

The Man of Her Dreams/ The Woman of His!

Unlock the Secrets of an Outrageously Happy Marriage
and Break the Chains of Marital Frustration!



Marriage Testimonies
Couples Who Were In Hurting Marriages.

As seen on

DAYSTAR
TELEVISION NETWORK

with Marcus and Joni Lamb

**THE
BALANCING
ACT**

on Lifetime TV network

Featured on

an edition of

UNFAITHFUL
STORIES OF BETRAYAL

on the Oprah Winfrey Network

And on

many local market independent and



TBN affiliates including

Canton, Ohio • Jacksonville, Florida • Hawaii
Butler, PA., • Orlando, Florida, and more.

Joel  Kathy
Davisson

244 Pine Grove Drive
Palm Coast, Florida 32164
(386) 206-3128

For every written testimony, there are dozens of other couples that we never hear from. You will find more testimonies in our books and scattered throughout our website, newsletters and online marriage forum.

Over 500 testimonies...

herein are from couples who have attended a Weekend Marriage Intensive and/or have been impacted through the books, DVD's and live seminars that we have produced here at "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!"

God is REALLY in the business of creating MIRACLES in marriages.

Don't settle for anything less than an Outrageously Happy Marriage!



To learn more, read the two books and visit us at www.GodSaveMyMarriage.com

Other Website addresses that can be used to introduce people to the ministry are:
www.JoelandKathy.com
www.BestMarriage.com
www.UnchainedHearts.com

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Joel and Kathy are available for:

Three-Four Day Church Seminars (12 hours)
Special Seminars • Valentine's Dinners • Couples Retreats
Television and Radio Ministry Interviews and Opportunities
Ministry to Church Leaders by Special Request from Pastors
Private Home Visits – Special Church Leadership Functions

A Miracle Can Happen In Your Marriage!

*Rebuild Your Marriage, Recover From Adultery and Abuse,
and Enhance any Marriage Using the Life Changing Principles
that God Taught us.*

**These Principles Have Given Us an Outrageously Happy Marriage!
If Joel and Kathy Can Do It, SO CAN YOU!**

Welcome to an Exciting World of MARRIAGE MIRACLES!

You are about to discover over 500
Marriage Testimonies!

God has been busy at work for the last few years
bringing MIRACLES to marriages!

LITTLE did we realize what God was going to do!

In 2004, we felt that God said, “Write a book,
share your story and share what I have taught you about marriage.”

When we followed that prompting, we had no idea what would happen.

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! was introduced first on-stage
at the Houston Astrodome by Charles and Frances Hunter.

It was to be their final public Healing Explosion.

The next month, the book debuted at the
National Christian Counselors Association Convention in Orlando.
The book sold quickly via recommendations from Pastors, Counselors
and word of mouth among couples whose lives were being changed.

Everyone was getting miracles!

We have been in full time marriage ministry since that time.
Over 20,000 copies of the now two books have been printed.
They create miracles everywhere they are read.

ENTER HERE

The couples that God has brought to us have,
in most instances, been extremely hurting couples.

Our ministry exists because of couples being referred to us by Pastors, Counselors, word of mouth and when people have typed “God Save My Marriage” into their internet search bar.

Another thing that we have found is when people with “pretty good” marriages read the books, their marriages also go “through the roof” into a new and even happier place!

Some call it “Heaven on Earth.”

It is now October, 2013. Nine years after the release of that first book. We have been quietly helping very hurting couples in relative obscurity.

We believe that God has held us in the palm of his hand, preparing us.

We sense that now is the time; the time that God wants to “shift” us to a place of helping many more couples.

Some couples get their miracles from reading the books, some by viewing our 12 Hour DVD set, some by getting additional help on our Marriage Mentoring Help-Line, some have received their miracle at a local church seminar and some have attended our jam-packed “Five Day Weekend Marriage Intensive” in Palm Coast, Florida.

To experience our Worldwide Marriage Mentoring help-line, a couple can dial 1-209-255-1000 pin 325230#. These calls are six nights each week, Saturday - Thursday. 9 pm Eastern Time. On Tuesday night, the first hour is positive living, overcoming fear, overcoming depression, overcoming anxiety. Then at 10 pm, the call morphs back to marriage. Dial any night except Friday!

Every couple can go from a “pretty good” marriage, an “ok” marriage, a bad marriage or a nightmare marriage to this happy place that we have found.

We have termed this happy place an “Outrageously Happy Marriage!”

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

The Marriage Intensive was awesome. It gave us a new way of thinking. Steps to take. It helped us identify and see the issues more clearly. Joel and Kathy are extremely gifted and anointed in this ministry. We loved and learned so much.

Thank you, "A Happy Valentine Too." (Husband of "Happy Valentine")

We enjoyed our intensive weekend. We were blown away by the new way to look at our marriage issues. Joel and Kathy have one flaw they need to correct.....they don't charge enough for this invaluable teaching. From a "Happy Valentine." (wife of "A Happy Valentine Too.")

This marriage Intensive was a very helpful thing and I truly believe my marriage would be doomed without it. I was not sure what to expect and they said it straight. It is not going to be an easy walk but one that is worth making.

Thank you both so much for everything. With a lot of diligence on my part and prayer, I firmly believe we can make this work.

Andrew D (Husband of Dawn D.)

This Marriage intensive has most definitely been intense. Joel, Kathy and Kathy's Mother in-law are all amazing people. This has been an "in your face, just do it" experience. I'm hoping we can take the tools we have been given to save our marriage I came to this intensive, not in a Happy Place. One of the best things that made this intensive were the little jokes and the humor they incorporated. And their wonderful daughter Jenifer watched our baby for us. We couldn't have done this without her.

Dawn D (wife of Andrew D.)

I do appreciate this weekend. It is workable and doable. I didn't believe that my marriage was fixable. I was ready to leave and would have if it wasn't for our three children. (Between them & God & my beliefs) I committed adultery for a short time due to not being fulfilled in my marriage. I didn't realize my husband was involved in pornography. Never thought this would happen to us. But realized when you don't do things as a family you are not a family. Not a good place, When you get put down enough, you end up believing it. (We can make God the center of our marriage) with the help of Joel and Kathy. I hope this has been an eye opener for my husband as it has me.

T & C (wife of C & T)

This weekend has been the miracle I needed in my marriage. I was the man who thought I had a great marriage - until the wakeup call. My wife was trying to tell me all along that she needed more attention and our marriage needed work, but I just did not hear her. Our marriage went from what "I" thought was perfect to crisis in two weeks. We went from her begging for my attention to another man realizing she needed attention and giving it to her. She totally shut me out and began to focus on him. Thankfully, God was able to allow us to come to Joel and Kathy's intensive. I now realize how much the affair was my fault and how I needed to make

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

my wife priority. Joel and Kathy showed me how I am to be like Christ for my bride and lay down my life for her. I now have hope, the hope needed to save my marriage.

C & T (husband of T & C)

This week was life changing. I thought my husband was going to reject the message of lay your life down for your wife, but I am glad to see him embrace it. Of course, as time goes by, I will confirm with his actions. Joel and Kathy's transparency helped us a lot, their down to earth, simple way to explain this teaching has been liberating. It's like I knew this teaching all along, but I had never seen an example. All I was told was "have no expectations." I did not know where to go for a once and for all change (no more roller coaster relationship!) I am very thankful for God's love for us and not giving up on us and for equipping people like Joel and Kathy to live an "outrageously happy marriage! I am looking forward to a victorious life with my new husband!

Mrs. T (wife of Joshua T.)

This weekend has meant a GREAT deal to me as a man and husband. I have learned sooooo much that is 180 degrees away from what I grew up with. I KNOW this is the turn around our marriage needed. I have had such an awesome time. We have grown even through this weekend. I have such a better understanding of our roles as husband and wife.

Thank you so much for your impartation.

I have nothing but great expectation to see what God will do for and thru us in the future.

Joshua T. (husband of Mrs. T)

The information has been incredible at this intensive. I am amazed at how "it speaks" to me with calmness and how it appeals to all my senses. It was as if Joel and Kathy were explaining away my entire life and reading my story!

I had mixed feelings about myself and toward my husband all week. Although I was up and down in my emotions, I kept thinking that there was always such hope if my husband would just step up to the plate.

I think what hit me the most was their explanation of how the drunken driver walked in to the hospital room to care for the woman whom he hit. At that point, I realized that I was being asked to look to my abuser to be my healer! I felt repulsed by the thought and wanted to negate it. I wanted to ask if there was another way that I could find healing. I didn't want to look to him for that.

But, as information came and I saw how Joel and Kathy reacted to each other all week, I wanted that more than how I worried about how the healing came. I was willing to surrender at the end of the Intensive to put aside "who" was going to bring the healing (my husband) just to think that I can finally be healed from the wounds of the past.

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

I praise God for how wonderful of an example Joel and Kathy proved to be as a couple. I loved watching them interact and how loving and FREE they were with each other. I listened and watched Joel, but watched Kathy more! I DO want to be like her and be settled and relaxed in my spirit. I will highly recommend this intensive and the books to anyone. I look forward to an "Outrageously Happy Marriage."

PS: I was also amazed at how I could receive Joel's message from HIM. Up to this point, I have felt all men are abusive and have no clue of understanding of women. That gave me hope that if my husband can really listen and learn from Joel, we really can have a great marriage!

Macy D. (wife of Larry D.)

I appreciate the heart of Joel and Kathy. They have a great Ministry with great biblical principles. My wife and I have been blessed with their teachings and am looking forward to great growth in our marriage.

Larry D. (Husband of Macy D.)

This weekend has come to our marriage, in the final hour. It was an oxygen mask for a suffocating wife. After so much pain, counseling, marriage retreats and prayer, we found the golden key to healing and marriage. It comes from God and Joel and Kathy spoke and modeled it for us. They have been where we are and they showed us "how" to get out of the pain and into a marriage God intended us to have. They understand where we are and gave us the tools to assist us on the journey to and Outrageously Happy Marriage. The amazing part is that it didn't end when the weekend as over. These two amazing people made themselves personally available through phone calls, mentoring, dvds, books, online forum and prayers. They are a gift from Heaven. They have chosen to be vessels of God's love for couples who are hurting . It means the world to us to have this new understanding on how to heal and have a God-centered marriage.

Our prayer is that God will give us the grace to walk the journey to the other side and that God will abundantly bless Kathy and Joel and their ministry until every marriage is healed.

Pebbles and BamBam.

I learned that a marriage that is dysfunctional can be turned around if we follow God's intend for a Man and a Woman if we both assume our roles together!

By seeing Joel and Kathy, I know it can be done. It will take as long as we want it to. The faster the better!
JUST DO IT!

Ale (wife of "GO")

I have learned that I must give myself up to The Lord, as a result, that empowers my wife (and myself). That (as men) we are responsible for our marriage to change. That, in simplicity in life and our marriage, is the key.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Awake to her feelings not only in the present but have understanding of what I have caused in the past.

Good for good will be the motto going forward.

Thank you for a great 6 days. R.R. (Husband of L.R.)

This intensive gave me such validation and a voice. I thought I was strong and independent-and being here as shown me who I truly am and how I can be happy again.

Thank you for giving us a chance and a hope for a better life for us and our 4 boys.

L.R. (wife of R.R.)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This weekend helped to affirm what I have read in the books and listened to on the outline intensives. I have lived so long with so much dysfunction! I now can understand all the dysfunction much better. This means, new tools to deal with when it wants to reoccur. It has also been helpful in finding closure for past hurts and wounds.

God bless you both!

Roland and Wanda.

I just wanted to thank you Joel and Kathy,

for the heart of the mission. Giving advice and support to others. Coaching us forward to functioning marriages.

Listen to all our crap and giving points and solid advice and then offering to stay with us till we can fly on our own.

God bless you 'n' yours.

Wanda and Roland

Not knowing what to expect, I was in great anxiety as to what was going to come from this weekend. (I've been fighting coming for about 8 months.)

Having this weekend behind me now, I am extremely open and excited to see how our marriage gets more and more happy.

I had many revelations about myself that fit to my life with Jeff. I deeply want this Outrageously Happy Marriage. I am going to fight for this and I now believe, after this Intensive, that Jeff can be the man of my dreams! Thank you to Joel and Kathy! You both are very special and your ministry has opened my mind to let God work His miracles!

Kim Hawkins (of Kim and Jeff Hawkins)

This has been a Great Weekend! Joel and Kathy have given me all the tools to have an Outrageously Happy Marriage. Thank you!

Jeff Hawkins (of Jeff and Kim Hawkins)

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

The Marriage Intensive is an answer to prayer.

I believed I would never be happy on this earth or in this marriage now!

I have hope and dreams again. Now I know that all things are possible through God! I am excited to have an Outrageously Happy Marriage.

If you have questions and cannot find the answers....come and get healed and made whole. There are answers here!

Thank you Joel and Kathy!

God will continue to bless you for all that you do!

Charlotte (wife of Brian)

The Intensive has been the largest influence in my life to become the man and husband that I have been called to be. My wife and I both have been upside down the entire 26 1/2 years of marriage from abuse and very wrong foundations.

Joel and Kathy's teachings have already changed the course of our lives, and our marriage.

With what we have learned, we have the opportunity to have a new future, one that is going to be happy and healed. , two things we thought were not possible. Thank you, Joel and Kathy, for caring enough to help us and teach what couples like us really need to learn.

Brian (Husband of Charlotte)

Wow! What an incredible weekend!

Joel and Kathy's marriage intensive is AWESOME!! These 5 days have totally transformed my beliefs in husband and wife roles in marriage! Everything Joel and Kathy teach is written in the Bible! I never got the message of marriage that God intended in the Scripture. Joel and Kathy peeled the scales off my eyes and taught me the real role of a husband in the marriage relationship!

I am so glad we met Joel and Kathy! This marriage intensive is an absolute must for ANY married couple who wants an outrageously happy marriage!

At the end of day 4, Kathy's mother-in-law prayed for my wife and I. Wow – Wow – Wow!!! What a powerful prayer warrior!! Truly a prophet from God! She prophesied over me 100% accurately! Never have I had such a powerful and accurate prophecy!

This weekend has transformed my thinking! Can't wait to put it into practice!

Sandra, be prepared to be outrageously happy!

Bob Schriever (of Bob and Sandra)

Canada

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

I believe that if Bob listens and implements what he's been taught the last 5 days, our marriage will stand a chance!

Sandra (of Sandra and Bob)

Otherwise known as "Woman of Few Words!" – ha! (this last line was added courtesy of J and K)

Canada

My name is Mauro.

I came to the Intensive and I learned that I have to forgive to be forgiven.

I have to start over. A new life without remembering the past.

That I am to love my beautiful bride unconditionally like Christ loves his church, and no matter what,

I have to be the initiator and not the responder. I have to remember "Happy wife, Happy me."

Joel and Kathy are great teachers. I came with anger like evil, but not anymore. Thank you God! AMEN! Happy Wife!

Hello, my name is Veronica.

I came to the Marriage Intensive with my husband Mauro Vera to see if God could do a miracle with our marriage. Being here, on the fourth day I could see that God has already answered my prayers.

I can see a dramatic change in my husband. We have 5 beautiful children that need both of us as parents and role models. Yes, we cannot change our past, but we can rewrite our lives.

Joel and Kathy has helped us a lot: My husband now holds me, kisses and makes love to me (not sex).

We understand that our relationship started with a rocky foundation, but now from this day forward we can conquer the future together and wait on God, so we too can be able to share our testimonies. I believe that God, our Lord, will save lives through these testimonies.

I believe.

I believe that God is with us. He will reunite us and continue to prosper us.

Thank you Joel and Kathy.

God truly did save our marriage through Joel and Kathy's Ministry. We have never had the tools or knowledge to be a healthy healed couple until now. We have learned so much.

A marriage we thought might never make it will make it now! I cannot wait to live happily ever after in our Outrageously Happy Marriage. Alexandra (wife of Tyler)

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

I'm so thankful for the Ministry. My wife and I have learned a lot this weekend. Our Marriage has been saved. We are so blessed to finally have the wisdom we have needed for so long.

We will be spreading the word about your Intensives. They are a blessing from God. There are so many young couples like us that give up too soon. I have been hurt so badly but found the tools at your intensive to be able to look my wife in the eyes again.

Thank you for helping us find our miracle.

Tyler (husband of
Alexandra)

The weekend intensive with Joel and Kathy was enlightening and helpful for my wife and I.

From a male's perspective, you MUST be prepared to change your thinking and concepts of how to repair your marriage. If you do this, you will be on the road to great recovery.

It will not be easy.. however, who said it would in the first place?

CORDELL (husband of Lana)

This Weekend Marriage Intensive has been eye opening for me. I came here completely not knowing what to expect. Joel and Kathy were warm, real, down to earth and made everyone feel comfortable.

Even the first day, it was clear that this would be a "safe place" to share. Their testimony on paper is what brought us here. Their testimony in PERSON and in REAL LIFE is what will help couples to make permanent changes in their lives.

I now KNOW (after thinking that a Happy marriage with my husband was IMPOSSIBLE), after listening to Joel and Kathy's MIRACLES and doing what they say, will make it POSSIBLE!! They are truly ANOINTED (so is Kathy's Mother in-law) and being used by God.

