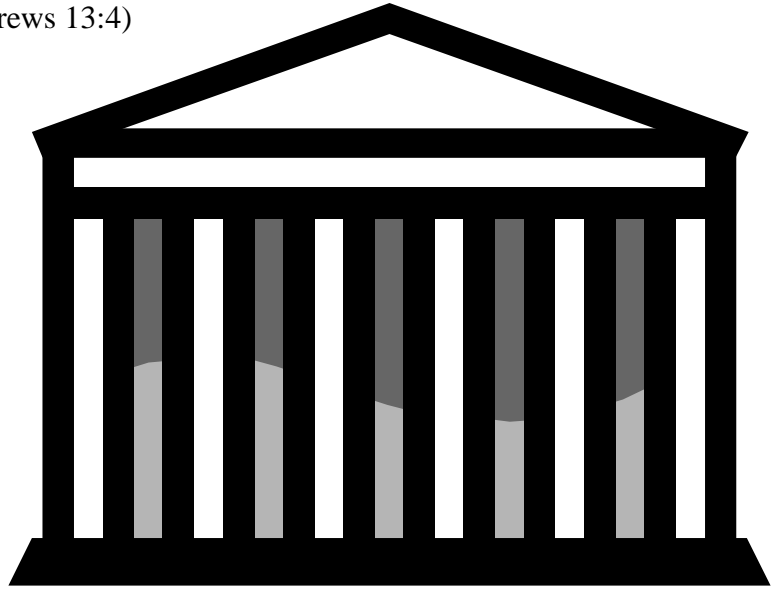


Five Steps to Effective Marriage Ministry in Your Church

If the _____ honors marriage,
_____ will honor marriage. (Hebrews 13:4)

Scottsdale Bible Church Model



➤ Marriage _____ Training

1. _____ Assessments from Life Innovations
2. _____ Couple classes (group premarital training)
3. _____ counseling (one-on-one)

➤ Marriage _____

1. All _____ and stages of life regarding life transitions
2. Formal or informal
3. Various programs – Ed Gray’s “12 Conversations,” Les and Leslie Parrott’s “The Complete Guide to Marriage Mentoring,” and Eric and Jennifer Garcia’s “Couple to Couple Mentoring.”
4. Not “_____” – just walking life together
5. For a _____ at a time

➤ Marriage _____ Classes or Sunday School Classes

1. Using Experiencing Oneness _____
2. Using _____ curriculum
 - 1) Home Builder’s by Family Life
 - 2) Financial Peace University by Dave Ramsey
3. Meeting on Sunday morning, in home groups, on Sunday night or Wed. night _____ - _____
_____ classes

➤ Marriage _____

1. Quarterly or semi-annual _____ Evenings (Congo's www.elifemates.com)
2. Monthly “_____ Nights” (David & Claudia Arp's material)
3. _____ (away - once a year)
4. _____ (in-house – once a year)
5. Financial _____
 - 1) Total Money Makeover Conferences by Dave Ramsey www.daveramsey.com
 - 2) Get Out of Debt Workshop by Bob Marette www.financialhealthfair.org
 - 3) Conquering Debt God's Way with Bruce Ammons www.conqueringdebt.com

➤ Marriage _____ Intervention

1. _____ (church staff or referral list)
2. Couple _____
3. Marriage _____ –
 - 1) Winshape Marriage – www.winshapemarriage.com/save
 - 2) The Regeneration Experience – Jeff & Debby McElroy – www.foreverfamilies.com
 - 3) The Refuge at River Falls, Amarillo, TX – www.refugeriverfalls.org
 - 4) Faith Family Ministries with Bill & Toni Morgan, South Carolina – www.faithfamily.net

Other ideas:

4. Once a year _____ series on marriage/family issues
5. Marriage/Family _____ or bulletin insert
6. _____ Marriage Sunday* (www.covenantmarriage.com)

Other family ministry includes:

- Parenting programs
- _____ Family programs
- Divorce-Care
- DivorceCare 4 Kids
- _____-parent Programs

*For detailed information on holding a Covenant Marriage Sunday Celebration, go to www.marriages.net/webinars/CovenantMarriageSundayCelebration.pdf

CONCLUSION

1. Many pastors and professional staff are resistant to lay “marriage ministry.”
2. What obstacles or challenges do you anticipate in your church to your pursuing your calling to marriage ministry?
3. Ask “What can we do to help and encourage you to overcome these obstacles?”

COUPLE SHARING:

As a couple, discuss the following questions:

1. What would a comprehensive model of marriage ministry look like in your church? (Discuss this later with couples from your church, as well.)
2. Where do you feel a tugging at your heart to “plug-in” or “lead out?”
3. Do you both seem drawn to the same area?
4. Pray together and ask God to speak to you both about where He would have you be involved in ministry.