I only had time." – R.E. Neale
- ★ The difference between those who get much accomplished and those who do not is that some people spend their time and those who steward their time.
- How we spend our time has eternal implications.

### 1. Stewarding our time is a matter of \_\_\_\_\_\_.

- → What we believe about our time here on earth affects how we spend time here on earth.
  - The must have for our must do list is wisdom. Wisdom is what helps us avoid time wasters, it helps us avoid being driven.

2.	St	ew	arding our time is a matter of
	+	Ве	ing busy does not mean you are productive
		₩	Balance in your priorities – making time for what is important.
		₩	Balance in your intentions – taking time for what is important.
		₩	Balance in your discipline – keeping time for what is important.
		\$	Balance in your consistency – staying committed to what is important.
3.	St	ewa	arding our time is a matter of
	+	"Y	ou either control your time or your time controls you."
		₽	We can be our own worst enemy when it comes to the effective use of time.
		\$	The key to victory is to manage our life under the Lordship of Christ. It is from Him we should get our goals and values.
		₩,	To win the battle of time, one must understand that every opportunity is

### 4. Stewarding our time is a matter of \_\_\_\_\_\_.

- → "You assure mediocrity when you have tackled too much to personally handle"
  - ★ Time never takes time off Augustine

not an obligation.

The Purposeful Couple

- Success with our time is knowing and doing the will of God.
- Stewarding our time with wisdom does not assume that tomorrow will be like today. Today's opportunities may disappear tomorrow.
- → Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time for it is the stuff life is made of Ben Franklin

#### Sources:

A Time to Plan by Nancy S. Smith

Tyranny of the Urgent by Charles Hummel

Freedom from Tyranny of the Urgent by Charles Hummel

One Minute Manager by Ken Blanchard and Spencer Johnson

Stewarding Life by Paul Chappel

The Private Life Of The Preacher by Kenneth Kuykendall

# **The Exemplary Couple**

The Marriage Every Couple Wants

#### I Peter 3:1-12

Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement. Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered. Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no quile: Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it. For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.



### Introduction

- ⇒ There are five passages in Scripture that are very specific to marriage and the husband/wife relationship.
  - I Corinthians 7
  - Ephesians 5
  - Colossians 3
  - Titus 2
  - I Peter 3.
- ⇒ We are going to look at what God says to the Husband, the Wife, and the Couple

# The Exemplary Couple

### I. The Husband

$\Rightarrow$	16	things Husbands are to do fo	or the wife
	1.	Love Her	
	2.	Her	
	3.	Sanctify Her	
	4.	Speak properly to Her	
	5.	Cherish Her	
	6.	Nurture Her	
	7.	Cleave to Her	
	8.	Rule over Her	
	9.	Be ravished with Her	
	10.	Be an example to Her	
	11.		to Her
	12.	Rejoice with Her	
	13.	Be not bitter Against Her	
	14.	Her	
	15.	Pray for Her	
	16.	Know Her	



♥ Study on Love – used 550x in our Bible

A. The \_\_\_\_\_\_ of Love – I John 4:8

- B. The Display of Love I Corinthians 13:1-6
  - 1. Love is more than words v.1
  - 2. Love is more than being spiritual v. 2
  - 3. Love is more than sacrifice v. 3
  - 4. Love is... v. 4-5
    - a.
    - b. Kind
    - c. Not proud
    - d. Not selfish or self-centered

a. Envy

5. Love does not... - v.4-5

			b. Promote self
			c. Behave indecently or shamefully
			d. Premeditate to do wrong
			e. Have a short fuse
		6.	Love gets excited about the right things – v.6
I.	Th	e V	Vife
	$\Rightarrow$	Six	Things the Wife is to do for the Husband
		1.	Love Him
		2.	Him
		3.	Submit to Him
		4.	Do Him Good
		5.	Render Due
		6.	Satisfy Him

# The Exemplary Couple

### III. The Couple

 $\Rightarrow$ 

ie Couple
15 Things the Couple Does for One Another
1. Be of one mind
2. Have compassion
3
4. Be pitiful
5. Be courteous
6. Not rending evil for evil
7. Not rending railing for railing
8. Rending blessing
9. Refrain the tongue from evil
10. Speak no guile
11. Eschew evil
12. Do good
13
14. Ensue it
15. Be Spiritual

### Conclusion

Marriage is AWESOME! I am so thankful God saw fit to institute marriage! If we will endeavor to commit ourselves to these things, we can have the marriage everyone else wants! Go home, and CRUSH IT!