Blessings,

Lana (Wife of Cordell)

This week's intensive was exactly what our marriage needed. I am thankful that you have followed God's leading to Rescue Marriages. I also appreciated the fact that you didn't waiver on anyone. Each person was addressed and you didn't back down.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Being open and honest allows people to relate and understand that you have been there and done that and that you are putting into practice what God wants you to share.

Thank you for being God's instrument of healing for me and my marriage.

Kim J. (wife of Bruce J.)

It is a lot to take in, but with an open mind with God's help, it will make a change in the way we think and function. It meant a lot for me and Hope for change in the future of our relationship.

Bruce J. (husband of Kim J.)

This weekend opened my eyes. I have always thought of myself as a good person and thought if Joanie would just fix her problems, it would change. Wow! Was I ever wrong!!!! Also, I realized, this is going to be a long road. I have HISTORICALLY not done good on the long road when it comes to relationship hurdles.

I am sold out to this process and I am committed to change no matter how long it takes. I "AM" going to die to myself, something I have never done my entire life.

Kevin S

..we so desperately needed.

The marriage intensive gave us the breakthrough and tools that we so desperately needed to rescue our marriage and start us on a healthy road to healing and happiness.

Barry and Pam

Indiana

My healing can finally begin..

What an eye opening experience! Understanding why I react/respond to my husband the way I do and having the reactions explained/justified has shown me where our marriage really needs help and why. Seeing my husband accept this paradigm almost immediately and put it into action, has given me a real sense of promise/safety/security. I feel that my healing can finally begin and our marriage will be outrageously happy! More importantly, our children will witness a healthy marriage, in which mom and dad are a blessing to each other. Our happy marriage will be establishing a vision for their future marriages.

Amanda (and Joe)

Indiana

Keep it going strong forever..

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

After several years of strife in our marriage, a friend introduced my wife and me to Joel and Kathy's books. After reading the books and after my much reluctance, we decided to try the intensive workshop. In the five day session, I was surprised how much I learned and began to understand our marriage and how it works. I was also given the keys to help heal the damage I had caused our marriage and ways to keep it going strong forever. Thank you, Joel and Kathy!

Joe (and Amanda)

Indiana

Outstanding and Life Changing..

Joel and Kathy,

I wanted to thank you for all the time and energy you spent in making last weekend possible. The information you presented was outstanding and I trust will be life changing for us.

Many people are in need of your wisdom and knowledge and insights. The information along that you presented was really good.

You have an incredible ministry and a much needed message.

I am amazed at the insights you have both been given and the way you have unselfishly invested in the lives of others. I do believe that this paradigm shift is what is needed for all families today. We are looking forward to moving forward in a new way.

BA (and RA)

Indiana

Monumental in my journey of growth..

The (understanding that I have gotten at the Weekend Marriage Intensive) has been monumental in my growth. The Intensive has further explained the books and gone beyond, with the information about arrested development. This helped me to understand that I'm arrested in my development, just like my husband. No longer can I look down on him because of his immaturity. This understanding has been monumental in my journey of growth.

HJ (and Les)

WY and WA

Men, be Men!

Do, don't try! Husbands, bring a teachable spirit. Trust Joel and Kathy, trust your wife, trust God. Men be men.

Thank you!

Les (and HJ)

WY and WA

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Exactly what we needed...

Joel and Kathy,

I am so appreciative that you address our individual issues. Your straight forward approach is exactly what we needed. I am so excited about the follow up calls and the ability to text you in times of need. This is so comforting in light of my fears of going back home and things returning to old ways.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

Shelly (and RG)

Indiana

Understanding..

This weekend has helped me understand myself better and why I am the way I am. I now have a better idea of how to deal with problems.

RG (and Shelly)

Indiana

This weekend was priceless. The impact is like no other. Reading the books is not enough. You need all the elements. Sacrifice has to come into play. Money, comfort, time and exposure to Joel and Kathy. It is so much more effective than just the books or CD's/DVD's.

Our life will never be the same and I am already living my miracle. I really enjoyed the time with Kathy's Mother-in-law.

Mandy (of Mandy and Brent)

The weekend, books, etc. have taught me that it is my responsibility for my wife's happiness. I am her protector and provider. I learned that my expectations of her were wrong and many of those expectations were mine to fulfill!

Hearing that I had the maturity level of a 2 year old was ground breaking especially learning how to deal with it.

The simple message has changed my life!

That message is one of my wife being my marriage manual, to listen to her, shut my mouth (instead of insisting that I get my say), and live an Outrageously Happy Marriage!

Abundant Life = Happy Wife

Brent Arnold (Of Brent and Mandy)

(Note: Brent's parents are coming to the intensive in October!)

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

I recommend all couples get to Joel and Kathy's Marriage Intensive.

The traditional way of relating in marriage held by religions of the world that has influenced our generations-Will Never Work. Time has proven this.

Marriage CAN work when we come to understand some basic principles that are presented thoroughly by the Davissons.

I only wish I'd known this years ago. This is a "must know" intensive weekend of information that will save your marriage.

Julie of Julie and Brian

=====

I would recommend Joel and Kathy's books + Intensive for the simple reason of: It's Simple + Easy to grasp hold of.

Joel and Kathy truly care about each couple and person.

I believe these teachings are in line with the Word of God. It is worth the investment.

They bring the spirit and scientific reasons as well as reality to their teachings. Good Stuff.

Brian of Brian and Julie

From a guy's point of view, I can say that my wife and I have been to several marriage seminars. This is the best that I have been to. Common sense; and practical steps a man can relate to.

Thank you Joel and Kathy!

MR (of MR and ZR)

This intensive weekend woke my husband up. All my health issues and the thousands of dollars we've spent have some correlation to the stress in our marriage. I'm hopeful that my husband starts putting me above other needs.

ZR (of ZR and MR)

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

The weekend experience of meeting other men and realizing that our struggles are not unique.. but are very much the same as other couples – was most valuable to me.

Dennis

Here is my update! This roller coaster ride has been going on for three long years now. August of 2009 was when I found out she was done with me. August of 2011 we made it to the intensive. As of this month, something new has happened. My wife has crossed a line. She is officially affectionate and seems truly happy again. I still feel like I have a long way left to go, but she is finally willing to trust me with her heart again. It almost seems surreal. She has still not read any of the books, never sat through a full video and ended up in a fight the one time I read a chapter to her out loud. But, we are close enough to Joel and Kathy to see them almost every week. They are not cutting me any slack. Kathy checks on both of us almost every day. Joel is still willing to get in my face when something doesn't seem right. I am still killing off stuff in me... And I keep finding more.

Just to encourage you guys who are wondering, this is the real deal. Not quick or easy, but it works. I spent two years searching for some counselor who could fix us. I frustrated some of them pretty badly. Most of my family still thinks I am crazy for this "extreme" theology and taking all the blame for where we ended up. But I really understand the parallel between marriage and salvation. It is not 50/50. Christ paid it all. He took responsibility for everything, paid the whole bill, loved us even when we were idiots who despised him, gave up his life and even his potential to do what was best for us. It's the only way. Just do it guys. Don't hold anything back. Give up your pride, selfish and egotistical ambitions and just love her. Love her without any expectations. Love her even when she hates you.

Forrest Gump

What this weekend has meant to me:

This weekend has served great purpose in allowing me to understand and have a greater look into personality types. It has helped me to understand why I am the way I am, as well as why Anthony is the way he is. I have learned that I am not alone in my struggles and that it am "ok" to express my deep feelings and fears.
Jamie (wife of Anthony)

This weekend has been humbling. I have seen that my actions speak louder than any words I could have ever said. The assumption I have lived with is that I have to be a man of his word. Instead, it should have been that I am a man of action who kept his word. If I choose to uplift those around me, then my complete mind, body and soul will work as one.

Anthony (husband of Jamie)

PS. Jamie is my crown, I am a blacksmith and I have the ability and knowledge to mend any damage I have done by not taking care of my crown.

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

UPDATE: Anthony and Jamie just shared their updated WONDERFUL testimony on last night's group marriage mentoring phone call. A and J were separated before the intensive and it looked like it would be a long time before they were restored. God hit fast-forward! All is going great, and they have moved forward toward a complete restoration. including being back together at home. woohoo!!!

[Click Here to Listen to the Audio Recording!](#) (Visit our Website to Hear this).

Here are some notes from the Audio that you will be hearing:

From Anthony: Live like Christ does.

No matter what she thinks or feels, it doesn't matter. I am not here to win. Her way is fine or if she wants to do it my way that is fine. It just doesn't matter.

Just build her up. Don't worry about how it makes me feel.. I can deal with that later. Just build her up!

No matter what, when you are lying in bed with your wife, it doesn't matter.

From Jamie: For me, it has been living one minute, one day at a time.

Anthony listening to me.. every time something would come up, when I wanted to say something, I would give him a cue and he would listen to whatever I put in his drawer..

Regardless of what I say, he says "it's ok." I love you and hug on me.... At first I was mad that I put myself in this situation to be part of fixing things. He did not say a word. He got closer to me and hugged on me and told me it was OK and he understood. I feel like I vented and 15 minutes later it was fine..

When I tell him how I feel, and he does not argue back, or say "but" - it is all over..

The where are you going "HSKC" notes.. sticky notes.

Anthony has done it perfect and so has Jamie.. Listen to the short audio recording to hear it all! These were just "sketchy" notes jotted down while the call was live.

Kathy and Joel,

This weekend has been great. It is great to have been set free to go - but for the first time (in a long time) to feel hope. Hopefully, as time goes on my guard will come down and I'll be able to offer more of myself. The years of wounding and pain have been so devastating. But I choose forgiveness and know I will be walking in it soon. I will not be bitter, the devil will not destroy or rob me of joy (my strength).

You two are a great blessing. Please continue in this ministry. My prayer is that you will continue to walk in HIS anointing and never tire of doing this. Your ministry is so needed.

With love in Christ, Carol B. (Wife of George B.)

This week's Analysis,

- * It has been very hopeful for me to realize what a special person Carol is. Few wives would have stuck with me.
 - * All the sessions cause one to dig deeper into your problems and have made me realize I've been the problem in our marriage.
 - * One of the most important results of the weekend is how you emphasize we can make it. When we began the sessions I felt maybe a 50/50 chance. As the sessions end, I feel 99.9% we will succeed
 - * Relentless.
 - * My brain is in "overload" with Goodness.
- George B. (husband of Carol B.).

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Hi, I am glad I came to Joel and Kathy's Weekend Marriage Intensive. It has made a difference in my life. I am a learner and I Thank God first and I thank Joel and Kathy for what they have taught me. I believe I will have a Great Husband. I know it will take time, but if my husband will do what God says to do, things will fall in line.
Blessings, K.B. (wife of A.B.)

I learned this week, that my wife has the marriage manual in her heart and that I need to pay attention to it. She looks to me for value and affirmation. I can nourish my wife and as I do, she turns her heart to me and becomes the woman of my dreams.
Thank you, A.B. (husband of K.B.)

If your marriage is hurting, you have to get to this Intensive and read the books. The best part is that when you leave the Intensive they don't just say "good bye" and "good luck." There are six couple's calls per week, three men's calls per week and a women's call. There is also the online forum to keep you on track and to get immediate help when needed.

Joel and Kathy are passionate about helping couples restore their marriages. They are doing the work of the Lord. They truly care about your marriage!
Don't wait too late. Make the decision now!
Paul

Eric and Sue came for a re-do! They had to get home for something special so had to leave on Saturday.

Here are some special testimonies from Gene and Sheila and Elizabeth and Richard:

For me, this seminar was not a course. It was an experience! Somehow, Joel and Kathy were able to break through my sinful self-protection and show me just how poorly I had treated my wife during our marriage and they did not stop there. They started us on a path of healing by showing me how to love my wife and providing a plan and a path of accountability to keep us on the road to an outrageously happy marriage!

Albert of Albert and Cecilia

Incredible Marriage Intensive! Thank you so much for this incredible intensive! My husband and I were on our way to a divorce and this ministry stopped it. My husband and I were delivered from bondage and were taught God's perfect plan for our marriage. My husband was the mule who was untied and unshackled.

Kathy confronted him and didn't back down which caused my husband to turn or in other words, to repent. Thank you Kathy for speaking the truth in love. Joel's teaching was life changing and gave both of us hope for a great marriage. Many great examples of what to do and what not to do. We learned so much from your transparency. I am so thankful for this ministry. My only regret is that I didn't know about the marriage intensive earlier. My husband is a changed man.

Instead of his first response being fighting, after the intensive, now he listens. We were so impressed with how in tune to the Holy Spirit and how much Joel and Kathy poured into the lives of all at the intensive.

Cecilia of Cecilia and Albert

Before this Ministry I knew I wasn't a proper husband. I was Divorced from my first wife. I was headed down the same path with wife number 2. I was getting very frightened but I didn't know what to do. J and K came into my life at the right time. After fighting against change, I realized my wife needed me to change quickly.

Joel and Kathy knew what we needed and what we needed to change about our behavior to live the marriage that God had intended for us to live.

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

After fighting for a while I turned and moved in the right direction. We worked the program and came to the intensive a year into our process. At the intensive, everything brought for me an understanding as to why I was acting so badly. It brought focus to me so I was able to believe them, to believe there was hope and to realize that I didn't need to behave poorly anymore. The reason I know we will make it is the ongoing support to wholeness, no matter how long it takes.

Thank you J & K for your obedience and willingness to go to the mat for marriages.

Gene M. of Gene and Sheila

Well, we finally got to an intensive. Thank you for the opportunity to spend such an intense time in such an intimate setting with only 2 other couples, besides you guys (Joel and Kathy). It was a lovely time coming and would have been much better for us had we come sooner (probably less painful for my husband for the last year) but Thank You!

Thank you for having the courage to take on the hard cases and for putting in place so many follow up tools and ways to stay connected with the J & K ministry. This all has made such a difference in our marriage. Thank you for giving me back my amazing husband. We are well on our way to the marriage that I dreamed about since I was a little girl, the marriage I was never able to have. I first got married 32 years ago and never have experienced the great marriage I have now and we're relatively early in this journey.

So thank you so much for hearing God all those years ago about marriage ministry and writing the book.

Blessings,

Sheila M of Sheila and
Gene

This weekend was just what I needed. Besides stating the obvious, that I was the problem in our marriage, it showed me why I was the problem and what I can do to fix it. If I focus all my love on my wife, as Christ loves us, everything else will fall into place!

Chris of Chris and Whitney

I've learned that mutual submission in a marriage is God's plan; Which is of course totally different than what I was taught and shown my whole life. I am definitely looking forward to not "having to submit" to my husband, but instead wanting to make him happy b/c he loves and cherishes me!

Also, Disney was right all along! - there is a man out there that will sweep you off your feet and be your Prince Charming - and that man for me is my husband.

Looking forward to finally knowing I'm going to be cherished and respected!

Whitney of Whitney and Chris

For abusive Christian husbands, who have destroyed love and trust with their wives.....
guys, this is your "get out of jail" card.

This is your last chance, but this card is NOT free! There is a painful and excruciating price and that price is death!!....death to self, death to selfishness, death to anger and emotional and spiritual abuse toward your wife and family. This intensive reveals that a man must show unconditional love to his wife and love his wife as Christ loves the church. Wow!! And, by loving his wife, a man loves God.....and is blessed.

Guys, die to yourself, go to this Intensive and heal your marriage!
Phil R.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Oddly enough, Joel and I have a lot in common. Both had affairs; Both of us negatively impacted our kids with our anger; Both of us nearly lost our God- Chosen Wife, due to our failure as a husband; and we all ended up at a class for awful marriages.

The POINT, the MESSAGE, The CONCLUSION is a success message from God. The message is this: Man-up & die for your bride like Christ. It's a huge job! God's wisdom is backwards: Last is first. Weak is strong. Poor is rich! Crucified is King. Joel is a good husband.....dying to self is no different. Work the program and fix your crappy marriage. Stop being a failure!

Jw D. Of Jw D and Edie D.

Joel and Kathy are so wise and willing to help us uncover lies and bring truth and healing to our marriage. One thing I realized is that my husband and I both believed that we were to "get our healing and needs met from the Lord."

This thinking alienated us from meeting each other's needs in the marriage. The source is still the Lord, but his strength and intimacy come in through the husband laying down his life and the wife responding. Then we grow tremendously in seeing his love played out in our relationship. I could write a novel, but I'll stop there!!

Edie D. or Jw D and Edie D.

Joel and Kathy's Intensive was eye opening. They're so wise and educated on the truth of life and the will of God for your life. If your eyes and heart are open, you will have an amazing marriage. Joel and Kathy brought a fresh perspective to the healing of a broken marriage. Husbands who are the strength in a marriage need to bend or break (die) for their wives. Not literally of course, but in a symbolizing way. Learning how to lay down your life for your wife so a husband and wife can be healed.

David of David and Fran

Dear Joel and Kathy,

You've met my husband now, and you know what obstacles we are up against! You have given us hope, though, that previously was not there and for that I want to thank you both! I promise to implement what you taught me and look forward to the outcome. Please pray for us as this will be especially difficult for my husband!

