

Lutheran Marriage Encounter

Kickoff 2

An outline to be used for your unwritten, ad-lib presentation

- I. Open with prayer; then read aloud John 15:1-17 (NRSV).
- II. Presenters as well as rookies all share on this question:
What are my feelings as I think about this passage,
especially verse 16?
- III. Rookies share in what ways they have been active in the
LME ministry:

Ask these specific questions:

Have they completed their Self talk? If not,
what are their plans to finish prior to the
Deeper? (Contact workshop and mentor couples
to see how they can help.)

What have they written and presented?

How have they been part of local community?

What re-evaluation have they done in the past
3-6 months in order to keep their relationship a
priority?

How are they doing with daily dialogue?

Is their decision to become presenters still firm?

(If not, don't send them to a Deeper Weekend
yet. Send them back into community to become
more involved and work back to a second
Kickoff 2 in 5 or 6 months.)

- IV. Give the rookies information about the Deeper and let
them ask questions as you go through this.

A. Logistics

1. Date (Check with Deeper Coordinators, Dave & Elsa Larson 402-483-5404 or delarson@windstream.net)
2. Place (Dallas, Texas)
3. Length of stay (Friday 5:00 p.m.-Sunday 10:30 a.m.)
4. Travel arrangements (Consult with APCC, fly to Love Airfield preferably but may choose DFW if significantly less expensive.)

B. Flow of the Deeper Weekend

1. Presentations by a team of one lay couple and one clergy couple giving personal sharings.
2. Open sharing—everyone expected to share each time, honestly and personally.
3. Small group sharing
4. Role playing
5. Written love letters
6. Couple dialogue

C. Purpose of the Deeper Weekend

1. To become more deeply in love and to share even more deeply in dialogue.
2. To experience once again the call of God and the Lutheran Church to enter this special ministry.
3. To gain the confidence to write and present, but no skills or techniques will be taught.

D. Financial aspects

1. Travel, accommodations, and meals are provided by the larger LME family.
2. Unlike your first weekend, you will not be asked to make a donation at the Deeper. HOWEVER, you will be asked on this weekend to make a pledge of monthly donations

to LME. As presenters, we believe so strongly in this ministry that we continue to donate our time, efforts and finances to continue the dream, vision, and mission of LME.

V. Encourage Dialogue

A. Why is dialogue so important?

1. It is vital to our growth as a couple.
2. It keeps the weekend experience alive in us.
3. It enables us to give our weekend sharings from a dialoguing relationship.
4. It supports our commitment to be there for each other every day.
5. Include any other reasons you think dialogue is so important.

B. Why are feelings so important?

1. They tell us about ourselves.
2. They lead to awareness and discoveries about ourselves.
3. They help us reveal ourselves to our spouse.
4. They make dialogue effective.

C. Share your personal experience of dialogue with the rookies.

1. Your struggles after the weekend
2. Your joys and the strengths you have gained
3. Your commitment to dialogue every day.

D. Review the procedures for dialogue (WEDS).

E. Distribute the Dialogue Questions handout.

1. Tell them to use these questions exclusively until the Deeper.
2. Tell them to select questions from each of the sections as they go along so that all areas have been dealt with a few times. (God, sex, possessions, death, children, and family)

VI. Affirmation

- A. Be excited for them as you share what you hope, sense, and see for them in the future.
- B. Share the special qualities you have experienced in them.
- C. Share how they have affected your lives.
- D. Assure them of the continuing support of the entire LME family in all aspects of living this call.

VII. Close with circle prayer, ME song, and refreshments.

Kickoff 2 Dialogue Questions Lutheran Marriage Encounter January, 2003

God

1. HDIF knowing God loves me?
2. What is my image of God? HDIFAT?
3. HDIFA praying together?
4. What do I expect of God? HDIFAMA?
5. HDIFA living God's desire for us?
6. HDIFA my relationship with God?
7. I see God in you. HDIFAT?

