

Transformations

JUNE 2017

What's on your bucket list, or are you too young to have one?

On our bucket list was a tour of the Holy Land. When the opportunity came up at our church we knew it was for us from the Lord – twelve days in Israel and Jordan. With the normal feelings of apprehension and disbelief, we decided to step out in faith and said 'yes' to what has become for us the trip of a lifetime.

Everyone we had spoken to who had already been there said you come back different. It's true. There's a presence of God in that land that hits hard on your senses and penetrates your heart in amazing ways. If you get the opportunity, don't pass it up. Go, and prepare to be amazed by God, and changed by the Spirit of Jesus as you walk where He walked. May God put this journey of faith on your bucket list and give you the opportunity to go.

—*Blessings, Dave and Linda*



Summer's Here!

While you're enjoying this warm and wonderful season, please consider supporting the ministry of RSM. We do not take a break from helping marriages and families over the summer. Our outreach is only possible because of people like you. **Will you prayerfully consider sending a special summer gift today to support couples desperately in need of coaching help?** A donation of any amount, large or small would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for standing with us.



Influence

There are couples who come to us for marriage coaching who identify themselves as Christians and who attend church, but have a problem. They don't know why, but in their marriage, they're not experiencing "abundant life" or "living water" that Christ promises. John and Jenn have been married for ten years, they have three children, a nice house, and good jobs. They attend church regularly and are involved in ministry. Their friends and their pastor assume they are doing well, a stable Christian family. But at home, they are fighting and they can't seem to resolve their problems. They lack hope, they don't enjoy a fulfilling intimate life, and they can't seem to get ahead financially. And it's not getting better.

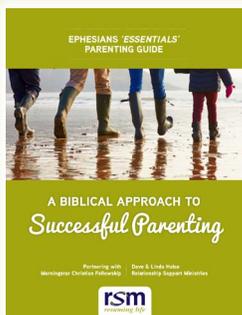
In our coaching, we open the Bible and ask them to work on obeying God's design for husbands and wives. But there is resistance to what the Bible says. They become defensive and try to justify their own ideas. They want God's help and they pray for it, but do they want to be accountable to God's word? Why are so many church couples, like John and Jenn, struggling in their marriage and in their faith? *"The Lord's curse is on the home of the wicked, but He blesses the home of the righteous."*

(Proverbs 3:33)

—continued on reverse

RSM exists to restore God-centered unity in marriages and families

Available Resources to Order:

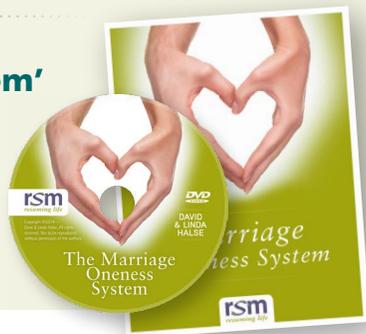


Ephesians Essentials Parenting Guide

From the pages of Ephesians, we provide ten essentials for successful parenting. Parents and grandparents will be moved by the power of God's word in re-shaping their thinking about many aspects of Christian parenting.

The 'Marriage Oneness System'

Couples are building oneness in their own marriage with this DVD and Workbook and then sharing the experience with other couples. Churches are also using this marriage discipleship resource for small groups and to train marriage ministry leaders.



His Spirit At Work —Scott Halse

I write this during the week of Pentecost, the period in the church calendar when we celebrate the sending of the Holy Spirit to the disciples and to all those who call on Jesus as 'Lord.' It is a fitting time to reflect on the upcoming summer ministries of RSM, because it is the Spirit who is at work renewing minds and transforming hearts. This transformation takes place largely through the hearing of God's word, and is made possible only by the power of the Holy Spirit.

It was essential that Jesus sent us his Spirit. When two disciples encountered the risen Jesus on the road to Emmaus, they did not recognize him. It is fascinating that Jesus revealed himself to them by explaining scripture to them!

Now that Jesus has ascended to the Father, he continues to teach us about himself in his word; not in person, of course, but by his Spirit, whom he has sent. Our prayer for the RSM summer workshops is that the Spirit of Jesus will transform marriages and families through the teaching of his word, so that relationships become more firmly rooted in the knowledge and love of God.



Summertime Opportunities

—Dianne Nolson

"In that day He will be your sure foundation, providing a rich store of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge. The fear of the Lord will be your treasure." —Isaiah 33:6 As RSM looks ahead to ministry at Fair Havens Bible Center and Muskoka Bible Center this summer 2017, we claim these promises from our loving Heavenly Father. We want to present the gift of salvation to needy people; use the wisdom of the Holy Spirit to reach wounded hearts with the peace of God, and use knowledge from the Word of God to give hope for those searching for help in fractured relationships.

We are trusting and praying for the people who cross our path at the camps and that the Town Hall discussions on marriage and family concerns presented by Dave, Linda and Rob Hayes will bring healing and bear fruit for eternity.

Influence —continued

BIBLE PRINCIPLE:

As Christians, our lives and marriages are being influenced by the world. **Do not love the world or anything in the world.** If anyone loves the world, **love for the Father is not in them.** For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever. (1 John 2:15-17)



John and Jenn are in a difficult place. We want them to see that the subtle **influence** of the world is promoting in them the idea they can have the benefits of their faith, and at the same time, have a lifestyle that denies God's word. "If anyone loves the world, **love for the Father is not in them.**"

Our only **influence** must be the word of God. Obedience is our guarantee of life and marriage to the full. Resolving conflict, enjoying peace, intimate love, and financial contentment are the "living water" Jesus gives as we choose with the help of the Holy Spirit to obey the life affirming words of Scripture.

The RSM Team

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