Thanks again,

Fran of Fran and David

After several years of separation, this has changed my married life completely, my wife has found closure and now finally it's onward to healing. I finally understand my wife and where the source of our problems came from.

After the 2nd day, things were making sense and I was working for the first time towards healing with my wife. This has been a very positive experience and I'm glad I did this.

J.E. – of J.E. and H.E.

After 3 years of Separation and Divorce on the way, Joel and Kathy's Intensive Weekend not only brought us back together but helped our marriage to a new clean start. If we had missed this blessing we would not had ever reconnected. Best part of the whole weekend is the Lord's presence and anointing.

The Best decision ever and money well invested was toward our Marriage and Intensive Weekend gave it back to us.

H. E. of J.E. and H.E.

PS: Thanks for: "God save My Marriage Website." now I can say that!!!

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

Dear Joel and Kathy,

My husband, Bow-wow, and I attended your Weekend Marriage Intensive during February 29th through March 4th (2012). I wanted to give you a praise report as a result of your ministry and that of Joel's mother, Elizabeth.

For three years, I have been suffering from what the doctors believe was a pinched nerve, a very painful condition in which I have been unable to sit down for more than 20 minutes at a time. Due to this, I was very concerned/worried about how I would fare at your Intensive. The first evening was literally excruciating for me. The second lengthy day (12 hours, I believe?) was also very difficult on me. But as time wore on during the session, my leg felt better and better, to the point that by the time Sunday (the last day) rolled around, I was completely free of all pain! To this very day, I have no more pain!

Secondly, I have had a very difficult relationship with my eldest daughter for 28 years (an unclose one). The Wednesday after I returned home from the Intensive, God opened the floodgates in both of our hearts. My daughter and I cried, laughed, and shared so very many things with one another!!! Our relationship has taken such a turning point, we are spending more time together, and I can see Jesus at work in her and in her family!

Thirdly, although we've had a few rough spots, I can truly tell that God has changed Bow-wow's heart. He truly is an altogether different man. He even told me this past Saturday night (as he was holding me, no less! [something he'd had a very difficult time doing]): "If I never accomplish anything else in my life, I want to become a great husband to you, and I will be satisfied with that." Our relationship is 90% better! (Given the fact that I was emotionally done with our marriage, I know, know, know this is a great miracle!)

When Elizabeth prayed over me, the Spirit of the Lord revealed to her that I was so bound up, and that I had many dark spots that needed to be lifted. She prayed for my healing, and I truly believe her miracle-working union with God/Jesus, along with the life-giving words you, Kathy and Joel, spoke in your Marriage Intensive are what has healed my leg, my relationship with my daughter, and my marriage with Bow-wow.

Praise the LORD!!! And I praise you three for following God's calling on your lives!!! I know that none of this would have been possible without Jesus or you three! Thank you, Joel! Thank you, Kathy! Thank you, Elizabeth! Praise God, the Lord on High!!!

Meow

Joel and Kathy,

This information helped Elizabeth and I by having a better understanding on marriage and how Christ loved the church and husbands loving their wife. This intensive definitely works. It works if you apply the whole teaching, "all or nothing" and not just picking and choosing. With faith and GODLY COMMITMENTS on my part as a husband. This encompasses and that my wife wanted for a happy marriage! Well – Roberto is a doctor and I really can't read the rest of what he wrote! – Except to say that he is very happy! Roberto and Elizabeth attended their 5 Day Weekend Marriage Intensive a few months ago.

They returned to the Intensive for two days so that they could refresh on some of the material and to renew their marriage vows! We had a beautiful marriage renewal after dinner at the Saturday night banquet! There was not a dry eye in the house! Previously, Roberto and Elizabeth's marriage had been as bad as any marriage that we have helped. They were so much on the verge of divorce. God is SO GOOD – He did a MIRACLE for them!

Roberto (and Elizabeth)

This weekend has been absolutely transformative. I'm not one to easily believe in "miracles" but I do believe this past weekend has allowed God to perform many miracles in our marriage through Joel and Kathy's ministry. As a counselor, I have been skeptical about some marriage intensives, but I've found that what Joel and Kathy teach is both biblical AND psychologically healthy. This is rare to find! The honesty, transparency and no-nonsense approach taken by Joel and Kathy is a breath of fresh air in a culture that is suffocating from

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

selfishness and immaturity. This ministry is mature, relevant to our cultures current marriage needs and balanced. At the core, this weekend has taught us the importance of LIVING out the LOVE of Christ in our marriages.

Hannah of Hannah and Frank

Joel and Kathy are open, honest and committed to engaging with you on your journey toward a healthy and happy marriage.

Frank of Frank and Hannah

I think this weekend has been the best thing that has ever happened in our marriage! I believe God put this weekend together and I'm looking forward to starting the process of having an outrageously happy marriage.

Shawn of Shawn and Hope

The Marriage Intensive has been life changing for my husband and me. Two days ago, in the Friday sessions, we both discovered the crux of our marital issues, which had to do with my husband's mother/son issues. It was as if the hidden covering/veil was immediately peeled away from our eyes. Additionally, we have learned a plethora of tools to obtain a healthy, happy marriage. Thank you, Joel and Kathy, for the awesome, wonderful work and ministry you do!

Hope of Hope and Shawn

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This is our second –Day Weekend Marriage Intensive. I took the long road around and failed. I stopped doing what you taught after 2 months. Now, six months later, we are back! What a difference the second time for me. God has opened my eyes to what a difference it makes to our relationship when you are obedient to Joel and Kathy's principles of marriage. Die to yourself, men! Put your wife 1st. Don't hesitate. Die to ourselves. God Bless you, Joel and Kathy! Thank you!

Ron of Ron and Paula

This was my husband's and mine second intensive. By Friday I was ready to leave and felt that coming was a waste of time and money. Friday evening we had our private session with Joel and Kathy and it was definitely God ordained. It was a major turning point in the intensive and our marriage. I felt there was hope for the first time in months. The love, energy, information and time that Joel and Kathy gave us was incredible and I'm so thankful. Thank you Joel and Kathy for everything!

Paula of Paula and Ron

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This 5-Day Marriage Intensive has meant so much to me. My husband and I will apply everything we have learned. We realize the importance of placing a high priority on our marriage for the rest of our lives. Not just the 3 years! This is our second intensive. We didn't do our homework the last time and my husband continued in the arrested development. Joel and Kathy, you have done an awesome job developing this marriage intensive. Sometimes it seems you have interviewed my husband as you developed your material! I noticed my husband really paid attention and I know with your continued assistance we will have an outrageously happy marriage. May God forever bless you both, your ministry and your entire family. Kathy's mother-in-law is a very special aspect of the marriage intensive. I was looking forward to seeing her again a having her pray over my husband and I.

Ann of Ann and Lewis

I have been to EVERY marriage conference there is! I have read every marriage book available! If I would have had "Joel and Kathy's" God inspired teaching years ago, I know my first marriage would have been saved and I

wouldn't be sitting here desperate to save my second!

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I pray the Christian mainstream grab hold of this God given message, SOONER than later! Why? Because the percentage of Christian marriages ending in divorce has now surpassed non-Christians! SO OBVIOUSLY WITH ALL OF THE X-tian material we have available, something is still broken.. because it is not working! Joel and Kathy's message works! They are living proof and so are the hundreds of "unsaveable" marriages that now are not only "saved" but are living an Outrageously Happy Marriage! That's the ultimate testimony of Christ we can show our children and others. LIVING IT and LOVING IT!

Kam of Kam and Jim

Thank you, Joel and Kathy! This Weekend Marriage Intensive helped me to realize my childish reactions are not my true heart's desires. Understanding why I do things will help me lead our family's game plan for a win-win. She wins, our family wins, and we win!

Jim of Jim and Kam

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This weekend has opened my eyes to truly see my wife's heart and how I've wounded her for so long. It has given me the tools I need to respond to her needs, not from a place of shame or pride – but from a place of nurturing and healing. It's given me a vision of what my marriage can and will look like. It will change our family for generations.

Darren of Darren and Sherry

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This weekend intensive effectively communicated to my husband what I have been trying to tell him for 18 years. I came in "done" with our marriage and am leaving with renewed hope.

Sherry of Sherry and Darren

Joel and Kathy,

This is what this weekend has meant to me.

It has been very eye-opening!

You have given us the tools we need to have the best marriage ever!

It has been so refreshing to have someone to be so honest with us about your own struggles and show us how to avoid them and get us back on track!

You have shown us how to avoid untold hours of conflict exposing wrong thoughts and wrong teachings.

It has been totally worth our time and money. We are going to have a MUCH better marriage now!

Paul of Paul and Angie

Wow! Joel and Kathy are to marriage what a new heart is to a dying heart patient or a "hail Mary" is to a football team down by 5 with six seconds left to go in the Super Bowl! They are a husband and wife's last chance to survive together and have an Outrageously Happy Marriage! Thank you Joel and Kathy for opening your hearts and being very HONEST with me. My marriage will never be the same again!

I am... a man learning to lay his life down

Scott, of Scott and Lorie

New York

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Our weekend at the Marriage Intensive has been revolutionary. I wish I had understood Joel and Kathy's teachings before getting marriage because it is a whole new way of life for me. It is liberating to know that the misery I have been living in is abuse and God does not want me to continue in this and I can insist on change.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

I is wonderful to understand that my past reactions are normal. I believe my husband "gets it" and am willing to be a helpmeet to help him so we can get to an outrageously happy marriage.

Lorrie of Lorrie and Scott
New York

I found Joel and Kathy while searching "marriage intensives" online. I know God directed me to their site. This intensive was amazing as God was pouring His healing into our marriage through this ministry.

Rhyta of Rhyta and Jim

Dear Joel and Kathy,

In this five day Weekend Marriage Intensive, I received understanding to the "why" of the battles in our marriage. I am now able to make sense of the why we are having the problems that we have had throughout our 31 years of marriage. It opened my eyes on why I have acted the way that I did. This weekend has given us hope to have a happy marriage. It will happen! I know God brought us to this for a reason and He has a plan for us that Satan wants to stop. He has lost and we are going to now have a new, transformed, changed life!

Jim or Jim and Rhyta

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This weekend has been a life changing experience that has opened my eyes to all of the denial, abuse and distrust I was heaping upon Angie. I did not even realize I was doing this to her. On "Crunch Day" (Thursday) – my eyes were opened up and my soul was shaking in the spirit of Love and Peace. I now know the problem and I can fix anything that I am aware of!

Allen of Allen and Angie

My husband and I attended this marriage intensive as a final attempt to save our 25 year marriage. I had filed for divorce and we are currently separated. We were at "war" with each other and the verbal and mental abuse had to stop! I got a miracle in my marriage. Allen was not fully aware how he was abusing me. We now have the knowledge to apply in our marriage to become outrageously happy and we will do what is necessary. We will NOT settle for LESS! We are going to make it work and that is a "MIRACLE!"

Angie of Angie and Allen

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This weekend was a time to not only gather information but to receive tools. Nothing in life can be repaired without the proper tools. I received knowledge I did not have before. The most important thing was receiving great tools. I am leaving this weekend fully equipped to have an outrageously healthy marriage. I had an opportunity to share my heart and find answers. Now I need to go home and put my new found tools into practice.

Sharon of Sharon and Lee B.
Georgia

Dear Joel and Kathy,

"I finally saw what my wife had been telling me all along." This weekend has shown me what damage I have done to the most important person in my life. What I was doing was dismissing her pain because I was incapable of "fixing her." Joel and Kathy have given me tools to help my wife be able to overcome her hurts by changing me, not her. After years of unintentional lying to her, I can now heal her with the truth I have learned. I look forward to my new happy life with my wife!

Lee of Sharon and Lee
Georgia

Here is my update! This roller coaster ride has been going on for three long years now. August of 2009 was when I found out she was done with me. August of 2011 we made it to the intensive. As of this month,

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

something new has happened. My wife has crossed a line. She is officially affectionate and seems truly happy

again. I still feel like I have a long way left to go, but she is finally willing to trust me with her heart again. It almost seems surreal. She has still not read any of the books, never sat through a full video and ended up in a fight the one time I read a chapter to her out loud. But, we are close enough to Joel and Kathy to see them almost every week. They are not cutting me any slack. Kathy checks on both of us almost every day. Joel is still willing to get in my face when something doesn't seem right. I am still killing off stuff in me... And I keep finding more.

Just to encourage you guys who are wondering, this is the real deal. Not quick or easy, but it works. I spent two years searching for some counselor who could fix us. I frustrated some of them pretty badly. Most of my family still thinks I am crazy for this "extreme" theology and taking all the blame for where we ended up. But I really understand the parallel between marriage and salvation. It is not 50/50. Christ paid it all. He took responsibility for everything, paid the whole bill, loved us even when we were idiots who despised him, gave up his life and even his potential to do what was best for us. It's the only way. Just do it guys. Don't hold anything back. Give up your pride, selfish and egotistical ambitions and just love her. Love her without any expectations. Love her even when she hates you.

Forrest Gump

From Jim and Paulette My wife and I attended the intensive the past five days. It was a great experience. Even though I had read the two books and watched the 12-hour DVD's, there was so much more that was helpful.. that made more sense, that allowed for a deeper understanding of what the real message was, their real teaching. Kathy was more involved in the teaching than she was in the videos and added a lot! It is well worth the time and investment. Jim (of Jim and Paulette)

We can't thank God and you enough for the 5-Day intensive. We have learned so much about ourselves as individuals and as a couple. For instance, learning what submission really means, how arrested development looks for both of us, learning about Oxytocin and Cortisol and the importance of making love, to name a few. A husband can meet his wife's needs and the blessing returns to him 100 fold. Thank you for the homework to keep us on track! Paulette (of Paulette and Jim) From Mack and Mandy I want to start off by saying this has been an amazing experience! Thank you Joel and Kathy for all the advice and help! We will take all of this knowledge experience home with us and utilize everything we have learned. Love ya'll and appreciate everything. Mandy (of Mandy and Mack)

This weekend has been great. I thank God for this chance to build a better marriage. God is so good. Joel and Kathy are a blessing and a God-send. I have learned so much about marriage and myself to make me a better husband and the man God called me to be. Thank you so much! I pray God richly blesses ya'll in your ministry. Love and Prayers, Mack (of Mack and Mandy) Mack sent an email a bit later: Just want to say thank you again. Y'all are a true blessing. We were blessed by OUR weekend. God I truly believed ordained and anointed the weekend for us. We are praying for the others and y'all's ministry that Gods favor be upon y'all. And lead and guide y'all. And we are praying for y'all family as well. We will keep y'all updated on our journey. Love y'all and bless y'all.

Mack & Mandi.

Mack also posted this on Facebook: "We were blessed before we got there. The books made a huge impact and with the goodness of God and the Holy Spirit the miracle was already in the making. God is so good. And praise God for y'all's miracle."

Dear Joel and Kathy, Thank you for the great seminar. I have learned more in five days than I have learned in 73 years. I pray my husband and I can follow your instructions. We have been married for 48 years and I pray that with God's help and our new knowledge that we will live together happily for the rest of our days. I will recommend this seminar to all of my relatives and friends. Thank you, Joel and Kathy. I love you.
Angie (of Angie and Tony)

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Although I knew the marriage intensive would have been helpful for my marriage, I still had my doubts that my husband would "get it" - however, it has been 5 days of an eye-opener for my husband and he has expressed that he understands himself more. He also exclaimed that he wants to be a better man and for us to have a fresh start.

We will be renewing our vows and I am more hopeful now than I have ever been that we are going to make it. This ministry has begun to open the door for many miracles in our marriage and I look forward to sharing and recommending this intensive to every married couple I know.

Thank you Joel and Kathy, Kathy's Mother-In-Law, and each couple we met for your support and may each of you be blessed.

Lydia (of Lydia and David - Georgia)

I was resistant to coming this weekend. I saw it as being more people telling me how to live my life and to change overnight. Joel and Kathy have shown me I am the person who sets the tone in the home. I always thought Lydia's mood controlled the mood of the home; when she was happy, it made me happy and vice versa. I've now learned that the better I treat her, the better she'll treat me and the happier we will be as a team. This intensive was a lot of information that came together and left a clear message. I got married to love and support Lydia and this weekend was a healthy reminder.

Dave (of Dave and Lydia - Georgia)

Kathy and Joel are the real deal. Warm, friendly, genuine. They also really do know their stuff. Their perception and insight into our marriage, even in two short days was astounding. They were spot-on in the advice that they gave us. I can finally see a light at the end of the tunnel.

Praise God.

Thank You so much!

Francine (of Francine and Shawn – from England)

The Marriage intensive was the last stop at the end of the road for me and our marriage. Intensive or bust! Joel and Kathy are real; they speak from real life experiences and struggles. The whole weekend is informative, scriptural, and in depth with reality.

Joel and Kathy deliver the weekend with humor and love, genuinely helping the couples get to the place where they are "in" with their marriage. I have been in counseling for a lot of years and I know now that is the wrong teaching and it's not worked. Joel and Kathy's teaching is the real deal.

Thank You So Much for everything,

Shawn (of Shawn and Francis)

"You will know the truth and the truth shall set you free" The simple truth is that "Husbands are the Men." Men are the initiators, the emotional strength, not woman.

