



FAMILYLIFE
Help for today. Hope for tomorrow.



Missionaries
With
CRU

The Walker Family Reader

January 2014

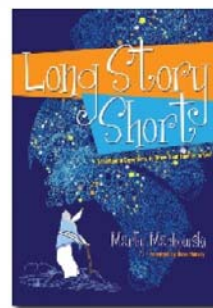
Praises & Prayers

What are you doing to improve your spiritual health in 2014?

January is a month of fresh starts and new beginnings. Many people start the year with a new plan to improve their physical health, like eating better and exercising more. But this year we took a hard look at our family's spiritual health. We asked ourselves if there were any specific areas that needed some work? The answer for us was, Yes!

Like so many families our days are busy and the dedicated time for our family devotions was shrinking or being squeezed out of our day completely. So we were excited to discover one of FamilyLife's resources called "Long Story Short". It is a book of 10 minute devotions to help your family draw closer to God.

The Bible can seem like a long story for an active family to read, but when you break it down into short sections, as author Marty Machowski does, family devotions are easy to do. Long Story Short was created to help busy parents share with their children how every story points toward God's story of salvation through Jesus Christ.



We are excited to start diving deep into God's Word as a family with Long Story Short this year. We invite your family to join us.

Check out the video on FamilyLife's website to learn more. Visit www.shopfamilylife.com and search for "Long Story Short".

Our Special Offer

If your family would like to join us in using Long Story Short, email us at thewalkers@njwalker.com We will send you the book for FREE!

The only thing we ask is that when you do your first family devotion take a picture to capture a special moment during your time together and then send it to us. We would love to see your family engaging in God's Word together!

Grandparents, you can do this too. You could do a devotion with your grandkids or pass the book on to your children.

Stick to it... Do it as a group

The families that attend our weekly small group have all decided to use Long Story Short for their family devotions. So we are going to try and do this together.

When our families gather together on Sunday evening we will do "Day 1- Introducing the Weekly Bible Story" together as a large group, with all the kids. Then throughout the week each family will do the remaining 4 lessons (or as many as they can) at home.

No matter what your goals are for the new year. We pray a blessing upon you. *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."* Romans 15:13

Nathan & Jennifer

Pray: For our upcoming events in February: Serving on the Mentor Team for the Love-Like-You-Mean-It Marriage Cruise & Hosting the Art of Marriage at our local church. (See the next page for specific ways you can pray for us)

Pray: That all families will make a focused effort to draw closer to the Lord as a family this year.

Praise: For God's perfect provision.

Your giving has made it possible for us to begin 2014 with a solid financial footing.



If you gave a year-end gift and did not receive a personal thank you note from us, please contact us as your gift may not have been processed properly.



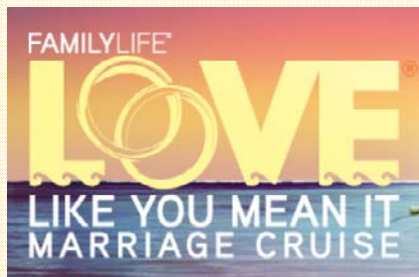
What is on the horizon for us?

We are honored to have been asked to serve on the Mentoring Team for the FamilyLife Love-Like-You-Mean it Marriage Cruise.

We are 1 of 6 couples that will be serving as on-board mentors. Anyone on-board can request to meet with a mentor couple to talk about any issues or struggles they are facing in their marriage.

We are excited to be part of this special team! *Please pray that the Lord will prepare our own hearts for this trip. That we will listen to each couple with God's ears and then speak His words to them. Please pray that we will be and encouragement to all couples we encounter on the cruise.*

We are looking for a team of people that are willing to pray for us specifically for each day we are on the cruise (February 10-14). If you would like to volunteer to serve on our prayer team, please email us. We will send you a specific day-by-day prayer guide for you to use throughout the week.



The weekend after we come back from the cruise, we will be hosting the Art of Marriage at our church! *Please pray that each couple attending the event will clearly hear what God has to say to them. Pray that God's Word will penetrate each person's heart and mind.*

Our Adventures with the Christmas Monkeys

Allison came home from school excited about "Elf on the Shelf" that her class was doing at school. So we decided to do our own version and came up with the Christmas Monkeys. Santa sent the Christmas Monkeys to us so we could teach them about Jesus and the meaning of Christmas.



The Christmas Monkeys had some wild adventures while we were all sleeping.



But in the end I think they finally figured out that the real meaning of Christmas is

JESUS!