

This role-play pulpit talk is a very quick and different approach to doing a Worldwide Marriage Encounter pulpit talk. When we did this we each had a microphone and were able to start the presentation as we walked up to the front of the church from different sides. The whole thing was less than three minutes and couples came up to us after mass to say it was the best announcement they had heard in church in a long time. They really got a kick out of the part about the pastor offering a dollar to each couple who attended the Weekend with him. (We did get his permission to say this before hand.) Trying short role-play pulpit talks, like this one, was an idea Lee & Jan Kremer suggested and it has worked well for us. Give it a try, be innovative, have fun and fill your Weekends.

### **ROLE PLAY PULPIT TALK**

#### **WIFE**

Hey, (Husband's name) I just ran into Frank & Mary at the store. They looked like a couple of newlyweds. Mary said, they had just been on a Marriage Encounter Weekend and it was better than any of their vacations.

#### **HUSBAND**

I noticed Frank has had a different attitude at work this week. He doesn't seem all stressed out and he has been leaving earlier to go home at night. What do you know about Marriage Encounter anyway? I heard how popular it was in the early 80's and that some are surprised that it is still around.

#### **WIFE**

Mary said that Marriage Encounter rewrote their outline three years ago. They still speak the same values but they have an updated approach that really draws couples into their relationship. She said for them it has refreshed the love that seemed to have gotten lost in their busy schedules with jobs, volunteer work and children.

#### **HUSBAND**

They call it a Marriage Encounter Weekend. Is it the whole weekend? Did Mary say who took care of their children?

#### **WIFE**

She said her mother was going to take care of the children but that fell through so they asked Tom & Sally if they wanted to do a baby sitting exchange. Tom & Sally are going to the next scheduled Weekend.

#### **HUSBAND**

Didn't both of those couples attend our parish Marriage Renewal Workshop with us last year?

#### **WIFE**

Yes, Mary said the two compliment each other. With so many marriages ending in divorce and all of us being so busy it sort of makes sense that we should do whatever we can to keep our relationships in good shape.

**HUSBAND**

So do you want to go? How do we find out what it costs and when they are offered?

**WIFE**

There will be brochures like this one (show a brochure) at all the doors as we leave church and couples in the narthex to answer questions.

**HUSBAND**

I heard Marriage Encounter was DESIGNED to support the covenant of marriage. I heard pastors attend the Weekend also. As a matter of fact I heard our pastor is going and he offered to pay a dollar to each couple who attends the same Weekend that he goes on. Let's go get one of those brochures and hope we can get on the Weekend with our pastor.