Women are the Responders. Men are to set the climate; they are the foundation stones of the house. My actions toward my wife determine how our house looks. Abusive behavior melts away when you understand

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that the power and strength God has given men is for the purpose to cherish their wives, not control them.

I love and need Rebecca!!

WE'RE HAVING NUMBER 7! JOY IS OURS!

Paul (of Paul and Rebecca – Pennsylvania)

A couple of years ago, a counselor asked me what I wanted. I replied "I want my husband to understand how he is hurting me and destroying our dreams. Then I want him to come to me in tears, apologize, and change." She told me to give up this fantasy because it would never happen. It happened this weekend. We are now walking toward God and a happy marriage. I pray we never look back.

Rebecca (of Rebecca and Paul)

This intensive has been extremely eye-opening. It has answered so many of our marriage issues. I am hopeful for the chance of our marriage getting restored upon returning home. I would absolutely recommend this intensive to anyone who is considering or should be considering going. I plan to go home and share this with our friends. Thank you Joel and Kathy for spending the time with us to teach us how to have a great marriage!

Daisy (of Daisy and Robert)

What the weekend has meant to me

When my wife found Joel and Kathy's website online and showed it to me, I was skeptical. I finally agreed to come to the intensive and am glad I did. It really opened my eyes to the hurt and pain I've caused my wife.

Although I am not a changed man yet, the intensive convinced me that I have to change or I am going to lose the most precious thing in the world to me: My Wife. I think every couple (either before or after marriage) should attend Joel and Kathy's intensive.

Robert (of Robert and Daisy)

After 2 years of hearing about your teaching, we finally made it to an intensive. It was better for me to hear the teaching then just reading it. We walked out of this with a better understanding.

Jerry (Of Jerry and Maria - South Carolina) After 2 years since being introduced to the ministry, we finally made it to an intensive! We had a great time hearing the "words" of Joel and Kathy's books come to life. Looking forward to an OHM...hoping it comes quicker than 3 years! (LOL)

Maria (of Maria and Jerry –South Carolina)

We have read the books twice, but being in the intensive has really opened my heart and mind to much more understanding of how important it is to have an outrageously happy marriage. Going through the intensive with other couples going through the same challenges, motivates me to pursue my wife even more. I thank Joel and Kathy for their dedication and love to make all this happen. We are receiving our miracle even now and will continue to do so.

Robert (of Robert and Maria – Florida)

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Thank God for this weekend intensive! After 31 years of praying for a breakthrough, God brought me to Joel and Kathy. I'm so grateful to the Lord for them! We are on the right track now and waiting for a miracle. My husband is now getting it so we're on our way to a great marriage.

Thank You Lord!

Maria (of Maria and Robert – Florida)

Joel and Kathy,

This weekend has opened my eyes to a number of things that I was totally unaware of. Things that I have never heard of; Things that I, as a husband have been doing completely wrong. The information, knowledge, testimonies, and experience you provided will help me become the husband my wife deserves and also become the man that God has called me to be. I can't wait to implement this into my life and explain it to my friends, so they will understand and never have to go through the things that I have. I would like to thank you Joel and Kathy and also would like to thank your team. You have saved my marriage and blessed us.

Thank You,

Jake (of Jake and Brook – Florida)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I have thoroughly enjoyed this weekend intensive! I have been desperate for a breakthrough for years. Your teaching has finally given me and Jake our miracle break through. Thank you both so much. I look forward to the rest of my life with my new and improved prince. I can now live my FAIRYTALE!

We will start new and fresh from here. I look forward to getting on the forum. I wish continued blessings to your ministry.

Brook (of Brook and Jake – Florida)

On Monday, we stopped at Joel and Kathy's, just to pick up a book I had ordered and had sent to them. They are more lovely, friendly, warm, and genuine in real life, even than what you might expect. Jen (21 year old daughter) is amazingly spunky, chatty and just a real great girl. Josiah (18 year old son) is a dreamboat. Chris, (23 year old son) - well, Steve thinks I have a crush on him, (all in the best of taste -

I am old enough to be his mother!) He has the gentlest spirit about him, he's just lovely. Kathy also invited us to hang out at their house, use the pool, the hot tub, etc. whenever we liked during the week, and gave Felicia (our daughter) her cell number, to use at any time she liked. We went on to have a great mother daughter week together, shopping, going into Orlando, eating out, going on the beach. (up until now, Francine and her daughter, Lauren, were here by themselves. Steve was arriving a few days later, in time for the Intensive.)

On Sunday night, the three of us went to Kathy and Joel's for church, but I had got the time wrong, showing up at 7:30 instead of 5:30. So everybody was going home.

Even though everyone was going home Joel and Kathy made us feel welcome, and made us stay to visit. They offered to have a family meeting with us, before Felicia went home, at our hotel. They really go above and beyond.

Now.. on to the intensive: The teaching is amazing. Hearing it in person adds a totally new dimension. Joe and Kathy are very funny and entertaining. They make a brilliant team. All the other couples were lovely too. On Thursday, the group all went out for dinner at a restaurant. As we were walking out, Joel clocked Steve straight

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away as he did his normal zoning out and disconnecting, walking about 20 yards ahead of me, and told him to walk with his wife, in a nice way of course.

To cut the story short about an argument that we had that night, on the next morning I didn't want to go for breakfast. Steve hadn't apologized. He said he wasn't going to either. I totally put my foot down, and ordered him to go for his breakfast and face the music! Sure enough, when he went for breakfast, Joel asked him straight away where I was, what had he done to upset me, and had he apologized! Steve came back and did apologize!

We had our private session on the Saturday. I was amazed by Joel and Kathy's insight into the dynamics of our relationship. It was uncanny. They just got straight to the heart of things, and gave us a perspective that we had never seen before. Joel said that because Steve didn't really like to be responsible for making decisions, that there was a danger of him sabotaging, by pushing my buttons, till I make the decision to end things. Steve would have forced me into making that decision, and he gets to look like the victim. I would have never thought of that. But it's so true!

Had another blip on the Sunday during the teaching with Steve ignoring me, when I wanted his attention. I got upset and it showed at church that night at Joel and Kathy's home. But everyone was so nice. It was amazing. At 7.30, church was over and everybody started going home. Joel and Kathy still made time for us, and tried to talk me through it.

Here's the thing: within 10 minutes of chatting to Kathy, I was fine. That woman has a gift, honestly. About 9 pm Joel headed off to the cinema with the boys, but Kathy told us to stay and talk. She made us feel like we were the most important people in the world to her at that time. About 10 pm I really made a move for the door because I could see her eyes going, but I honestly know she would have gone with us until the early morning if we'd needed it.

The 2 biggest things I took away with me about this ministry, and about Joel and Kathy, are their uncanny insight into things, and the fact that they are for real. This is their life, and their calling, and they live it, breathe it and they love it. They are totally invested in all their couples, and the passion they have for people and marriages is mind-blowing.

Next day, Steve carried mine and his hand luggage all the way home. I can't tell you what this did for me. I felt like I wanted to crawl inside him, because of this one small thing. I just loved it. When we got home I was exhausted, but he initiated some unpacking, and getting a wash in, before we went to bed for a couple of hours. Then when we got up he made dinner, and helped me tidy up a bit more.

He seems to really want to run with this thing and I am determined to help him be successful! As Kathy says, "It's all good!"

This time has really shed light on many feelings that I have had and not really known why or where they have come from. It has answered questions of why I have not been able to bond and shown me areas in my life where I have been abusive that I did not recognize as abuse. These issues were not only brought to light, but the remedy to these issues and the path to healing were clearly laid out in such a way that did not bring condemnation but was presented in love. Thanks so much for your ministry, Joel and Kathy.

Sincerely,

John M of John and Leslie

Get Here! Do It! Do Not Delay! I have had 25 years of frustrations - You have answered questions that I have been searching for and I now have hope! Where my marriage was a zero before, I can see it getting better.

Leslie M. of Leslie and John

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Guys, thank you for how you put yourselves out there. You are such an example of how God gets glory when he shows himself strong in our weakness. By his grace Amy and I will get there.

I know my beloved has been so blessed and freed by the word of your testimony and the power of the gospel in your lives. I had no idea how the critical spirit I've harbored has devastated Amy. If she hadn't put her cute little foot down, I too would now be a poor lonely man. Thanks again for being available and useful tools in the hands of the Master craftsman.

Reid of Reid and Amy

I was dreading coming to our intensive because I thought it would be emotional torture, reliving all our painful history. I was so wrong! Joel and Kathy made the intensive fun and enjoyable and we learned so much. The books, forum and phone calls are great, but there were many areas I needed more clarification. The intensive provided that and really helped me understand "The Big Picture." The prayer time with Kathy's Mother In-law was a very special, encouraging time on Saturday. Also, I came to love the folks we met and came away feeling like we'd made new friends.

Kathy of Kathy and John

Thank you so much for providing this marriage intensive! Even after reading the books, my hope for my husband to "Get It" and change was really low. Listening in the small setting to you all explaining the "why's" of his actions, and the "how's" of what to do to bring change brought huge hope to me. There are reasons he acts the way he does, and reasons I react the way I do. I now feel we have and will be able to effectively utilize the tools to create an OHM!! What a Change!!! What a relief!!! Thanks again!!

Signed:

Hope filled – Susan of Susan and Clay

Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for a wonderful life changing weekend. Our marriage has been deeply impacted. I now see so clearly the selfishness in my life towards Susan. I look forward to the process over the next few weeks to three years as we create an OHM.

With The Deepest Gratitude

Clay of Clay and Susan

John has been laying his life down for me for one year as of today. I can still hardly believe it. Last July 4th, I had begged God to harden my heart and protect me as I prepared to tell John that I was going to "let him off the hook", and that he no longer had to "put up with me". My life was a waking nightmare, and I couldn't believe that I was about to get divorced. I had walked down roads I never thought I'd ever see, let alone be on.

I had fought with all my strength, and pleaded with God with every fiber of my being to save our marriage, but LO kept blaming me and had such impossible expectations there just didn't seem to be anything more I could do. I was convinced he hated me, and was only "making the best of things" because he didn't believe in divorce, no matter how bad things got. We had tried several different counselors and therapy programs. I had tried everything I could think of, and asked friends for guidance, and tried their ideas, but nothing made him happy, and I had nothing left in me to fight with.

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I will never forget walking around the back of the house. I was shaking so bad inside, I thought I was going to pass out. Every muscle in my body was locked up tight, and I looked at him, and thought, "This can't be happening". He asked me to come inside and led me to our bedroom.

I kept praying for strength from God to let him go. Imagine my shock when he said, "I am recommitting myself to our marriage. I am sorry for how I've hurt you, and things are going to be different from now on." I told him, "I don't trust you and don't know if I ever will be able to trust you again." He said, "I know." I told him I was scared to give him yet another chance. He said, "You should be." I prayed that God would protect me and give me wisdom, and said, "OK". I placed my fragile heart in God's hands, and thought, "I'm just going to enjoy any good that comes from this, but I'm not letting him anywhere near my heart until I am sure that he really is going to change this time."

This past year has been so unbelievable. From that terrifying day, to the day on September 26th when I gave him my ring in a dark theater so that he could put it back on my finger as we said vows to each other along with Caleb and Catherine from "Fireproof", to the day in October when he moved me back home, through nerve-wracking holidays, to the day just a few weeks ago when we renewed our vows with Joel and Kathy to today. To this amazing, beautiful, God-ordained day, when my heavenly Father has not only restored my husband to me, but has refined him into a man I can respect and trust and love. A man who reads the Bible with me, and is beginning to pray with me. A man who is being very patient and careful as my heart heals. A man who is willing to take anything that comes flooding out of my wounded heart so I can be cleansed and made pure, as Jesus carried the cross for us. A man who still manages to say things that astound me.

My life would be so very different today if Joel and Kathy had not turned their marriage over to God. If they had not come back into the fire to save others. If my husband had not opened his heart to God. If I had not trusted God. I am thankful to Heather and Jeff, for spending over three hours wrestling with LO on the phone only one short day before I gave up. I am thankful to Darla and Larry and Michael and Annalea for sacrificing their time to help others. I am thankful to Kay, who reached out to me when I first found this ministry and encouraged me when I was sure I was unlovable. I am thankful that all of you made yourselves available to help us when we were stuck. I am thankful to all the helpers and moderators who were quick to jump on my thread and encourage me when I was at my lowest, and who still offer comfort to me when infertility wears me down.

There is so much on my heart I could go on and on, but I will save that for my Christ-like husband. My hero. Here's to our Miracleversary, and all the rest to come. Here's to our Outrageously Happy Marriage. We haven't arrived, yet, but we are well on our way! God bless you and every marriage who He leads here. May you all get your blessed miracle and Outrageously Happy Marriage. May God lift up all you precious hearts who could not receive their miracle because of an uncooperative spouse. I know He mourns with you, but that He also knows the blessings He has waiting for you. In spite of the heartache I feel over infertility, I know our God. I know how much He loves us, even when we don't feel it or aren't so loving to Him. I know one day, we will see Him face to face, and every tear will be wiped away. We will be reunited with our loved ones who have gone home before us. We will know God's perfect love completely. And one day, evil will be wiped out for good. Oh, how I long for the day. May God overwhelm you with His love for you.

I've been rereading this thread as well as parts of my original thread. It still blows my mind to realize how far we've come. Only God could have saved us, and I am so thankful He did.

Susan, of Susan and John

Heather inspired me to write this yesterday while she was hosting the phone call.

Some of you might be asking.....

What does a healing marriage look like?

Before we can really see that, we need to see what a broken marriage looks like. In our case, our marriage was in a shambles. I would ignore Heather for days on end. I would pick fights with her in order to make her look crazy. I cheated on her physically and emotionally. I looked at pornography, I self-gratified. I was hurt, bitter, and resentful.

By now you may have noticed a trend with what I just wrote. Look at all of the "I" statements. Where was my focus? You guessed it, it was all about me. Over the last two years as my focus has shifted towards my wife,

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our marriage is vastly improved.

In our marriage now, my wife no longer looks crazy. We are able to talk to each other without yelling, screaming, and throwing things. Early in our journey, it felt like I was losing everything. It truly felt like I was dying. Even though I didn't like it and didn't want to admit it, I was slowly growing and changing.

The first thing that I had to die to was running away from my wife both emotionally and literally. To a non-passive man, that doesn't sound like much, but in my case it was extremely difficult. Of course, I stayed put, but I was standing there defending my actions and arguing with my wife. By doing this, it didn't heal Heather's heart. It hurt her even more. So guess what step two was. That's right, keeping my mouth shut and stop being defensive. It took about a month or two for me to get to where I could listen to her vent and actually respond in a more Christlike manner and offer apologies when needed. It has been about 16 months since our intensive now. I honestly can't complain about anything at all. Our marriage is happy. I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world. Heather and I can talk to each other about anything, even if we have differing opinions we don't spiral out of control. We love spending time together, we enjoy each other. We laugh together. We love each other.

So to answer the question. What does a healing marriage look like? In our case we are starting to get to that mutual submission. We take each other's feelings into consideration. We both do things for the other. I do things for Heather now because I want to be a blessing to her, not to make her look like a control freak and the bad guy in the marriage. She does things for me now because she wants to bless me. We look out for each other. If one of us isn't feeling well, the other one takes care of them. I believe that is what God had in mind in the first place. A true "one flesh" relationship. We aren't perfect, nobody is, but I can say that we are as far as the east is from the west from where we were when we found Joel and Kathy. God can do miracles in your marriage. All he is asking is that you become the man that He is calling you to be.

God Bless,
Jeff of Jeff and Heather

Bob & Kay's Testimony.....

June 07 - finding out about an affair via computer. 2 months of me crying and unable to function, as hubby tried to prove to me how much he loved me, while at the same time, secretively, continuing to engage in conversations with the affair partner. We didn't know God on an intimate level.

Aug. 07 - dealing with the Jekyll and Hyde guy and God continuing to reveal what was hidden in darkness - I was drowning in pain and beginning to reach out to God to please stop the pain I was feeling. J & K website sent to me by a friend. I sent it to Bob and he said, "They have an interesting concept" and said he'd read it and agreed we needed help, but did nothing.

Sept. 07 - A "love text" comes in on Bob's phone, and I left immediately after, (with his phone) leaving a note to each of my kids via email that I loved them so much but needed a couple of days alone. I was having suicidal thoughts. My oldest packed up his father's bags and told him to leave, and that he wanted his mom to come home. Bob walked out the door with his head hanging low, all the while, leaving me phone messages that he loved me. Less than a week later, we were in Palm Beach, Fl. sitting at J & K's Marriage Intensive. Yes, we got our Miracle, or so I thought. Bob backslid more and more each day, and refused to listen to any of the help offered. He blamed me for not responding positively to his great efforts. I spent my time with him, walking on egg shells.

Nov. 07 - Met up with J & K in Florida, as we vacationed; What was meant for fun, turned into work for Joel and Kathy. We were not doing well. I was threatening divorce. Bob was in denial that HE was the problem, and was hoping that they could fix ME. He was the good guy and I had the issues. I was being unforgiving. He was here and he "loved me" I needed to get over this.