# **Finish Strong**

- As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving, Colossians 2:6-7
- 1. **Remember How You Started.** (As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord...)

+	We	the Word	of God	, we _			the V	Vord of
	God, and we		on the	Word	of God	, by fai	th receiving	g Christ
	lesus the Lord.							

- **2. Continue the way you started.** (...so walk ye in Him)
  - → This word translated *walk* is found in 90 verses and means both to literally, walk and figuratively how we conduct ourselves.
  - → "Figuratively, to live, deport oneself, follow (as a companion or votary)" (Strong's).
  - → "In Scripture, to live and act or behave; to pursue a particular course of life" (Webster's 1828)
  - → 2 Corinthians 5:7; Ephesians 4:1; 5:1-2; 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12; 4:1; 1 John 2:6

### 3. Rest in His Grace.

+	Ephesians 2:8	; 2 Corinthians	12:9-10:1	Corinthians	15:10
---	---------------	-----------------	-----------	-------------	-------

+	Our	as children of God is to live our life for
	Him every day. To live before Him	and to walk with Him as Paul said in
	Colossians 3:17, "And whatsoever ye	do in word or deed, do all in the name of
	the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God an	d the Father by him."

- 4. **Trust His Providence.** (Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving, Colossians 2:7)
  - ◆ "Rooted to root (figuratively, become stable); built up to build upon, i.e.
    (figuratively) to rear up:—build thereon" (Strong's)
  - ★ Life is sometimes hard. Just life in general is sometimes hard, and then you add in trying to live a life that is dedicated to loving Christ and honoring God in an increasingly godless culture and society. Now life becomes really hard. However, we are not the first followers of God to experience opposition and difficulty.

A.	Think of	(Hebrews 11:22)	
В.	Think of		_(Luke 7:28)
C.	Think of	(2 Timothy 4:7)	
D.	Think of	(John 4:34; 17:4)	

### **Conclusion:**

- → Making this our goal is what will enable us one day to finish strong.
- → I am thankful that because of the finished work of Christ we can finish our course with joy.



### The Treasure and the Field

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Matthew 13:44

### **Proposition:**

Where will you place your focus? On the treasure that initiated the relationship, or the field that becomes a reality?

#### Introduction:

There is a man traveling down a dusty Jewish Road making his way home from a long day in the city. He is tired and to save time, he decides to cut across the old field. He stumbles across a treasure and realizes it belongs to the person who owns the field. He decides to sell all that he has in order to purchase the field. Once the field is his, the treasure will be his as well.

### + What is true about the field?

 Snakes, spiders, rocks, thorns, thistles, moles holes, weeds, and many other unpleasant things.

### + What is true about the treasure?

 There is value to me physically, volitionally, emotionally, and spiritually.

