



One year ago, we shared a story about Jeff and Sheila Brawley who in January of 2012 hosted their first-ever FamilyLife event, the Art of Marriage, and had 73 couples attend. Little did anyone know how this was only the beginning of what the Lord had planned.

Recently, Jeff and Sheila called to inform us that they were going to host another Art of Marriage in January. They invited us to come and see first-hand how impactful this outreach has been. So last month we headed to Lebanon Missouri for the weekend.

When we arrived, we were shocked to see 157 couples in attendance!!!



One of the stories that came from the weekend was from a couple that had attended the first Art of Marriage event in January of 2012. They almost didn't come and were ready to call their marriage quits. God got them to the event and started to do a work in their hearts. When they came this year, they had hope and even brought their workbooks from the previous year. Through the whole weekend, they laughed, cried, and celebrated all that God had done and is doing in their marriage! May the Lord be praised!



At the end of the event, Jeff asked if any couples wanted to come forward and dedicate, or rededicate their marriage to the Lord. The response was incredible! Over half of the couples came forward, got down on their knees and bowed their heads together. You could hear the soft whispers of dozens of couples praying together. It had to be sweet music to the Lord's ears.

Jeff and Sheila, by vocation, are not full-time ministry workers, they are lay-people with a passion to build godly marriages. We are so thankful that the tools available through FamilyLife are resources that anyone can pick up and start an effective marriage ministry. We shared with Jeff and Sheila that they were an answer to FamilyLife's prayers. We were praying that God would stir the hearts of lay-couples all over the country, that couples would not just stand by and let marriages crumble around them without doing something. We praise the Lord for homebuilders like Jeff and Sheila!

Nathan & Jennifer

Praises and Prayers

Praise: for homebuilders Jeff and Sheila Brawley! Praise for the lives being changed, and the family legacies being changed through their ministry.

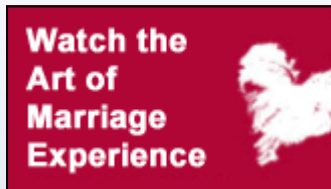
Pray: that God would lead thousands more individuals and couples to join the homebuilder movement.

Pray: for the Weekend to Remember spring season kicking off this month. Pray God will use the events to impact thousands of marriages and generations yet to come.



DID JEFF AND SHEILA'S STORY STIR YOUR HEART?

Are you tired of watching marriages around you fall apart? Consider hosting your own event!



www.theartofmarriage.com

What you will find at the website:

- Several video clips, and tips from past hosts
- Preview all the videos—6 sessions
- Steps to hosting the Art of Marriage
- Promotional materials
- Small group version

Call or email us if you are interested. We would love to help you become a homebuilder!

636-358-4213

thewalkers@njwalker.com



This event can be done in lots of ways...

... think outside the box!

- Our ministry partners Brad and Jennifer Kazmaier, took the video kit, 7 couples from their church, and spent the weekend at their lake house.
- A fellow FamilyLife staff took this material to a local prison. Six inmates and their wives/girlfriends participated.
- A retired couple took it to Mexico on their church mission trip. (This material is available with Spanish sub-titles. We are also working to get the material dubbed in Spanish and it should be finished and available very soon!)
- A business owner offered this to his employees and their spouses. Not only does it strengthen marriages, it also makes for a healthier work environment.

Pretend to be a detective, on a 6 week case, searching the Old Testament for CLUES about the Messiah. Discover the wonder and mystery as Scripture points to the coming of Jesus and the Resurrection.

Easter—March 31, 2013