Feb. 08 - I left again for a week, due to Bob's rage/abuse getting out of hand, along with the fact that he didn't want to make love. Things did not improve after I got home. He refused to have anything to do with J & K and he wasn't buying into their program or religion. He wanted to go to a Certified Counselor with degrees on the

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wall. Eventually, I went - once, but refused to go back. I insisted on J & K or nobody. Things spiraled downward.

April 08 - Abuse was beginning to scare me. I didn't trust myself, and had slapped him twice. I begged him to leave, but he refused. I began communicating with an attorney who told me that he had rights to stay in the home, so I left again, with kids shifting back and forth between my parent's home, where I stayed, and our house, with their dad. I spent hours on the forum, where I was loved and supported. I became stronger and stronger.

July 08 - I came home in order to "regain control" as advised by my attorney. Bob had agreed to move into the basement. He was happy to have me home, and he tried to be nice to me, constantly asking me out on dates, but, by this time, my heart was closing, and I refused to engage with him, unless he called Joel. It was all or nothing for me. He still refused to have anything to do with the Ministry, so I served him with divorce papers.

Aug. 08 - Bob didn't want the divorce and realized that I wasn't going to back down. He humbled himself and called Joel. Apologized to them. Joined Men's Mentoring Calls and started back in the process of learning how to win back my heart.

Sept. - 08 - We left our current Church, and became strengthened in our Faith. Bob was trying, and I was calming down. I was beginning to believe that we could make it. I put the divorce on hold for 6 months.

Dec. - 08 - We were up and down for these 3 months, but I was starting to notice changes in Bob. My hope increased.

Jan - May 09 - We were bonding and growing closer physically, emotionally, and spiritually. All Abuse had stopped completely. We were both listening in on most conference calls, and reading books and forum. I had a new husband, and I was thrilled. God had opened my eyes to how awesome he really is.

I was beginning to live again, and was finding myself smiling more each day. The happiness inside my soul that had been buried for so long was trying to come out. Bob was doing what he was supposed to do, and I was starting to feel his heart opening up more each day.

June - 09 - Our divorce was officially cancelled, and we had our vows renewed with Joel and Kathy on a Cruise Ship. We had a blast and I was happy.

Aug. - 09 - We got baptized holding hands, together.

Sept - Dec 09 - We continued to move forward on our journey to an OHM

It is now 6 months later, and we are continuing to do well. God has also placed a yearning into our heart to help other hurting couples. We currently run one of the J & K Conference Calls.

I love my husband and he loves me. We treat each other with respect and dignity. We cherish each other. We honor each other. We are equals. and THAT is what God's design for Marriage is.

This is not an end - it's only a beginning. A brand new start of a brand new life. We are finally making it!

Of course, we will have issues come up. But, I am confident that we will be able to work through them, and continue moving forward on this journey to an Outrageously Happy Marriage.

God gets all the credit, because I believe that he is right here, working through Joel and Kathy and this Ministry! I count my blessings every single day!

Kay
(Wife of Bob)

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thank you so much for your ministry. We have come from a nightmare to an Outrageously Happy Marriage. Here is a timeline:

August 5, 2007 is a day I will never forget! It's a day that will forever live in my memories as one of the darkest days of my life. While today I can say that the pain of that day is fading, the memory is still vivid. That is one of the many lessons that I learned on our journey to an OHM! That when a husband dies to self and works to bring healing to his wife pain; the pain will no longer be connected to the memories.

October 2007, a friend handed us a copy of "TMOHD/TWOH" and I remember reading it in one seating! I could not get enough of it! Finally someone who understood, who validated me, who knew what I was going through and was speaking to my heart!

Easter Weekend (2008) after spending months talking on the group mentoring calls, being on the forums and a few private calls to Joel and Kathy as well; we were able to attend an intensive! That weekend was a changing point in our lives! We were able to start building a new foundation for our marriage! It was also the first time I ever say my husband cry over the pain that I was in. It was very humbling and healing at the same time.

I can't say that the time from 2008 through today has been easy, but I can say that the hard work that we both have put into this marriage has been so worth the rewards that God is blessing us with today! The Bible says "Live with understanding of your wife, so that your prayers will not be hinder". Well I can say that my husband took that to heart! Today he is living in understanding with me...and those blessings have been many and great!

There are so many things that I wish I could express about this ministry and about my husband, but being a women of few (but blunt) words, I am know in a place that I never knew even existed years ago! Just a few years ago, I was facing divorce, today I wake knowing how much I am loved by my husband, and cannot even fathom being anywhere else on this earth, than beside him! I can say that the journey is never over...but just gets better each and every day!

Blessings
Giving Hope/Jeff

I do not know where to start, our lives have been changed forever. More than two years ago we began this journey with Joel and Kathy, yet I sense a lifetime has passed. When I first found out about this ministry and learned of the teachings, I thought this was a dream and a world impossible to reach.

As my husband continues to learn the importance of laying his life down for me and lives this teaching, my dreams continue to come true. My heart has been healed of many hurts I thought would never heal. Every day I live in expectation to see how my husband will treat me. His actions blow me away and this great change in our marriage is hard to believe. I have truly learned the meaning of being loved and cherished the way God had always intended for me. As we embark in a journey with the coming of a new baby into our lives. I am overjoyed to have the experience of my husband being by my side every step of the way.

Due to my high risk pregnancy, my husband has over did himself by caring for the needs of myself, the kids and the responsibilities of the household. I never imagined being loved the way he has loved me and demonstrates daily by his actions. The battle and struggles to get where we are was worth the process, even though at times, I was in so much pain emotionally. Now we can enjoy the benefits without the pain and look forward to our relationship reaching new heights. Thank you Joel and Kathy for bringing truth into our lives and not holding anything back. You pulled us out of the pit, kicking and fighting, but we thank God we have turned the corner. We are forever grateful.

Celia and Tito

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It was wonderful to have Joel and Kathy in our home this past August after going to the June intensive. They were a lot of fun to be around and we really enjoyed their company. They were also able to get a better perspective on our marriage by seeing different struggles in our home life and in our unique situations of our daily life.

The example of a good marriage being played out in our home in front of our eyes was encouraging. We saw Joel and Kathy display togetherness which is something that is currently a struggle in our marriage. I, (Mary), remember saying to Kathy how free she seemed to be when with Joel and how they truly worked together. I told her I want to be like that with Leon,

There were times when we needed help and in the midst of a situation, they were there to walk us through the process. They walked us through feelings and frustrations. I, (Macy), remember coming into the room needing help and feeling frozen and not knowing what to do or say at the moment. It was amazing to have the support of Joel and Kathy there to show us how to respond as initiator/responder and to have a safety net during a tense and touchy time.

The humor and lightheartedness they brought also to the table during those times helped to bridge a gap and move us forward. The kids also remember them being in our home. I still hear our six-year-old talk about their visit here and how they came to the amusement park with us.

They were also there when a devastating phone call came to our home involving our daughter. Joel helped to coach Leon with how to comfort me (Macy) and Kathy was a great source of strength to me.

We are grateful for this ministry and how the Lord led us to them. We are learning and growing through this restoration and healing process. Their consistency and faithfulness to us as a couple has been such an answer to prayer. We are praying that this time next year we will have a testimony of healing and wholeness.

Leon and Macy

This weekend intensive was miraculous! I have never seen such dedication, motivation, love and honesty. Kathy and Joel are A-M-A-Z-I-N-G! They flow together to simplify complexities of marriage, using biblical direction and using the Word of God to break down traditional teachings. They are two awesome servants of God and so free and full of love and compassion.

We thank and bless you Kathy and Joel,

Love Lara of Lara and Fred

What this weekend has meant to me? Rescue-

I was at my end, too tired to go on. Kathy said "The Calvary is here!" Helping me to feel and help me get going. They provide support when we have struggles.

Support, support, support

I love you both! Thank you!

Marla of Marla and Brian

Thank you so much for your very clear and honest teaching. We appreciate this ministry very much. The calls, DVD's, Etc. Also, the clarity in the bible verses. The accommodations have been wonderful.

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Thank You Very Much!!
May God Bless You and Your Family

B.C. of BC and BC Rose

I want to thank you for sharing with us. Being willing to share your past dysfunctions with us, gave us the courage to be able to share and deal with ours. And to know that my dreams and feelings through the years were actually real and true.

BC Rose of BC Rose and BC

Joel and Kathy,

Thank You for accommodating us in your intensive marriage course. I know it was part of God's Plan. I just want to express a few pointers that I am taking with me from this class.

I am open to unlimited possibilities. I will focus on the good- Faith and love of our marriage. My husband is the emotional source of my life. My husband is the key to enough oxytocin being released in me; and to be a healthy woman I must be able to receive from my husband. I know that my life forward will be better with my husband and it would impact our children and I will be around to see my children's children.

In His Presence- Ann Soomar (of Ann and Victor)

First I must compliment you guys, Kathy and Joel, on the great job that you are doing. In a very much needed ministry today. There is so much wonderful information that I received. Our transformation to an outrageously happy marriage has already begun. To mention a few things that impacted me most is the information about Oxytocin and Cortisol.

Arrested Development is another Topic that helped me understand where the problems lie and how to address them best. As I leave today I am reminded that my wife is the woman of my dreams. Thank you Joel and Kathy for helping me become the husband of my wife's dreams.

Love,

Victor Soomar (of Victor and Ann)

This seminar has been a life blessing, I am so glad we came! I learned so many helpful and interesting ideas. This ministry is a true God send. I believe we now have the information and tools to finally build an OHM. Thank You So Much.

(Can't read the name of the person who wrote this, sorry!)

This week - (WOW) - Eye opener!

I was so stuck in myself and my own ways, the ways my dad taught me and the ways his dad taught him. We were just plain stupid (we believed a bunch of lies) when it came to marriage. This week taught me what life is really about; it is about loving my wife and it is about family; to love and cherish, to work together and to be strong together before the Lord.

I recommend this intensive to every man and woman alive on planet earth, so that we can live in harmony with

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our spouses and our future spouses. I've learned that she's my wife, my best friend and together we can take on this crazy world.

Thank you Joel and Kathy

Happy Wife, Happy Life! Brian (of Brian and Sarah)

This weekend is a must for every married couple, even if they don't have problems! Learning about how your childhood can affect your marriage was an eye opener!

My husband and I thought we were beyond fixing and basically gave up. He went his way and I went mine. After this weekend though, we can take on anything and everything.. excluding nothing!

I already see a change in both of us and we are very grateful for Joel and Kathy - They were our ray of hope and now a reality! I can finally look at my husband and say "I love you!"

This weekend has taught us to be a team again and I know if it worked for us, it will work for anyone!

Thank you so much Joel and Kathy. You guys are a blessing and miracle workers (through Jesus Christ, of course!)

Sarah (of Sarah and Brian)

Joel and Kathy,

The intensive weekend has been a life saver. I've learned so much about what makes me tick, like the importance of being an initiator of love and kindness. I learned how my behavior and lack of awareness was killing my marriage.

I know that I have to boost my sincerity, endurance and maturity in order to save my marriage and family.

I CAN'T WAIT TO HAVE AN OUTRAGEOUSLY HAPPY MARRIAGE.

Thank you,

Speed Racer (of Speed Racer and Rehnlieb)

Joel and Kathy,

The marriage intensive gave me a new way to look at seemingly immeasurable problems.

Because of the new awareness that we have received, many of the issues, actually ALL of the issues that seemed to permeate our daily lives now feel as if they can now disappear. We simply lacked understanding.

I now feel a sense of Hope and believe that if we continue to use what we have learned, we will have an Outrageously Happy Marriage.

Thank you, Rehnlieb (of Rehnlieb and Speed Racer)
Dear Joel and Kathy,

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

During our Intensive, I learned that I don't have to carry the weight of my past. We figured out my wife was miserable mainly because of my horrible attitude. She wanted me to "smile," but I couldn't. I felt obligated to "deal with the issues in my past." I would stress over our future and refuse to relax and enjoy the present. I felt overwhelmed with any new details or problems.

All she wanted was a "smile" and I could not make myself do it.

Fifteen minutes into our private session, Kathy gave me permission to let it all go. I never saw it as an option. Joel told me about the effects of Alzheimer's and how people just forget things. So, I just decided to forget. Smiling is not hard. Forgetting and letting go was, but I CAN do this.

Thank you,

Forrest Gump (of Forrest Gump and Sunshine. Note: Forrest Gump was formerly "Grimstone" on the forum)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I was reluctant about coming. I wasn't sure if I even wanted this marriage to make it. I couldn't stand the thought of spending another day with this man. After the Intensive was mid-way thru, I began to have second thoughts- thinking that maybe, just maybe, my marriage could be saved. I am still skeptical, but hopeful now.

The information and hope given to us are like the tools a mechanic needs to get a car running perfectly. Now it is up to us to keep that car gassed-up and on the road to an Outrageously Happy Marriage.

Thank you, "Sunshine" (of Sunshine and Forrest Gump)

Eye opening! I had no idea how upside down my thought process as. I looked at life and my marriage like the church has/had preached for years: "Wife submit to your husband. Do as he says." Boy, that was WRONG!

Joel and Kathy present a biblical based, eye opening, life changing course of truth to produce Outrageously Happy Marriages!!!

Men - grab hold of the truth! Meet your wife's needs. Heal your wife, heal yourself in the process and live life in an Outrageously Happy Marriage!

Husbands, die to yourself. Lay down your life. Rise to life!

Happy Wife, Happy Life!
Ron (of Ron and Paula)

The intensive was a last resort to me and a final hope to wake up my husband on how he was destroying our marriage. My husband had left and was living out of our home for some time, (5 years) fully abusing with no intentions of stopping. This weekend was for him a complete turnaround for him and gave me back some power and tools to turn my marriage around. Thank you Joel and Kathy! Without this past week, I know I would be divorced.. that is what I wanted. I'm getting a glimmering hope of wanting to stay and make my marriage outrageously happy with the changes I've seen in my husband.

Paula, of Paula and Ron

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

Well, what a Mighty GOD we serve!!! My husband and I just attended the Intensive in October and there really is not enough words to say Thank you to our Lord and Savior and A BIG Thank you to Kathy and Joel!!

My Forum name is Onedaymyprincewillcome and my husband is Skippy. We have had a horrible marriage for the past 16 years as you can read in our posts. But, Thank God for this ministry and the powerful information we learned by attending. If you are debating on whether or not to go to the Intensive, I plead with you to try whatever it takes to get to one. The sooner the better. We attempted to get here 3 times and now know why we were having road blocks trying to get to the Intensive.

You will learn so much that you just can't get out of the books, even though they are fantastic and were our starting point and some couples can just read the books and "get it". Skippy was about 50% onboard by reading the books, when we started the Intensive that changed to about 80%. When Joel got to the mother son issues, I thought he was going to fall off the chair. It's not just a simple thing as "yeah, I have problems with my mother, so what!" It is soooo much deeper than that. After the 3rd day of the Intensive, Skippy was on 1000%. I could not believe the change in him, he did a complete turnaround.

It's like he finally got it, but he was willing to get it also. You have to be willing and wanting for this to work. I believe if Skippy didn't want this to work, it would have taken years to get him to this point.

After the Intensive was over, it was like Skippy's heart opened up, the tears flowed and apologies came left and right, the attention was unbelievable... so much I cried each night not knowing how to handle the love attention and affection that was coming my way after 16 years!! He prays with me each and every morning and evening (something I always wanted him to do) and displays so much public affection and love.

Men, if you really want your marriage to survive and to have the Happiest wife in the world, do yourself a favor and register for the Intensive, do whatever it takes and you won't be sorry. I promise!

Find me on the forum - I was "One day my prince will come" and have changed it to "my prince has come"

Susan of Susan and Douglas

Here is a note from Douglas:

My lovely wife has said it all!! I most agree the Intensive was much more than I hoped. Thank you Joel and Kathy and everyone else involved in the Ministry for a wonderful Intensive. I feel sad at times that I have wasted 16 years of this marriage to the kind of person I was. Thank God for giving me another chance to win my wife back and for this Ministry !!! Thank God for the New Man.

I look at my wife in such a new and beautiful way. It's like I get a chance to fall in love with her all over again. I know there will be bumps, but the fun will be big and the bumps will be small ! I had big mother/son issues going into this intensive and it is refreshing to see that I can now deal with them and not make them a part of my relationship. I feel honored that God will allow and assist me in bringing healing to my wife as I love to see the new glow on her beautiful face. I look forward to a long happy marriage. Thanks again to you all in the ministry. See you all on the forms and calls.

I believe the marriage intensive has been the most important weekend of our marriage. It has been a wake-up call. It has taken us to a new paradigm to help us see how God created marriage and why. God has been preparing us to receive the message for the last year. He started by breaking down my husband's pride and showing me that I deserve to be treated as a queen.

This intensive has revealed all the truths of why my husband acts the way he has and why I have responded. It has given me hope and tools to use to work in our marriage so that it will be outrageously happy. Thank you Joel and Kathy for helping us and persevering so this can be a reality for The Body of Christ.

Jacqueline B

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

This weekend has been a huge revelation of what it means to be a Godly husband, I feel I truly have an understanding of what it means to "Love my wife as Christ loved the Church". This marriage intensive has given me the tools to cultivate an outrageously harvest in my marriage. I always knew something was missing in the material I consumed. I feel all the dots have been connected with my problems and now I know what to do to get a happy marriage.

