

# Transformations

FEBRUARY / MARCH 2016



**W**E'RE WELL INTO 2016 and we think it will be a spectacular year. Valentine's Day – how often have we heard, (usually wives) say that every day should be a Valentine's Day? We agree, but could it be that Valentine's Day is meant to remind and refresh us to remember to love better? This *Transformations* focuses again on 'loving.' We are thinking about the 'Thousand Little Choices' (John & Stasi Eldredge, Love & War) that we make to show our love. What is our motivation to choose love? *"For the love of Christ compels us ..."* 2 Cor. 5:14. In Christ, we are compelled to love better. God's love compels us to love better than we can love on our own. —*Blessings in Christ, Dave and Linda.*

## RSM Opportunities

**Celebration Evening 2016** – On Feb. 20th, we celebrated God's goodness to us with 100 people in attendance. We love hearing the stories of how God is restoring unity in marriages and families.

**Marriage Discipleship Series** – the Marriage Oneness System is helping us spread the marriage discipleship ministry – *'Couples reaching couples.'*

**Fall Weekend Getaway** – look for the dates and details to come as we plan another couples weekend.

**'Oaks' & Ladies Oaks'** – Wednesday and Thursday evenings – growing spiritual leaders in the home. Ask about joining us.

See the RSM website [www.rsm-helps.com](http://www.rsm-helps.com) for details on upcoming events.

## Impacting Marriages and Families

*God's Spirit is transforming marriages and families as we come alongside in the living room. We hope to encourage you with these stories. (Note: names have been changed.)*

Read what the Eldredge's say in this excerpt from their Love & War series. *"We all look for love to come in dramatic ways. We know love is powerful and beautiful – how come it doesn't feel like it! Love plays itself out in what seems like such unremarkable ways – **you pick up your socks, you ignore their snarky comment, you put the toilet seat down.** But this is exactly what makes*



*it epic – the fact that love plays itself out in a **thousand little choices, even some unseen ..."***

Jesus washed their feet, and told us to do likewise, and if we do, we will be "blessed." John 13:17. Many couples who come to see us in crisis have somewhere along the way stopped doing the thousand little things that amount to washing the feet of their spouse. We don't always 'feel' like it so we choose not to. Along the way, we lose the love we began with. God's Spirit comes along, and in the moment, whispers the right choice into our heart and we answer Him with the right action. His blessing comes to us then. —*continued on reverse*

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



RSM is now on Facebook and Twitter. Please help us by "liking" and "following" us. Thanks!

## UPDATE!

### The 'Marriage Oneness System'

The 'Marriage Oneness System' DVDs and Workbooks are available. Couples are building oneness in their own marriage with this DVD and book and then sharing the experience with other couples. Churches are using this marriage discipleship resource to train marriage ministry leaders. Do you have your DVD and book yet? This is all about *'couples reaching couples.'*



### Executive Director's Message –Scott Halse

**Love in the Season of Lent** – Lent is the time of year when Christians focus on repentance, prayer, and fasting in preparation for the celebration of Jesus's resurrection. It's common, then, to give something up during Lent, be it chocolate, or television, or even Facebook! But it is also common for Christians to add something to their daily routine, to foster a habit that demonstrates a grateful heart in response to God's love. Those of us who are married have the opportunity to demonstrate the love of God every day to our spouse.

As someone blessed with a wonderful wife it should not be hard for me to perform daily acts of love. But as people who are being redeemed, we rely upon the Holy Spirit to show love even to those we love the most. Through words and deeds that demonstrate patience, kindness, humility, and endurance, we reflect the love of God that has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. May this season of Lent be for us all a time not only of prayerful anticipation of our Easter faith, but also a time filled with joyful acts of loving kindness towards those whom God has given us to share this life.

### RSM FAMILY MEMBERS

**Thank You...** to all the members of our RSM Family. As RSM grows, we value connection with people who really care about restoring and building marriages and who believe in this ministry. Ask us how to become a member.

### 2015 Tax Receipts

You should have received your tax receipts for 2015 donations to RSM. If you donated online your receipt is available through Canada Helps on our website – need help, ask us.

### RSM Affiliated Ministry:

*Dianne Nolson–GriefShare*

Charles Spurgeon, noted English clergyman, was troubled when he noticed that the weather vane on the roof of a farm building bore the phrase GOD IS LOVE. "Do you think God's love is as changeable as that weather vane?" he asked the farmer. "You miss the point, sir," the farmer replied. "It is written there because no matter which way the wind is blowing, God is still LOVE!"

As I look forward to ministering with RSM and conducting Family Life Seminars at Fair Havens this summer, this is the message that I want to bring to people in crisis, "Indeed, nothing in creation (or in life) will be able to separate us from the LOVE of God, that is revealed in Christ." Romans 8:39

### Thank you for giving!

RSM is a faith ministry. God faithfully supplies our financial needs through His people. When we are asked about the cost of our coaching we are glad to say there is no fee because God moves in the hearts of people like you who believe in building and restoring marriages. We do expect people we coach to invest what they can in this ministry because the Bible principle is **"Freely you have received, freely give."** Matt. 10:8. Your partnership in this ministry is strong encouragement that God is with us. RSM is HIS gift to all of us. Thank you.

## Impacting Marriages and Families *(continued from front)*

**Bible Principle:** "... *"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."* —Col. 3:17

Kyle is a quiet, introverted husband, a deep thinker. At times he can become emotionally distant, especially on the weekends when he wants his 'alone' time. He and Janet have three children ranging from 10 to 16 and they both have jobs, so weekend 'alone' time is problematic in a busy home. Janet is expressive and extroverted. She's not timid about making her needs and wants known to Kyle. They have been seeing us weekly for a period of time.

They first decided they needed some coaching help because their communication was becoming toxic. They were fighting too much and they didn't know how to



resolve their conflict. They were not able to enjoy each other. Both are strong willed. As Janet protested more loudly, Kyle shut down into passive aggression. With their kids, they weren't working in unity and she felt isolated and unprotected. Kyle was unsupportive. The Bible says that love *"always protects, always trusts ..."* 1 Cor. 13:7a.

We have been working with them together on Biblical Leadership in the home and Communication from the Marriage Oneness System. Kyle is learning how to love Janet as Christ loves the church by quietly doing acts of kindness. Janet is noticing. She is learning to submit to Kyle as to the Lord. He is responding to God's quiet voice in his heart. They are both learning to communicate in a productive, loving way.

### The RSM Team

**Ministry Directors** – Dave & Linda Halse

**Affiliate Ministry** – Dianne Nolson, Counseling

**Admin Director** – Scott Halse

**Admin Assistant** – Tina Cowie

**Directors & Officers** – Peter Yates, Liane Wright, Nathan and Anita Gibson, Barb Johnston, and Jim Peel

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