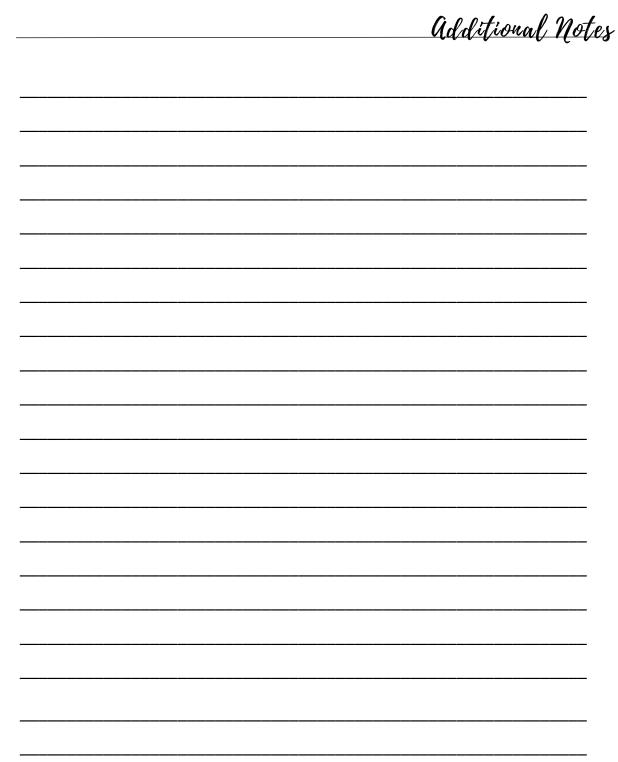
# I. The Interpretation

A.	Th	e	_ is the Lord Jesus Christ.		
	a.	He came to	and to	the lost.	
	b.	He came to	and	the lost.	
В.	Th	e	is the world.		
C.	Th	e	is the nation,	, Israel.	
	a.	He establish	ed Israel as His chosen pec	ople.	
	b.	•	ed and crucified Him, cryin cify Him, crucify Him."	ng, "We will not have this man to r	ule
Th	e A <sub>l</sub>	pplication			
A.	Re	lationships ar	e begun on treasures.		
	a.	The	you married.		
	b.	The	you join.		
	c.	The	you follow.		
	d.	The	you take.		
В.	Re	lationships ar	re	by fields.	
	a.	There are	qเ	uirks.	

II.

		b.	There are	(Eph. 4:1-3)
			1. Unity requires humility.	
			2. Unity requires meekness.	
			3. Unity requires longsuffering	g.
			4. Unity requires forbearance	2.
		c.	There are	_ habits.
		d.	There are	_ spots.
III.	The	e In	spiration.	
	A.	Ве	a, c	lo not expect one. (Luke 12:15-21)
	A.	Be a.	a, c	
	A.			sighted.
	A.	a. b.	The rich fool was	sighted. sighted.
	A.	a. b. c.	The rich fool was	sighted. sighted. sighted.
		a. b. c.	The rich fool was The rich fool was The rich fool was	sighted sighted sighted, work on it.
		a. b. c.	The rich fool was The rich fool was The rich fool was not excuse your	sighted sighted sighted sighted, work on it. vn actions.

itional Note	<b>}</b>		



itional Note	<b>}</b>		

	<u>Additional</u>	Not

tional No	vv <b>s</b>		

<u> Additional Not</u>
 <del>-</del>

# Planning My Walk of Faith

# KNOW RECKON YIELD

"For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it." Hebrews 4:2

- **◆ Know** (Rom. 6:1-10)
  What is true from God's Word?
- Reckon (Rom. 6:11-12)
  What is my plan to memorize & meditate on God's Word?
- Yield (Rom. 6:13-20)
  What is my plan to change my actions & attitudes?

### WHAT CHANGES DO I NEED TO MAKE?...

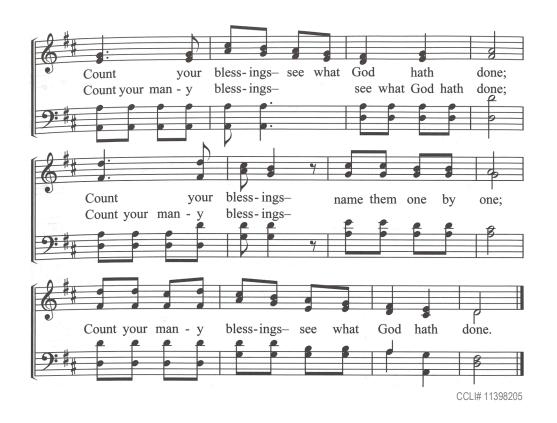
In My Persona	l Lite:			