Tom B

The Lord has heard my heart cry. I had been frustrated and oppressed for years. I had no voice. When I would speak with my husband about how I felt and what was hurting me, I was told to be quiet. I was the problem in all of our marriage issues. I was unable to trust my husband after his re-occurring issues with porn, flirting and other emotional and spiritual abuses. The Lord had placed a very good friend in my path who introduced me to www.GodSaveMyMarriage.com.

I went on the internet and found the website. After calling and receiving the books we needed to read before the intensive my husband's eyes were already being opened.

I knew that I knew that I knew this was of God. My husband and I went to the weekend intensive and we were awakened to the truth behind the issues that were prevalent in our lives. We are now on our journey of an outrageously happy marriage. Stay with us...More to come...

Kathy S.

Be free at last from the bondage of marital strife. This weekend intensive has opened my eyes to the truth of biblical manhood as a husband and what that means through the eyes of Jesus. You too can have his eyes, feet, hands for your wife and heal her of all her wounds.

I know God has revealed the truth about man's responsibility to his wife. I'm a changed man. I will walk in faith to be the man God has called me to be by being the husband my wife needs me to be.

Rich S.

Coming to a second intensive was pretty important to me because the passive life had crept back in and taken over, leaving more wounding!

It was my desire to re-gain the attention to what a happy Godly marriage should be, to have a husband to cherish, protect and defend me. May God's Spirit, His Strength, His Joy come in to keep the sparks lighting so that it continues day by day in the words and acting to build a roaring fire within.

Thank you Joel and Kathy for showing yourselves and showing God's truth...

Much Love,
Diane

This is a time well spent. It helped me to see where I have hurt my wife, not always by what I do but what I don't do.

I love my wife very much and want to be the man God wants me to be.

Ed of Ed and Diane

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My Business card should say , "Joe S. - my wife's servant."

God will forgive you, but your wife is a different story! Joel and Kathy helped me to realize that a wife's forgiveness is not to be given "just because". She did not die on the cross for me!

I had to realize I betrayed God and my wife. I choose to be a servant to my wife now. Because of this class I realize I have not died to myself. Thank God I am now! Thank you , my renewed wife is awesome.

Thank you, Joe S.

I do not know how to thank you enough for your loving correction through your ministry. The way you have presented the material with scripture and your personal testimony has impacted my life immediately.

My marriage will be successful with your help. I have learned so much. I am really overwhelmed with all the knowledge you have placed in my lap. I realize that my life in my marriage with my beautiful bride Gina is in my hands.

I really do want to lay my life down for her and to love her, heal her and cherish her. The two of you have explained to me how I need to die to myself and grow up to be a real man.

Thank you for caring so much about the truth in marriage to impact the world. I have truly changed my thinking.

Thank you for saving me from becoming a derelict and a lifelong (grown up) child with incredible dysfunction. I love the both of you. May God bless you in all of your life.

Thank you from Joe and Gina

Joel and Kathy,

thank you for sharing from your lives and giving us an example of how to do marriage. I have so much to learn and you have been a great encouragement to help get things started in showing us that we can do this. For me, it was like getting into a swimming pool. I did not want to jump in because the water was cold - but as I got in it was great.

thanks, Bob

Joel and Kathy,

I have learned the importance of "going first" as a husband. The importance of laying my life down for my wife with daily self-sacrifice.

Branson (husband of Shelly)

Joel and Kathy,

Thank you both so much!

I have learned so much this weekend! Your teaching is Amazing. Marriage is a wonderful thing designed by God.

I am believing for a miracle in my marriage.

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Thank you for giving my husband the proper tools to be the husband of my dreams. I plan on being the woman of his.

God bless you, Shelly (wife of Branson)

Joel and Kathy,

The best word to describe this experience for me would be "enlightening." I have learned a lot and feel so empowered as a result of this knowledge. The experience is emotionally exhausting-without a doubt!

I feel like the start of a new and exciting journey has begun. I feel scared. But, there's hope and encouragement as well. I now have the tools and the power to help us make it happen. WELL WORTH IT!!

Joel and Kathy,

I understand now that the husbands role in a marriage is the catalyst for success. God works through men to bring love and growth to his wife. What a blessing we can be for our wives and family if we live like Christ.

Very respectfully, W

The Weekend Marriage Intensive was an eye-opener. The concept turned upside down what I have always believed the church had taught concerning marriage. The class also taught me that I have been ignorant of the biblical concept of submission when it comes to marriage. It also discloses to me how much I have hurt my spouse over the years of our marriage. The Arno Profile system revealed myself to me perfectly. It will be a great blessing for those who have a problem in their marriage or even a good marriage to come to the marriage intensive and experience a great breakthrough.

Sebastian E.

The Weekend intensive has been really very encouraging. It really helped to alleviate the stress which I have really been through. It also classifies what a happy marriage should be. I gained knowledge in marriage counseling, happiness and joy in the Lord.

Kehinde E.

Joel and Kathy,

After attending the Joel and Kathy Intensive Weekend, I actually feel that there is now some hope. What they are teaching is the truth. They give you the knowledge and the tools to use, so you can truly have a happy marriage. But, the key is to follow through with what you have learned and apply it on a daily basis.

Sincerely, Debbie F.

Joel and Kathy,

I came to this marriage intensive completely broken and desperate. My marriage is in a shambles waiting for a divorce and remediation/pending divorce and very little if any hope at all. This weekend and this time with my wife has helped restore hope where there was only hopelessness. I have

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found knowledge and wisdom in the teachings that I have heard here. It has completely opened my eyes and revealed how I was abusive to my wife without realizing it.

I realize now how I was manipulating her to make myself look good and to protect my own ego. I understand now why I am that way and I now have a path to follow that will bring healing to my wife, to my marriage, to me and my children!

Praise God for Joel and Kathy and their ministry.

Hallelujah,
sincerely, Hugh F

Praise God! I am so happy for the both of you. My husband and I sat behind you at the Intensive. We had a close-up view of the miracle that unfolded in yours and many of our lives that week. Never could I have imagined the blessings that would flow from this Ministry, as a result of its teaching and I can't wait to see what the future holds for all of us. From Write1 on the forum

For Michael and me, participating in a Marriage Intensive (over three years ago, now. WOW!) was the key to saving our marriage and getting us on the path to restoration and an incredible marriage. Prior to finding this ministry and attending the Intensive, we'd been separated three times, been in counseling (secular and non-secular) for over two years, attended popular marriage retreats, read the latest Christian marriage books and sought help from several churches. The traditional marriage teachings we heard only reinforced the emotional prison both of us were in and lead us to the beginning of an ugly divorce.

I wish we could fully explain to you how different our marriage is now from back then; to say it's as different as night and day would be an understatement of grand proportion! To say it's Outrageously Happy, while true, just scratches the surface of what we live together every day.

The principles a couple learns at the Marriage Intensive work for any husband and wife who chooses to put them into practice because they are God's plan for marriage; a plan of mutual submission, teamwork, mutual honor and mutual respect.

If your marriage is intensely troubled, on the verge of divorce or in serious crisis, we urge you to sign up and join us at our next Marriage Intensive December 2 - 5. Let this upcoming Christmas holiday be the beginning of a new birth for your marriage instead of spending it with a fake smile pasted on your face, tears on your cheeks, anger in your heart or, worst of all,alone.

~

Dear Joel and Kathy,

How can I begin to describe what your Intensive has meant to my marriage? My wife and I have been separated for about four months. In that time, my wife introduced me to your books and the scales began to come off of my eyes. It turns out that I was not Prince Charming - on the contrary, I have been quite the clueless husband who has fallen short of meeting my wife's needs.

Not only has your Intensive Weekend given me the knowledge and skills needed to be the man who God has meant for me to be by meeting my wife's needs - we are no longer separated! Praise the Lord!

~ Michael (and Annalea)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

When my husband and I separated for the THIRD time and I had filed for divorce, I began searching for something - ANYTHING - that would give me a reason as to why I had come to such desperate measures.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Your web site, books, phone counsel, group calls and this Weekend Marriage Intensive have been like cooling water to my marriage.

After some "not so subtle" hints, my husband finally agreed to read your books. Then he began to listen to the weekly conference calls and we both knew that coming to an Intensive was a must for the beginning of true healing.

We have both learned so much from your guidance, love, honesty and support. Because of these things, I now have a glimmer of the hope I've been so desperately searching for. Can this be real? Is it really possible to be treated like a queen? I've always known I was meant to be a "Royal" (smile) ~

Annalea (and Michael)

Hello Everyone, it has been one month since our intensive and given my husband's three week history, I wanted to wait so that I could be sure.

So Okay, I'm sure. Life is better than ever. I feel like I have been married to three different "Paupers" (Because I am the princess and now he's a pauper). The first one was a great guy that I found attractive and we always had fun together. What I didn't realize then, was that all the fun that we had was doing what he had chosen to do. Then came the second pauper, (who wasn't really a pauper at all), because I was working full time and making good money and still doing everything to take care of our family and children while he traveled around the world and went on Team building trips.

Now, The Best Pauper of all. This guy is amazing, he is happy about the fact that I now have a job making 1/2 the money that I used to make. We have a family dinner together almost every night. He asks me what I want to do. He cooks dinner for me (even if it's scrambled eggs--Ever notice how good things can taste when you're tired and someone else has made them and topped them with a smile.)

He loves me every minute of every day and I know it. He listens to me when I talk (most of the time) and when I ask him to put down the paper and look at me while I am talking, he does and then says "I'm sorry honey". Why did it take us sooooo long to be nice to each other. It has only been a month, but God has blessed us so much because we are both doing what he wants us to do, Inside and outside of our home. OH YEAH, I ALMOST FORGOT-WE WENT BOWLING ONE NIGHT AND I NOTICED THAT EVEN HIS BUTT LOOKED BETTER. Thank you Lord and thank you JOEL and KATHY... Life is so Sweet, it almost doesn't seem fair.

Deb D (of Deb and Gary)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

God as done so many amazing things in our lives since we went to the Intensive. (May) Tim has spent more time at home than I could have imagined (and as reported in the last letter, we are actually wonderfully in love! We never thought this could happen!) I wonder what will happen when the world sees husbands loving their wives as Christ loves the church! I believe you have the ministry of the day, next to worshipping God himself.

Blessings, Lisa

Joel and Kathy,

Just from reading the books, my eyes were opened to a new realm of life - now this weekend has added so much more! My wife and I have a great start to a new future. Our problems may seem minor to some, but it is huge for us. We have had our struggles but we are coming through this. Thank you for your Ministry and Love for the Lord.

Tim (and Kristin)

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Joel and Kathy,

Thank you so much for sharing your story on how to have an Outrageously Happy Marriage. I believe that if we did not read your books and come to your Intensive we would have ended up in the same rut we were in. I know there is hope and now we have the information to have an Outrageously Happy Marriage.

I am truly getting healed from the past through my husband. I will be forever grateful to you and your Ministry for saving our Marriage.

Kristin

Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for the knowledge that you have shared during this Intensive Weekend. It has brought a lot more understanding to me of your teaching in the books. It has brought things into focus and changed my opinion on quite a few things. It has also given me encouragement that Heather and I can get that Outrageously Happy Marriage we both want. Thank you for your this weekend!

Jeff (and Heather)

Joel and Kathy,

I have had so many things in my life that have caused me pain. From my father (parents) to one failed marriage to failed relationships. My strength has come from God, but Joel and Kathy have given me tools to apply to my second marriage so that we can have the best marriage ever. Through this application I can be healed by my husband.

Thank you Joel and Kathy for sharing your own circumstances to bless others. You have definitely been a blessing to us.

Shannon (of Kirk and Shannon)

J & K,

This weekend was absolutely vital for me. I am married to an outstanding lady who deserves a Christ-like husband and now there's an opportunity for that to happen. I've read both books and participated actively in the forum for several months, but I was only on a long ambulance ride to the hospital where I could get a good diagnosis of my real problems and the prescription for my recovery.

Thank you. I was trying to die to self and didn't know the specific ways that my arrested development was blocking major progress. You've helped unlock the keys to what the problems are and given very practical advice on how to overcome them.

This weekend is the start of building an Outrageously Happy Marriage.

In Him,
Paul

PS. I'm talking about myself, not my wife, because she's NOT been the problem, I have!

Joel and Kathy,

This weekend is Life Changing! Joel and Kathy taught us so much this weekend. I have realized that my

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thoughts of marriage were completely wrong. Joel and Kathy have an approach to marriage that I have never seen or heard before. Marriage to me after this weekend is my ministry. If I ever want to fulfill God's purpose in my life, I know after this weekend it starts with my wife First!

As Jesus went first for all of us, in order that we could be saved, so also we must go first for our wives. I encourage anyone struggling in a bad marriage, make the effort to come to an Intensive, it will set you and your wife free.

Men our wives need us to be a Man! A Godly Man! CHRIST-LIKE to our wives. I am so grateful to Joel and Kathy for their ministry - for not only helping Jenn and myself, but for the thousands of couples they have helped also. God created marriage to glorify him; Joel and Kathy will help you to get to the place where your marriage will Glorify God!

Joel and Kathy, thank you so much for this weekend, you not only desired an Outrageously Happy Marriage for yourselves, but want the same thing for other marriages. You are a Blessing from God,

Adam (and Jennifer)

Joel and Kathy,

This weekend has been Intense! There is so much great information from Joel and Kathy. No doubt, if put to use, we will live outrageously happy marriage! It is unlike any other message you have heard. Sign up as soon as you can, what are you waiting for?

Jennifer (and Adam)

Joel and Kathy,

I came to this weekend really doubting that it would do a whole lot to change things in our marriage. I have been so blessed! My husband is starting to understand some things I have been trying to tell him about the hurt he has caused in my heart. I have come away from the weekend with hope! I am expecting an Outrageously Happy Marriage!

Nancy (and Lee)

Joel and Kathy,

I really enjoyed this weekend. I thought the values for the money spent was outstanding. The prayer time with Joel's mom was very powerful. Every couple should attend the Intensive!

Lee (and Nancy)

Joel and Kathy,

This has been a paradigm changing weekend for me. The concept of dying to myself and what it really means, now means that I have to make profound changes in the way I relate to my wife. I'm now committed to initiating a lot of stuff, such as hugs, kisses, affection, family evenings and so on. I'm a new man and my wife must benefit from here on!

Thank God for your Ministry!

David (From Barbados, West Indies!)

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Joel and Kathy,

I hope my husband has become teachable and able to do. We have "heard" many messages in the past but he has not kept many in practice. My wounds are deep but I will give him yet another chance. I hope that our children can be healed and not have the pain and struggles.

Shelonda (and Shawn)

Joel and Kathy,

My wife and I have been married for over twenty years. Neither of us has been happy for a long time. I can now see the root/cause of her unhappiness and my unhappiness. This weekend I've been given what I need to bring happiness back into our marriage.

Sean (and Shelonda)

Joel and Kathy,

We definitely received our breakthrough weekend! I was so afraid of getting my hopes up and then being disappointed. I was afraid that our lives would not change when we got home. Yesterday God removed the fear through prayer. Now, I can hope and believe again. I believe life will not return to normal but that, supernaturally, we will live different lives. It is resurrection weekend and miracles will continue. I suppose it's always resurrection weekend on God's timeline!

Laura (and Rodney)

Joel and Kathy,

The weekend is Intense. In a way, this was necessary to make up for the lack of Intensity brought to my marriage for nearly 18 years!

I am now keenly aware of the effects of my lack of seriousness upon our marriage

What I am convinced will save my marriage from further deterioration- and take it to a new height that I haven't been aware existed- are the following principles:

1. Dying to myself.
2. Combating my arrested Development, and
3. Becoming an Initiator.

I sincerely believe that by practicing #1's and #3 - I can change the life of my wife and my family.

Rodney (and Laura)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for the time you invest in your intensives. Finally, Jeff is listening to my heart and not shutting me out. I can see that it is going to take concerted effort to break old habits, but at least we have been put on the right path....finally!

I asked Jeff what his thoughts were at the beginning of the intensive. He said he was thinking, "Finally, Rhonda has found something that puts ALL the blame on the husband!" LOL I asked him what turned his thinking

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around and he said it was a gradual process.

I will say that we didn't make much progress until after we met with you two for our private session and dealt with some of our issues.

We learned so much and what we learned was very helpful in understanding how a husband and wife should work together. One miracle for us was that we actually talked for the entire five-hour drive back home after the intensive. This was a FIRST for us!!! Jeff even took the initiative and brought up some of the issues that had been discussed in our private session, reiterating that he would deal with some of the issues that need to be dealt with. This is a huge step.

I can say that I feel much calmer as a result of this changed attitude in Jeff. Before the intensive, I was irritated and agitated with our situation ALL THE TIME!! Now, I can finally relax because I know Jeff will really listen to my heart. This is another huge step. I realize, though, that we have a lot of work ahead of us before things are totally healed and changes are permanent.

Thank you for the follow-up contract that we each had to initial. This is a big help. I was concerned about follow-up and whether we would be able to stay on the right path. You have provided follow-up guidelines, a safety net, and help if we need it. If we fail, it is only because we fail to follow through on the things we promised to do.