Death

1. HDIFA my death?
2. HDIFA your death?
3. HDIFA life after death?
4. If one of our children died, how would I feel?
5. HDIFA the death of our parents?
6. Death frightens me (or doesn't). WAMFAT?
7. WAMFA being separated from you through death?
8. WAMFA living the rest of my life without you?
9. What I want you to remember most about me is_____.HDIFAT?
10. Living today knowing we are not guaranteed a tomorrow, I feel_____? Describe my feelings.

Sex

1. WAMFA my sexuality?
2. HDIFA my attractiveness?
3. When we make love I feel_____. Describe the feelings.
4. WAMF when I look at my fear of intimacy?
5. What are my attitudes about sex? Share and describe my feelings.
6. What inhibitions do I have about sex? WAMFAMA?
7. When you watch me undress I feel_____. Describe the feelings.
8. HDIFA my self worth as your lover?
9. When I say no to you in any aspect of our sexual relationship, I feel_____. Describe the feelings.
10. When you say no to me in any aspect of our sexual relationship, I feel_____. Describe the feelings.
11. HDIFA our sexual relationship right now?
12. What do I find most attractive about you? HDIFSTWY?
13. What are my fears about discussing sex with you?
WAMFAT?
14. I feel inadequate about_____ in our sexual relationship.
WAMFAMA?
15. What are my expectations in our sexual relationship?
WAMFAT?
16. I enjoy our sexual relationship most when_____.
WAMFAMA?
17. My greatest hurt in our sexual relationship is_____.
WAMFAT?
18. I avoid sexual involvement with you when_____. HDIFAT?
19. HDIF when I am intimate with you in our sexual relationship?
20. I most want to be sexually involved with you when_____.
HDIFAT?

Possessions

1. HDIFA my job? Describe the feelings.
2. HDIFA your job? Describe the feelings.
3. HDIFA our possessions? Describe the feelings.
4. HDIFA our hospitality? Describe the feelings.
5. HDIFA paying the bills? Describe the feelings.
6. HDIFA how we spend our money? Describe the feelings.
7. What are my attitudes about spending money? HDIFAT?
8. HDIFA working out a budget with you? Describe the feelings.
9. HDIFW I/you balance the checkbook? Describe the feelings.
10. HDIFW I/you have to work overtime? Describe the feelings.
11. HDIFA the way we make our financial decisions? Describe the feelings.
12. HDIFA how we use our financial resources? Describe the feelings.
13. HDIFW expenses exceed income? Describe the feelings.
14. HDIFA the amount of money we have chosen to return to the Lord? Describe the feelings.
15. HDIFW we can't afford something we want? Describe the feelings.
16. What do I value most about our lifestyle? WAMFAT?
17. What do I value least about our lifestyle? WAMFAT?
18. Is our lifestyle a reflection of our values? HDIFAMA?
19. What prevents me from talking about money with you? WAMF? Describe them.
20. We are different in how we make decisions about money. HDIFAT?
21. My biggest fear about our financial situation is_____.WAMFAMA?

Children

1. I see our children as gifts from God. WAMFAT?
2. HDIFW we leave our children for a few days? Describe the feelings.
3. HDIFA my role as mother/father? Describe the feelings.
4. Our children affect our relationship. HDIFAT? Describe the feelings.
5. HDIFW you criticize me about disciplining the children? Describe the feelings.
6. What are my hopes and dreams for our children? HDIFAMA? Describe the feelings.
7. HDIFA the tenderness you show to our children? Describe the feelings.

Family

1. HDIFA my family (parents and siblings)? Describe the feelings.
2. HDIFA your parents and siblings? Describe the feelings.
3. HDIFA your relationship with my family? Describe the feelings.
4. HDIFA my relationship with your family? Describe the feelings.
5. HDIFW either of our families makes demands of us? Describe the feelings.
6. We are blessed by the love of our families. HDIFAT? Describe the feelings.
7. HDIFW our families criticize our lifestyle and our involvements? Describe the feelings.
8. What do our families expect of us? HDIFAMA? Describe the feelings.