# Planning My Walk of Faith

With My Love:	
With My Children:	
With My Church Family:	
-	

# Count Your Blessings





Jone -

# Joy Unspeakable



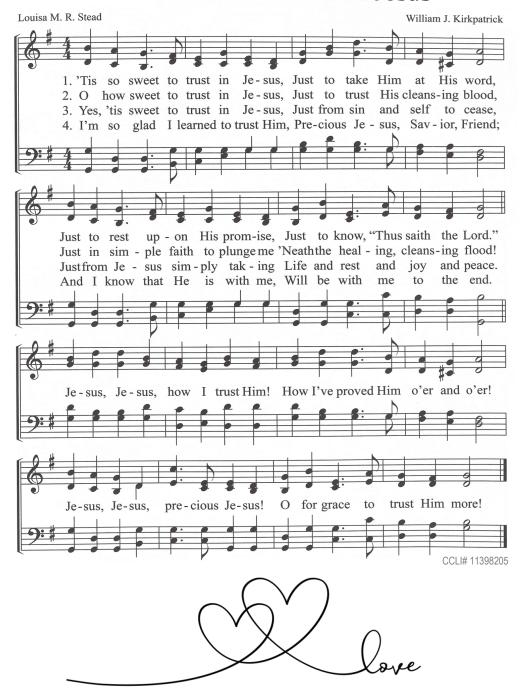
### I Am Resolved



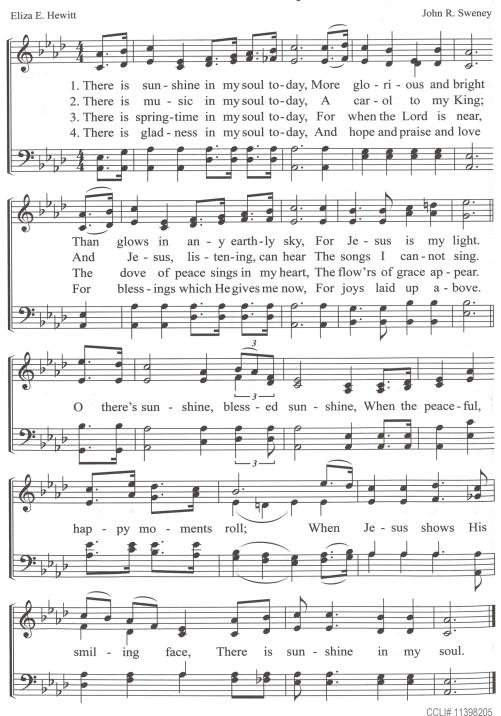
### More About Jesus



# Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus



# Sunshine In My Soul



### Follow On



# Stepping In The Light



### Jesus Loves Even Me



### Cleanse Me



### I Have Decided To Follow Jesus



# LIVING UNITED Marriage Ministry

# Thank You

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## WE ASK THAT YOU WOULD KINDLY FILL OUT THIS RESPONSE CARD, AND RETURN IT TO US AFTER THE LAST SESSION

What is your age group?				
□ 18-24 □ 25-29 □ 30-39	9 40-49	<b>50-59</b>	<b>□</b> 60+	
Gender? ☐ Male ☐ Female				
Are you a Pastor? ☐ Yes ☐ No				
What state do you live in?				
□ MO □ AR □ KS □ OK □	IA 🗖 IL 🛚	רם אום	тх <b>□</b> _	
Is this your first year attending the Retreat? ☐ Yes ☐ No				
Lord willing, will you return next yea	ır? 🛭 Yes	□ No		
What hotel did you stay in?				
☐ Chateau on the Lake ☐ Hilton ☐ Westgate				
Radisson Own L	odging.			
How were your accommodations?	□ Poor 〔	<b>□</b> Average	☐ Go	ood
How important are these:	Not Impo	ortant	.Very Imp	ortant
Classroom Set-Up (Tables & Chairs)	1	2 3	4	5
Snacks	1	2 3	4	5
Giveaways	1	2 3	4	5
Staying on site	1	2 3	4	5