The dinner on Saturday night was a wonderful culmination of the weekend. Absolutely everyone was helped by this intensive and it was a happy, joyful time together. It was good to laugh and have some humor and to get to know and learn from each other in a relaxed setting. Thank you for your commitment to healing marriages and for giving us HOPE that our original dreams of a happy marriage ARE possible!

Rhoda (of Jim and Rhonda)

Before the Weekend Marriage Intensive on November 13-16, I felt like my marriage was over.

We have been together for 20 yrs. I was so lonely in my marriage and felt like nothing could break down the walls between us. I prayed every day to love my husband and to be in love with him.

Every day was really hard for me. It seemed to me that no matter what I tried to do to get him to "love me" or "make me feel important to him" it was a waste of time. Some things might work for a little while and I'd be happy and then he would go back to his old ways and my heart would feel heavy again.

I was feeling like a worn out psycho Yo-Yo.

We read the red book (Man of her dreams, women of his). My husband was Mr. Wonderful for a few weeks after that, but then came the old habits again, and the yo-yo feelings were back. It truly felt hopeless.

I asked him to go to the weekend with Kathy and Joel and he came back with multiple reasons why we should wait. I was angry and thought that if he won't go then it's his fault and I can blame it on him. He agreed to go but still would not make any of the arrangements. He came home last minute on the day we were supposed to go so we were late to the most important appointment of our married life (next to our wedding).

During the second day of the weekend, he started changing. He began opening up and apologizing for the "pain that he has caused" By the end of the weekend we felt liberated. My husband says that he has his wife back. I tell him that I never left.

If you think that your marriage is over and it can't be fixed, then you are wrong. Joel and Kathy, through honest, sharing, and God's grace, can help you take your blinders off. They can help you refill your heart with the love that you once shared with your spouse. He will become more than the man of her dreams and she will become more than the women of his. I know it's going to be better than I could ever have imagined.

Most people say "Well what do you expect when you are together 20 years?"

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I say I expect an amazing, open, honest, carefree relationship with my Best Friend, My lover, and My Husband, who loves and cherishes me with every breath.

Thank you Joel and Kathy for following God's calling for you to share your pain so that others can heal.

Your Sister in Christ,
Deb Davies

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I want to let you know that I was a little skeptical about the "Intensive Weekend" event that we attended last weekend during discussions with Deb prior to the event. Deb and I had heard that couples came from all over the country to listen to your counsel, but it is sometimes hard to believe that such a powerful life resource is sitting right in your backyard.

I found the intensive to be an amazing, life-altering experience that can only have been better if I had done it earlier in my life.

Looking back on the events that unfolded to bring us to your intensive, it is clear to see God's hand in all that took place. The fact that Deb "happened" to cross paths with you at the grocery store when we were going through one of the low points in our marriage got things started down the right path for us. The timely event of the "Fireproof" movie and the fact that we were able to attend it together as couples was also rather "convenient".

I'll never forget how well the two of you dealt with the death of Shekinah just weeks earlier. Events like that cause even average to decent marriages to fall apart.

Like probably 90%+ of guys out there, I wasn't keen on reading your book(s). After all, my marriage wasn't so bad (so I thought) and all of the other books that Deb tried to make me read were so poorly written in my opinion. I was willing to give your book a chance, more out of curiosity than anything, because I wanted to see what the old ball coach had to say. (Note, Joel coached the Davie's twins in baseball when they were 9 or 10 years old - and won the championship!)

I found myself relating pretty closely to some of the actions spelled out in the book, so it was easy to continue to find out what else I had screwed up along the way.

I tried some of the principles in the book and found an almost instant response in Deb. This felt really good and was the right thing to be doing.

Just a couple of weeks after this revelation, travel for work and a resulting crazy workload caused me to fall back into my old mode of not listening and/or meeting Deb's other needs. I'm sure that she felt like she was back to square one if not worse.

So, the intensive was the real kick in the butt that I needed all along to force me to really understand your teachings. During the intensive, I felt that you stuck to the principles in your books (and life) and expanded on those that need emphasis in a way that can only be handled in person.

I saw five (5) other couples and one single guy enter the meeting room on Thursday with frowns, disconnected looks what seemed to be little hope for their marriages. The couples came from all walks of life, ethnic backgrounds, ages and issues that had developed between them. By the time we left on Sunday afternoon, I saw a lot of smiles, hugs, hand-holding and no doubt many mended marriages. You two are incredible and an obvious blessing to many. Please keep up the good (God) work that you are doing.

Warmest Regards,
Gary Davies

Note from Joel and Kathy: We met with Gary and Deb on Friday after the Intensive, and their relationship has changed so dramatically that we got to just visit and enjoy the company!

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Dear Joel and Kathy,

We know that this must be a difficult holiday for your family and we want you to know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. We can't imagine what it must be like to not have your precious daughter with you today. I am sure that she is up in heaven anticipating when you can all be together again with no more tears or separation. We marvel at how strong you have been and how you have not stopped in your mission to "give the devil a black eye" and resurrect marriages to new life. Your love for the Lord, each other, and the body of Christ continues to shine through in every detail of your lives. I know that Shekinah must be so proud of you both.

Our marriage has continued to improve over the past 3 1/2 weeks. This is the longest things have gone without Paul creating some type of crisis. Up until this point his record was a week of good behavior. We believe that our miracle is finally here and that we are being restored. Paul assures me that at this point there is no turning back for him.

Our children Brent (2) and Charity (5) were so happy today. There was pure joy on their faces as we spent the day together as a family. Paul and I were cuddling on the couch this morning and our daughter commented that "Daddy finally learned to be nice" with a big smile. Both of our children have been starting to thrive these past few weeks. Our son looks forward to his father coming home every night and has started looking forward to the times when we all play together as a family. This is something that we never really did before because Paul was always busy working, playing video games, or watching television.

Our daughters teacher told us on Monday that Charity is finally coming out of her shell at school and that she is impressed with how confident she has become in such a short amount of time. The teacher had been very concerned less than 1 month ago at our parent teacher conference. The two times that we were separated we tried to explain the situation to her by saying that Daddy was living somewhere else "taking a time out and learning to be nice". So I guess that in her mind he has finally arrived.

We went to Paul's mothers house for Thanksgiving and they were also overjoyed that we seemed to be getting along so well. They really did not believe my reports of Paul finally getting on track until they saw it with their own eyes. They have never witnessed Paul be so helpful with the children or attentive to me before. Usually he would hide out with his step-dad and brothers while I chased the children around by myself. Today he played with them more than I did. When cheerleaders flashed on the screen during the football game, Paul turned away from the television and whispered to me that I was the only woman that he wanted to look at. His mother even thanked me for "hanging in there" and not giving up on him.

It is truly an act of God that our children are living in a peaceful intact home today. We know that the Lord led us to your books. He used your testimony and the testimony of others restored after taking hold of your new marriage paradigms to give us hope. We are praising God that your family has showed such strength and that you have continued to battle for marriages through this tough season of your lives.

We fully expected you to cancel our intensive at the end of September and when you didn't that really spoke to us both. We would just like to say thank you that we were able to enjoy a wonderful holiday with our children today because of your strong faith, sacrifice, and willingness to live out the Christian life for real.

This Thanksgiving together would not have been possible without us finding your ministry. We are truly blessed to have benefited from your wisdom, faith and perseverance and for that we are very, very thankful.

Kim and Paul

Joel and Kathy,

The way I look at what you taught me this weekend is like becoming new-born. When people ask me why I asked Jesus in my heart and to forgive me of all my sins is, "why not?" They ask why they should do it. My answer is "why not?" I mean, think of the alternatives and so let's see heaven or hell.. hmm.. So, why not do it?

So maybe not everything you said made sense or made me feel very good, but why not do it?

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My marriage has been a wreck and I have been miserable, so why not do everything you said to do and see? Why not?

Jeff (and Debbie)

Hi Joel-n-Kathy,

We had the greatest time at the Intensive Weekend with everyone and now Jeff is telling the whole world, our kids and anyone else who will listen to him about your ministry. It is a wonderful thing!!

We completed our two date nights as of last night. It is very nice to have these down as a "must-do" as I have looked forward to them.

He's smiling, hugging and kissing, but only up to about 8 times? Maybe, with one or two phone calls a day saying, "I Love You." No emails or texts.

God Bless the Davissons a gazillion times over and over and over again!

Debbie (and Jeff)

Hi Debbie,

This is a wonderful report! Send him a text and say, "Send me a love note text?" Ditto for e-mail.

Eight hugs, smiles and kisses is good. Especially when working all day.

Had the two dates! Wonderful!

He is telling everyone.. wonderful!

So far, so good.

Some men simply need the knowledge and a positive response from their wife so they see immediate return on their efforts (especially business people...smile)

For some men, that is all it takes and they literally do this the rest of their life without a bunch of help needed later. (Just reminders from their wife)

Maybe you have one of them! The weekly calls and other homework will keep it all going until it becomes who he is - and then he will be that man forever!

Blessings,

J and K

From Debbie:

yes, will do the asking til all of 'you' kicks in! adios for now, d

Thank you so much, Joel and Kathy.

This is a blessing from the Lord and THE MIRACLE our marriage needed.

After giving up on my marriage and my husband, having my divorce papers and the decision made, here it

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comes: The Intensive Weekend Miracle! - and especially the prescription! To make love for 30 days!!!

That's the real reason that made me change my mind and give the opportunity to my husband to change and GROW UP!!! After all, that's why God create us; to love each other and make love. Let's be obedient! Pilar) and Freddie

This Weekend Marriage Intensive has been very important to me; because I learned a lot of stuff and most how to hear my wife's heart and understand her need and how to fulfill her in every way. Thank you SO MUCH!

Freddie (of Fred and Pilar)

Joel and Kathy,

The intensive has given me the understanding as to why I have failed in my marriage, Spiritually, emotionally and Physically.

In addition, it provided the tools I can use to change. To become the Man God wants me to be.....serving my wife....burying the old man....becoming more like Christ.....Demonstrating God's love for His World.

Ralph (of Ralph and Stephanie)

Joel and Kathy, Amazement!! Readers Digest Version: I found your site 5 days after I texted my estranged husband for a divorce. Felt extremely validated and relieved. Sent an email thanking you. To my surprise, you answered my email! After a few back and forth emails, I was told I should send my husband your books- instead I called him, suggested an Intensive and here we are! I came ONLY because I was told I would not be a "Christian Girl" if I didn't give my husband an opportunity to change and heal our marriage. OUCH! So, as my flesh screamed, I obeyed and now it's Sunday afternoon, my husband is loving and healing my heart and we're holding hands! He will be moving home soon.....miraculous!!

Thank you so very much!!

Stephanie (of Stephanie and Ralph)

Joel and Kathy,

The Intensive weekend was amazing. Hearing these principles from the perspective of your own experience, your sensitive and affective individual counseling session, combined with the dynamic of seeing the Lord working in other couples, results in a powerful experience -and the knowledge of continued help and accountability brings hope for change and growth. Thank you for dedicating your lives to this vital ministry.

God has used you over the last year and this weekend to bring healing to me and start the process of rescuing my marriage. God is good. Bless you, Bless you!

Miss Jane Bennett (and Mr. Bingley - forum names!)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for giving of your time and energy to give Miss Jane Bennett and me such wonderful help! I appreciate your kindness and transparency in your books and during the conference.

I wish I had known all of this BEFORE we got married.

I am looking forward to seeing these principles transform me (first) and our marriage.

Charles Bingley (and Miss Jane Bennett - forum names!)

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From Mr. Bingley

In 1976 I entered into a covenant with Miss Jane Bennet that I did not keep. I did not honor and cherish her, nor did I love her as "Christ loves the Church." I ignored her pleas for help and her pleas for us to seek

counseling. I thought that I had all the answers and that if she would simply be a loving wife our marriage would be fine! My anger and selfishness grew until Miss Jane could no longer bear it.

For over two years through the ministry of several counselors, culminating in an intensive with Joel and Kathy in May, 2009, the prayers and interventions of our dear family and friends, and Miss Jane's dogged determination, God has brought about wonderful changes in my life. Jane was convinced that a life of misery was not God's will for us. She could not continue to "submit and suffer" and enable me in my sin. After she found Joel and Kathy's ministry in March, 2008, which gave her a voice, she firmly and lovingly spoke truth into my life as a faithful helpmeet. Jane would no longer settle for the crumbs I was tossing her or for the pride that kept me from laying my life down for her.

I am beginning to understand that my chief ministry on earth is to study my wife and know her, in order to sacrifice my life for her. For me to be the husband Jane needs me to be I must by God's grace be the man God wants me to be. When I began to lay down my pride and prioritize Jane's desires and needs, I began to love her with a depth that I did not know was possible. The love and acceptance that I have received from her in return have made the last several weeks the happiest of my life. Since I have begun truly loving Miss Jane, it has been a joy to see her blossom, to see her joy of life return, and to laugh with her as she shows her sense of humor that I had nearly forgotten she has.

A few weeks ago I was baptized. This month Miss Jane and I are seeking to become members of the church we have attended since the church met in a storefront. Today we celebrate the renewal of our wedding vows complete with new rings and a new date for our anniversary. Rejoice with us! To God be praise and glory!

*Mr. Bingley
November 15, 2009*

From Miss Jane Bennet:

On the day in March of 2008 that I found Joel and Kathy's ministry, it was as if a ten ton boulder had been lifted from my shoulders. I had thought that I was the only one in the world who had a husband just like mine. And I thought I was trapped. My husband and I were even in counseling at the time, finally. But our counselor, though godly and well-meaning, had no clue how to help someone that did not want help. I began reading on the forum and discovering that there were people, women and men, who understood what I was going through. There were people who understood the truly biblical picture of a marriage and how to get there. I ordered the Davison's books, began writing on the forum, and had hope for the first time that God really could turn our marriage around and give us the joy He intended for our lives together. My husband rejected the books and the teachings at first, but 14 months later, in May of 2009, we finally made it to an intensive where he heard the whole truth for the first time, and we began our journey to an Outrageously Happy Marriage.

An excerpt from my first post, April 20, 2008:

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I have been married to my husband for almost 32 years. I have been unhappy in my marriage since the day after the honeymoon, the day I discovered that there were two "Mr. B.'s." That was the only day that he has ever hurt me physically, but his anger and blaming and rudeness and neglect became the norm. I had no idea

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he was like this. We had not even argued about anything before we were married. He is charming and funny and makes friends easily, but he has no close male friend. He is an extremely private person--even much more private than most men. Until recently he has had no understanding of, nor desire to know how to sustain a relationship, either with me or with his now grown children. He is just starting to learn.

By the time we had been married for less than six months, my heart was dead toward my husband. I had no feelings for him at all. I felt abused and lonely, I was extremely unhappy, and I wanted out of the marriage. We both work for the same Christian ministry. Had I left him or separated from him, we would both have lost our jobs and ministries. In the early months of our marriage and over the years I tried to explain to him over and over again how he was hurting me and destroying our relationship. I begged him on many occasions to read a book or to go with me for counseling. He never would. So I went for counseling by myself several different times. The counsel that I received was well-intentioned but not the whole truth, and it kept me trapped in a

situation that rendered me emotionally withered and eventually hopeless. I wish now that I had done something drastic years ago to get my husband's attention.

A year and a half ago, after deciding that I had to do something more to try to save the marriage before I left for good, I forced "Mr. B." into counseling using Matthew 18 principles. His choices were to go with me for counseling with a church staff member, or if he would not, the church board of elders would be told about our situation. Not wanting anyone to know about our problems, he agreed to go to counseling. But first he had threatened me with divorce if I did not give up the counseling idea. I told him he could do what he wished, but I was going to do the right thing. We went into counseling. Then followed an excruciating year of no results, more hardening on his part, and well-intentioned but untrained and ineffective (and sometimes very hurtful) counseling.

I just received your books and started reading them. I will ask "Mr. B." to read them, too. I already asked him if we could attend one of your weekend intensives, and he said absolutely not, because he does not want anyone else knowing about our situation.

It will be a miracle if I could ever have feelings for him. He is still the last person that I even want to be with. I don't know how long I can stay in this situation while I still feel nothing, and while I ache for a close relationship in which I feel love and feel loved.

*In Christ's unfailing love,
Miss Jane*

More details of our story ... for several years before we finally got into counseling together, I was in communication with a former boyfriend who called our home out of the blue and actually talked to Mr. B. before he talked to me. It turned into a long-distance emotional affair, via email and eventually phone. If someone had predicted to me that I would get involved in something like that, I would never have believed them. But I understand now how vulnerable an abused, hurting woman is, and how easily she can fall. My husband, even when he knew about the affair, was powerless to do anything because of his own sin. I couldn't understand at the time why he wouldn't jump in, even when I asked him to, and do what it took to woo my heart and put our marriage back together.

In June of 2008, while we were with counselor # 3, the Lord answered my prayer that any hidden things would come to light. I had been told by one of the forum helpers that my

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husband's profile looked like that of a sex addict—an extremely private person, avoiding any relationship, lots of anger and blaming. There had been what I thought were random incidents of porn use. I was ignorant, naïve, and unsuspecting that it was a 40-year addiction, starting when he was a teenager. Mr. B. had experienced seasons of victory, even long seasons, but always fell back into sin because he never confessed to me or anyone else or got accountability and help.

