



TUNE-UP TALK #2

Husband

Good Morning! For those who don't know us, we are _____ & _____. We thank Pastor _____ for allowing us a couple of minutes to share with you an extraordinary experience that has changed relationships, families, and the lives of millions of couples around the world.

Wife

We all maintain our cars, our homes, our job skills, but how often do we spend time maintaining our most important relationship? The Lutheran Marriage Encounter program presents weekends designed to maintain and enrich all marriages. They are about making good marriages great, whether you have been married 1 year or 50 years. Now we realize that not all of you are married, but we hope that as you listen, you may think of someone who could benefit by hearing about Marriage Encounter from you. Marriage Encounter Weekends were first presented by the Catholic Church about 50 years ago, and the program has expanded to all major denominations and countries.

Husband

What happens on a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend? From Friday evening through late Sunday afternoon, married couples enjoy a unique 44-hour experience in a hotel or retreat center. Presentations are given by a trained team consisting of an ordained Lutheran pastor and spouse and 2 to 3 lay couples. After each presentation, couples are given time to reflect on a question and then to share their reflections with their spouse in the privacy of their own room. Although presentations are given to a group, there is no group discussion. The weekend focuses on positive, loving communication, without the everyday distractions like the phone, TV, or kids interrupting.

Wife

Great marriages don't just happen. They require effort and skill. [Husband's name] and I attended a weekend [dates]. We learned about active, loving listening, and ways to improve our daily communication. We learned the importance of keeping our relationship a priority and ways to accomplish that.

Husband

So even though you may think you have an absolutely perfect marriage that is everything God intended, we believe you will find the weekend to be of benefit to your relationship. There are many wonderful marriage enrichment programs on the market. However, what makes Marriage Encounter stand out is that it is a "hands on" program that allows couples the opportunity to practice skills they learn throughout the weekend. It's also Christ centered. We believe Christian families are the key to turning around much of the brokenness in today's world, and Marriage Encounter emphasizes that the greatest gift a couple can give their children is the example of their own loving relationship.

continued on page 2 . . .



Wife

You may be saying to yourself “That sounds great, but who has time to devote a whole weekend to that?” Someone once said: “Despite looking for many years, I have never walked down the street and said, ‘Hey, there’s 20 minutes lying in the street’ or ‘Look over there, there’s a perfectly good Saturday barely used.’” We don’t find time – we have to make the time to attend a Marriage Encounter Weekend. And what more important thing is there in this world for you to make time for than your relationship with your spouse? When was the last time you did something just for your marriage? We encourage you to consider giving your marriage this wonderful gift. The next Lutheran Marriage Encounter weekend in this area is scheduled for [dates] at the [hotel name] in [city name]. For those who have babysitting needs, think about finding another couple who would like to attend the weekend, and then plan to attend different weekends so you can exchange babysitting.

Husband

We hope you can tell that we found our own weekend to be a very rewarding experience. Though we already had a solid marriage, it’s really no exaggeration to say that we felt like we fell in love all over again, and it has had lasting positive effects on our relationship. [State some positive feelings here about your weekend.]

Wife

There is a \$45 per couple registration fee. As you can appreciate, this certainly doesn’t cover 2 nights in the hotel, 5 meals for each of you, all the presenter training, and materials for each couple, all of which are provided on the weekend. So in addition to the registration fee, near the close of the weekend, you will be given an opportunity to make a confidential contribution to the program. Donations from previous weekends make it possible for more weekends to be presented. No one gets paid for the work they do for Lutheran Marriage Encounter, and the program does not receive funding from any church or organization. It is completely self-supporting from the pay-it-forward donations of couples who have attended.

Husband

So why wouldn’t you want to do all you can to make your marriage the best it can be? We will be available following the service in the [location], and we encourage you to ask us questions and pick up a brochure with further information and the registration form. Registrations are limited, so if you would like to attend the next weekend, [dates], we encourage you to visit GodLovesMarriage.org and submit your application as soon as possible. Thank you very much! We hope you will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to enrich your marriage!