What was the most helpful session to you?		
What new sessions and new speakers would you like to hear in the future?		
What was the highlight of the retreat for you?		
How has God worked in your marriage this weekend?		
Comments: (Help us make it better)		
*Optional:		
Name:		
Church:		

### **General Session #1** - Pastor Steve Brudnak

🔖 Faith

I. First

II.A. Attachment

II.B.1. (Name), (Faith Step)

III.A. Process

### **Connected Couple - Pastor David Corley**

II.A. Primary

III.A. Different

III.C. Reciprocated

IV. Problem

IV.B. Miserable

IV.C. Native

V.A. Learn

V.C. Help

V.D. Alone

### Parenting Couple - Pastor Tim Berlin

I.B. Practice

I.B. Produce

II.A. Exercises

II.B. Examples

III.A. Communication

III.B. Conversation

III.C. Charity

III.D. Christ-likeness

III.E. Consistency

III.F. Chasity

IV.A. Christ

IV.B. Truth

IV.C. God

IV.D. Spirit

### **General Session #2 - Pastor Tim Berlin**

I. Voice

I.A. Blowing up

I.A.a. Decibels

I.A.b. Derision

I.B. Clamming

I.B.a. Communication

I.B.a.1. Compassionate

I.B.a.2. Consistent

I.B.b. Confrontation

I.B.b.1. Questions, Accusations

I.B.b.2. Statements, Conclusions

I.B.b.3. Solutions, Complaints

II. Responsibility

II.A. Love

II.A.a. Leading

II.A.b. Learning

II.A.c. Leaning

II.A.d. Laughing

II.B. Respect

II.B.a. Sweetness

II.B.b. Submission

II.B.c. Sensitivity

II.B.d. Speaking

### **General Session #3** - Pastor Tim Berlin

I.A. Influence

I.A.a. Manipulation

I.A.b. Mandates

I.A.c. Mentality

I.B. Stewardship

I.B.a. Entrusted

I.B.b. Expected

## Answers Page

I.B.c. Emphasized

I.C. Character

I.C.a. Being

I.C.b. Doing

I.C.c. Saying

II.A. Exactly

II.B. More

II.B.a. Positive

II.B.b. Proactive

II.C. Later

II.C.a. Precept

II.C.b. Principle

II.C.c. Practice

II.A.a. Person

II.A.b. Church

II.A.c. Pastor

II.A.d. Job

II.B. Battered

II.B.a. Personality

II.B.b. Weakness

II.B.c. Sinful

II.B.d. Blind

III.A. Treasure

III.A.a. Selfishly

III.A.b. Short

III.A.c. Satisfaction

III.B. Field

### Purposeful Couple - Pastor AJ Potter

- 1. Belief
- 2. Balance
- 3. Battle
- 4. Brevity

### Faithful Couple - Pastor Jerry Pyle

- 1. Heard, Believed, Acted
- 3. Responsibility
- 4.A. Joseph
- 4.B. John the Baptist
- 4.C. Paul
- 4.D. Jesus

### **General Session #4 - Pastor Tim Berlin**

I.A. Man

I.A.a. Seek, Save

I.A.b. Purchase, Preserve

I.B. Field

I.C. Treasure



# PASTORS COUPLES RETREAT December 4-6, 2023

Don't miss out on this opportunity to be a blessing to your Pastor

	I am a Pastor, interested in:				
	☐ Coming to this retreat, and would like more information				
	☐ Financially supporting this retreat				
	I am a church member who has a desire to see that our church sends our Pastor  I have checked with my Pastor, and he doesn't mind you sending information directly to me.				
Name	:				
	ss:				
	State: Zip Code:				
Phon	):				
Churc	Church Name: (include City & State)				

# **APPENDIX**



# Contest Closes @: 10pm Friday Evening



CATEGORIES

Romance
Humor
Creative



417-416-4304

GIVE US YOUR BEST SHOTS!

One photo entry per couple

Photo must be taken during your time at the retreat

Please include name of couple



# 2 Free 2024 Retreats & Inclusion at the 2024 Retreat

- 1 entry per couple
- Skit must be in video form
- Must be Submitted by February 1, 2024
- Include couple's name and church name

Please see website for full details:

www.livingunited.com



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### **Dine-in food purchase**

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Not valid with any other offers Not valid for whole pies or retail items Open Fridays 3:30-7:30 pm Sat & Sun 11 am-7:30 pm

\*Offer Expires: February 18, 2023



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1201 Branson Landing | Branson | 417-334-4858

\$5 OFF

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10% OFF ENTIRE PURCHASE

Valid: February 16-18, 2023



205 Branson Landing Blvd. | 417.320.5082



1001 Branson Landing Blvd | Branson | 417-334-6062

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601 Branson Landing Blvd | Branson | 417-239-0063

15% off Entire Purchase



\*Only Valid: February 16-18, 2023





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# eddars

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\$19.99+ tax
per person

(Retail Gate Rate: \$31.99)

Offer Valid:

February 16-18, 2023

\*Ages 4 and under are Free



INDOOR AMUSEMENT PARK!

2835 W. 76 Country Blvd. | Branson, MO | 417.231.9999 https://www.wonderworksonline.com/branson

- Living United Wristband must be shown to receive discount
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15% off Entire Purchase



\*Only Valid: February 16-18, 2023





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20% off with purchase of beverage



\*Only Valid: **February 16-18, 2023** \*Branson location



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Offer Valid: February 16-18, 2023

## Kirkland's

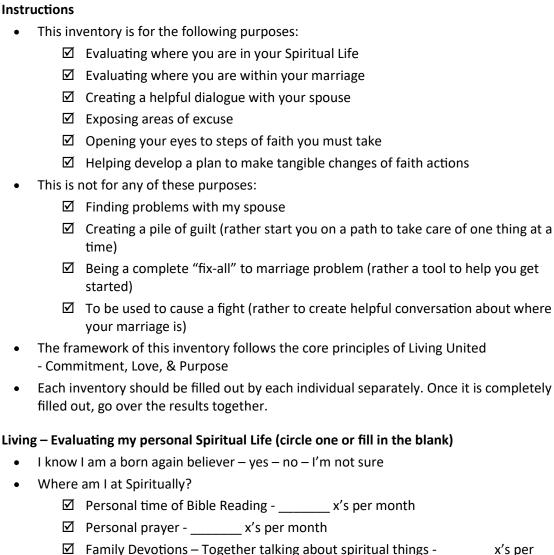
Valid: 2/16/23 -2/18/2023

10%

**ENTIRE TRANSACTION** 

205 Branson Landing Blvd. \*Branson location only





month

	$\overline{\checkmark}$	Church Services x's per month		
	$\overline{\checkmark}$	Taking steps of faith x's per month		
		Spiritual Inventory Number: Add the above numbers (This does not determine one's spirituality but serves as a gauge of measurement.)		
•	What wrong/unbiblical thinking/beliefs about marriage have you brought into your marriage?			
	$\square$	What model of being a husband/wife did you watch growing up?		
	$\square$	What biblical command about marriage is easiest for you to follow?		
	$\square$	What biblical command about marriage is hardest for you to follow?		
	☑	Are there any areas of biblical teaching about marriage (i.e. something you've heard your pastor teach, or heard taught at a Living United Couples Retreat) that you disagree with?		

### **United – Commitment**

- What is your commitment level to your marriage till death do us part I'd leave if there was infidelity – If things get bad, I'm done – I'm considering leaving now – My marriage is almost over
- Does your spouse know your level of commitment? yes no
- If you are totally committed to your marriage you must be willing to get help if you are having consistent deep troubles. Are you willing to seek help with your marriage? – yes – no
- Do you believe you need outside help/counseling/coaching with your marriage? yes
   no maybe

### United - Love

- Where is your marriage? great good fair poor bad
- Where am I at relationally?
  - ☑ How often do we fight? often sometimes seldom never
  - ☑ How often do I "lose it" with family? often sometimes seldom never
  - ☑ How often do we have a great day? often sometimes seldom never
  - ☑ How often do we have great conversations? often sometimes seldom never
  - ☑ How often do we have sex? often sometimes seldom never
- What emotions do I feel when my marriage is strong, fun, and right?

\_\_\_\_\_\_

What emotions do I have when my marriage is weak, fighting, and wrong?

What is the best and worst part about my sex life?

\_\_\_\_\_

- What is my communication sin? (circle all that apply) yelling clamming up passive/ aggressive – aggressive – manipulation – accusing – jumping to conclusions – not listening
- Household sins
  - My manly/womanly duties around the house are taken care of always sometimes – seldom – never
  - ☑ If I get on my spouse's nerves in this area it would be because I'm overly a neat freak I'm a total slob I don't get on their nerves because I have the right balance
  - What financial sins do we have?
    - ☑ As a couple we spend too much money are too tight with our money are just right with our money
    - ✓ My spouse spends too much money is too tight with money is just right with our money

- ☑ Our overall financial picture is crippling debt manageable debt no debt, but living paycheck to paycheck with no savings no debt and also have savings (no debt does not include your house)
- ☑ Do we have a written budget? yes no
- ☑ What is the biggest way we waste money?

• What is the single biggest problem in your marriage?

What would your spouse say is the single biggest problem in your marriage?

Does your love look like God's description? I Cor. 13:4-8 inventory 1-10 scale

☑ (Insert Your Name) suffereth [allows] long, (patient – doesn't blow stack)

$$1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10$$

☑ (Insert Your Name) is kind

$$1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10$$

☑ (Insert Your Name) envieth not

$$1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10$$

☑ (Insert Your Name) vaunteth not itself (brags about self)

$$1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10$$

☑ (Insert Your Name) is not puffed up (arrogant)

$$1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10$$

☐ (Insert Your Name) Doth not behave itself unseemly (rudely)

$$1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10$$

☑ (Insert Your Name) seeketh not [their] own (looking out for self)

$$1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10$$

☑ (Insert Your Name) is not easily provoked

$$1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10$$

☑ (Insert Your Name) thinketh no evil (keeps no accounts of evil)

$$1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10$$

☑ (Insert Your Name) Rejoiceth not in iniquity

$$1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10$$

☑ (Insert Your Name) rejoiceth in the truth

$$1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10$$

☑ (Insert Your Name) beareth all things

$$1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10$$

☑ (Insert Your Name) believeth all things

$$1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10$$

☑ (Insert Your Name) hopeth all things

$$1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10$$

☑ (Insert Your Name) endureth all things

$$1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 7 - 8 - 9 - 10$$

☑ (Insert Your Name) never faileth:

$$1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10$$

### United – Purpose

If you have children, what are your goals for your children?

Do you agree on how you discipline your children? – totally – mostly – sometimes –
 never

• What are your ministry goals for yourselves as a couple and for your family?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Work & Changes** – What could you do to work on your marriage? (tangible and measurable changes)

- Go over each other's inventory and discuss your answers.
- If you have gotten to this point, and you consistently fight, it is a sign you have communication problems. Try to listen more than talk. When you talk make sure not to accuse your spouse. Don't use absolutes like never, always, every, etc. Remember, keep your focus on yourself and what you need to fix.

What d	oes your "Spiritual Inventory Number" (see above) say about your spiritual life?  How do you plan to change your schedule and routine to spend more time with  God?
What's	the number one way you have hurt your spouse? Get that right, right now!
List the 1.	top two things you need to work on as an individual. (only two, no more and no less)
2.	
What c	ould you do to help your spouse make the changes they see they need to make?
	out what your spouse thinks you need to work on. Remember this is not what you need to work on, but what you think they think you need to work on. Do they
List the	top two specific things you need to work on as a couple. (only two, no more and no
1.	
2.	

• End with a long (15 seconds or more) kiss!