He lost his job that summer, I had to change from part-time to full-time status, and we had to move. Right after he lost his job, there was a brief time of repentant humility. But then he quickly returned to his selfish, arrogant abuse.

A year later, in May, 2009, we finally made it to an intensive. It was there that the whole truth was presented to us for the first time. The scales began to drop from his eyes, and I received great encouragement in my role as the helper. The unique support system for couples after the intensive—the conference calls, the forum, and the DVD's--was a life line that made continued growth, progress, and success possible.

Mr. Bingley dragged his feet in laying down his pride and dying to self. His defensiveness, selfishness, and arrogance were driving me to a point of insanity. There was a lot of healing to do, and he was not willing to do it, even though he finally had the tools in his hands.

This is a post that I wrote on the forum's private section when I gave him one week to prove that he was going to work at healing our marriage, or I was filing for a legal separation.

September 8, 2009:

I wanted to update those of you in the private section with exactly what is going on so you can pray effectively.

My dad is the one that got the ball rolling yesterday. When he met with my husband, he really blasted him. He wouldn't let up and wouldn't let Mr. B. get away with all his blame shifting and defending. He even said, "[Mr. B.], I don't understand you! You have a personality problem and a brain problem!" He prayed with him, and Dad's prayer was a continuing sermon of rebuke and incredulous imploring for help for a proud and clueless man.

Then my sons met with their dad last night. They did not want to have dropped the ball in helping their dad if a separation does indeed happen. They had no plan of what they were going to say to him. But as the conversation progressed, they felt that God gave them just the right words.

#2 son told his dad, "If I were about to lose the most important and precious human relationship I have on

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earth in five days, I would not spend those five days working my job. I would be at home on my knees asking God to change me." They talked to their dad about canceling his students for the rest of the week and spending the time in prayer, and Mr. B. was resistant to doing it. #2 son said it was a no-brainer to him, but to his dad, who has spent his whole life putting his job above his wife, it was a huge deal. Losing that income was a big part of the huge deal. But they kept pressing him with what was most important. Mr. B. even said that just giving up and quitting was a tempting option. He didn't think he was able to

fix things and to win my heart. He told them he really didn't know what to do. It is hard for me to believe he could even say that. #2 son believes it is a combination of pride and radical cluelessness, despite all the teaching he has had, and the fact that Satan has a real stronghold in his dad's heart and brain. It is taking radical surgery and will be a lot of hard work with the help of the Holy Spirit, and prayers of other believers, to break those strongholds.

The boys gave him directives, which they were not sure he was going to follow, but he did. They asked him to contact a few close friends to ask them to pray with him this week. He emailed or called his three board members. The board member who is a pastor is coming over tomorrow morning to pray with him. #2 son was reminding me this morning that his dad's spending time in prayer before God will change him. It will open him up to the working of the Holy Spirit to do a real heart change.

The boys weren't sure even at the end of their conversation if he was going to cancel his students. But he sent emails to all his students last night and probably called today's students.

The boys talked to him about being baptized. He said he was open to it, but it didn't have to happen this week. #1 son said, "Why NOT this week?" If Mr. B. humbles himself enough to do this, it will indicate a true heart change.

I told Mr. B. I wasn't settling for anything less than a real, obvious heart change.

He called me this morning and asked if he could bring me lunch. When he came, he told me how he had spent his morning: on the phone with the pastor friend, with his sons, time in prayer, reading, and doing menial tasks that he could do while praying. (I hope folding laundry was one!)

The boys are each coming over to pray with him at various times, and they are checking in with him to hold him accountable to how he is spending his time. #2 son encouraged me to be at home as much as possible and give Mr. B. opportunities to connect with me.

So God used this triple-barreled attack to help Mr. B. see the seriousness of what is happening and get his eyes part way pried open.

Am I blessed to have a dad and sons like this, or what?

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I covet your prayers that God would indeed remove the strongholds this week and begin a miracle of grace.

God did indeed begin a miracle of grace! An excerpt of a forum post that I wrote on March 27, 2010, briefly sums it up:

It is truly amazing ... looking back to a year ago ... we were signed up for the May intensive, and I was hanging on by my fingernails. Even after the intensive, Mr. B. resisted laying down his pride and loving me as Christ loves the church. But in September, he surrendered to the Lord, was baptized, and began to grow in Christlikeness by leaps and bounds.

I have been in the fireplace room/kitchen reading on the forum tonight. Mr. B. has been in his office working on taxes. A few minutes ago, he quietly brought all his stuff to the kitchen island and continued working ... to be near me. What a difference a year makes. What a difference a Godward heart makes. Thank you sweet Lord for all You have done and are doing in our lives.

From Mr. Bingley:

I am forever grateful for Joel and Kathy's ministry to us. In my mind there are two huge changes that their ministry affected in our marriage. First, the intensive debunked for me the false idea of male supremacy. This attitude is deeply ingrained in our society in both the Christian and the worldly communities. Second, my wife was given a voice and was enabled in her role as helpmeet to me. We learned that her needs are legitimate and God-given, and I began to learn from experience that there is great joy in meeting them. We praise God for this ministry that He used to bring me back to God, and to put us on the path of growing our marriage God's way.

Dear Joel and Kathy,

One of the best parts of the intensive was to watch the transformation of the lives of the other couples. We looked like a bunch of convicts at the first meeting captive to our destructive habits.

I came here at the end of my rope, hoping my husband will truly understand the material so we will no longer be a disgrace to the name of Christ.

It was good to be in a setting where we can be transparent with one another.

(not sure who this one was from!)

WOW!!!

It worked! We got our miracle breakthrough! Thank you, Thank you! God bless you and your family abundantly! We appreciate your giving and caring for us as loving parents to us messed up kids!

My eyes were opened to God's revelation - especially my own emotionally arrested causing me to tolerate my

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husband's abuse TOO LONG!!! I pray for your worldwide ministry to transform and heal marriages.

I can't wait to see you on international TV. I will always be eternally grateful for how you were able to reach Jim and address very real and yet unknown issues. He truly IS a NEW MAN!

Love Trina and John

Joel and Kathy,

As you know, I have not been a good husband. I have hurt my wife to the core of her being for over 25 years. I have behaved towards her in very hurtful ways.

The marriage intensive has pointed out the reasons I have done this and more importantly, has shown me how to change. To become the man God wants me to be and to be the Man my wife needs me to be.

I've tried for over 25 years to change using traditional methods of marriage advise to no avail. I'm determined to follow the new paradigm, to love my wife the way she needs. To listen to her heart and heal her soul.

John (of John and Trina)

Joel and Kathy,

I wish this program had been available to me 15 years ago. It put value into my place as a wife. I was able to understand why I continued in a marriage that brought me such hurt and pain for 34 years. The intensive is so fantastic because it has given me information to move ahead and look forward to tomorrow. I have hope for my marriage and know my husband has learned through the weekend how his actions have affected me. I am so impressed I want to give the weekend to my 2 married sons and their wives as a gift so their marriages will never have to go to a place in need of recovery. I will meet with my minister and tell him how fantastic the Intensive weekend was and to recommend it to any couple he ministers to in a marital crisis. I have an open mind and heart that we can work together to reach and celebrate our 35th anniversary, with additional help.
Jerilyn (and Jim)

Joel and Kathy's Intensive marriage weekend is an exciting New method to quickly get a failing marriage back on track. Husband's eyes will be opened to the pain their actions have caused in their wives and husbands will learn why they create negative feelings in their wives through their actions.

Wives will learn how to forgive their husbands and warmly respond to their husbands. Positive changes. Failed marriages will be renewed for a fresh start.

Jim (and Jerilyn)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Drew and I were a mess when we arrived.

I knew this was our last hope.

He was extremely passive and unobservant - so he had no idea there was a problem.

Drew's content happiness was my misery.

Before finding Joel and Kathy's books I was working overtime to "Submit & Respect" as I had been taught.

I battled with this new teaching about my husband being my source of life.

On the first night, after the first session drew said, "We didn't really need to come here. We could've just read the books."

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This attitude created a wall that stuck around until Friday night and then REAL Breakthrough happened Saturday.

I'm not going to say I have my miracle...yet, but we are definitely on our way.

We have committed to staying faithful on calls, forums, etc.

Thank You Joel and Kathy!!

Jenny B. (of Drew and Jenny)

I had no idea how I was supposed to treat my wife.

I had no idea of how bad I was treating her...

How stupid could I be?

This weekend has given me the tools to deal with my past hurts and how to move forward in my relationship with my wife.

Thank you for showing/teaching me how to have a happy marriage.

Andrew B.

Kathleen and I have been separated for 2 years, living in different homes while trying to remain friends and praying for a miracle.

We had an appointment set for Thursday with an attorney to start the divorce procedure and instead we canceled it and came to Daytona to meet Joel and Kathy.

We are moving back in together and confident that there will be healing in our marriage.

Thank you Joel and Kathy and may God continue to bless your ministry.

Jim and Kathleen P.

What The Intensive Meant To Me...WOW.. The Weekend Marriage Intensive with Joel and Kathy has truly been a wonderful and amazing experience!

Before the intensive and before reading the books, I felt so hopeless.

I felt like everything was my fault and I didn't know how to turn things around. I started to notice a change in my husband before the intensive and then once we started hearing Joel and Kathy's teachings both of our eyes were opened.

I felt so much peace, comfort and HOPE again.

My husband stepped up and took responsibility.

This was definitely an overnight miracle. I am looking forward to going home and put the teachings into action.

We have only been married for 3 years...

but the spark that we had when we first married is back!

I am so THANKFUL we came early in our marriage troubles.

I am looking forward to an OURTRAGIOUSLY HAPPY MARRIAGE!

Lindsay L.

HOW THE INTENSIVE HAS HELPED MY MARRIAGE...

About four weeks ago before I started to read the books

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I thought there was no hope at all for our marriage. I had given up - until two weeks before the intensive when I started to read the books.

The books gave me a new outlook on my marriage. It opened my eyes to the fact that the problems were all me. Before I read the books, I had blamed everything on my wife.

Now that I have been to the intensive I am excited to start the journey to having a great marriage and making my wife fall in love with me again.

I just want to thank Joel and Kathy for giving me the right tools and opening my eyes to what the true problems have been in our marriage before it was too late.

Thanks, Mathew

I have read almost every marriage book out there and after 35 years our marriage was almost over. We attended Joel and Kathy's seminar and thru their ministry, my husband finally understood what his role was as a Christian husband...To Love His Wife.

E.S.

I came to the Weekend Marriage Intensive because a friend felt that this is what I needed to fix my marriage. He was right! I've read many books, counseling- whatever - but any change was temporary at best. This weekend I finally had a miracle placed in front of me and I see the problem.

That problem is me and I see that now instead of viewing my wife as either the source or contributor to the problems in our marriage. My lack of love was the hindrance all this time and I leave determined to be a new man.

T.S.

I would say this weekend has brought a lot of things to my attention. I now realize that my wife is not really crazy! Now I have the tools to have a happy marriage and a "happy wife - "happy life".

This weekend totally hit the nail on the head as far as my way of my life in my marriage and my walk with God.

Our getting here was the will of God, were before I would have thought it was a coincidence.

Mr. Quick (Joe)

Before this weekend I had little hope about our short 3 years of marriage. It has been a long journey for us and our family! I feel now that we have the right tools to start on the right track- my husband seems to want this more now than ever before so thank you both Joel and Kathy for this Miracle.

What this weekend meant so far?

It means that I have a second chance to save myself and save our marriage. It means my eyes are now opened and I see the errors (sins) of my past ways. It means I now know why and how I have to change.

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It means that I have a new beginning with Christ, my wife, my family and my life. It means I'll have more sex! (exclamation point added by Joel and Kathy)

BoSox61

This weekend gave me direction and affirmation that I needed to open my heart and arms to family members and it affirmed to me that I wasn't crazy! It gave me hope for restoration in a marriage that I thought was OVER/DONE/GONE. Joel and Kathy are truly in the trenches with you. They have lived through it and came out on the other side victorious and they are living it and loving it and will walk with you until you and your spouse achieve it.

Thanks for your counsel, support and blessings.

COCONUT

This intensive has brought hope to me after years of feeling hopeless. My husband and I are connecting in way I always dreamed about. We know have the tools and truth to create the marriage God originally intended us to have. Joel and Kathy speak the truth in love, in a way that keeps you laughing and engaged.

Desert Rose

The weekend intensive has changed the way I look at my marriage. Joel and Kathy do an amazing job explaining things in a way making it easy to understand. My eyes were opened to an all new perspective on how to view my wife, myself and our marriage. I honestly and truly believe that now I have the tools and knowledge to bring the healing my wife needs, and the ability to do what it takes to have an outrageously happy marriage.

Scooter

This weekend has given me great hope for an outrageously happy marriage! It addresses what we lived through in our marriage. We have already begun to have healing and are on our way to re-marriage. This time we will be doing it by the book (literally!!)

This weekend has given us a way to make our second chance at this marriage a reality- a double way to have a marriage as God intended it. I know now that Brian can be the man of my dreams and I can be the woman of his!

Laura H.

The fact that I must lay my life down for my wife really hit me between my eyes. I think I finally got it. I love my wife and I must listen to her and meet her needs. I want to do this and I will do it.

I will be a good husband to my wife and help heal the wounds that I caused. I will nip my critical spirit in the bud and love her, encourage her, praise her, and comfort her. Spending time with both Joel and Kathy has been life changing. Watching them teach together with fun, enthusiasm and with love was awesome.

Thank you, Brian B.

This weekend has been an eye opener. I thought our marriage was over. Joel and Kathy have

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

restored hope in me that my husband can love and give me a gift - a gift of meeting my emotional needs. This has been an awesome experience to know that I was not the only woman feeling the way I was.

Joel and Kathy have been a God Send.

A.S.

I truly did not know how deep the root of my wife's problem was from the seed that I planted.

Then instead of watering her with love, I continued to water the seed of betrayal which turned into a plant. The plant turned into a tree. I fed this tree with more abuse.

The tree then turned into a bean stalk.

I denied, denied, denied, my part in this horror show. I now realize that I have been the leading star in the production!

Thanks to the Davissons, I am equipped now with the demolition tools to tear down the bean stalk and discard the rubble.

Today is a new day. I will plant a bed of roses and an assortment of flowers in my wife's heart.

Many thanks to the Davisson's,
"The Pioneers of the Unlimited Plan"

Troy S.

The Weekend Marriage Intensive has been such a blessing!

We made the decision to come here because our wars over various things had gotten extreme. There wasn't clarity for my husband in the headship (authority) realm which caused such hurt for me.

We are both called and I saw the vision of team ministry. The Lord said "passive aggression" in reference to my husband. I looked it up and was amazed that all I suffered was from that! He wouldn't let me talk without the shut-downs.

Before coming here, my husband took the information and began a great turn around! This has been an amazing weekend with such great truth. We are thrilled to bring this information back to the church and heal the hurting marriages. Thank you for this amazing ministry to heal families!

What a great eye opener, I had no idea how bad I really was and how abusive I had been to my wife. What a great book: "The Man Of Her Dreams, The Woman Of His".

Thank You Both Very Much. You guys and Ladies, you must do this. Save your marriage!
-Clueless Man

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

The weekend has shown me how little I really knew about marriage from a biblical perspective.
I am amazed and my eyes are open instead of me thinking I know it all.
I have decided to become a "Student"
about an Outrageously Happy marriage.

Thank you Joel and Kathy for teaching us new tools to use in our marriage. I am looking forward to getting home to begin implementing your paradigm.
I pray that God gives me the strength and consistency to be my husband's helpmeet and that my husband is committed to this process to bring healing.

Elizabeth's prayer over us was so touching.
Meeting Josh and Kimberly was special. Joel and Kathy have a gift.
I appreciate your transparency and passion to help other couples.

I cannot thank you enough. Before, there was no hope.
You have made me realize so much. I have been taught wrong all my life about marriage and relationships.
Because of this weekend, I have realized how abusive I have been and how deeply I have hurt and even disappointed my wife's heart. There are many questions that have been answered about my life and my arrested development.

I never imagined that by loving my wife the way she needs me to love her, I would be healed. I am elated about this process and getting started on an extremely happy marriage.

I promise to do all that is required to restore my marriage.
I will stay on calls, read literature, call you if we need help on problems. Again, I thank you for giving the knowledge to change the world about how it is in regards to marriage.

Joel and Kathy,

I truly look forward to an Outrageously Happy Marriage with Paula.
Both of you are so terrific at what you are doing and have done.
Your teaching is not in vain. Thank you Kathy for breaking me down like you did. I cannot explain what happened, but I needed to hear words like you delivered them in that moment!

Thank you,

Bob the builder

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Kathy & Joel,

Thank you so much for a wonderful weekend! I feel you have opened my husband's eyes, and I have learned a lot too! We will continue to work at our marriage in a firm and loving way. I am looking forward to our Outrageously Happy Marriage and thank you for bringing Kathy's Mother in-law to pray for us!

Love. Paula

This has been a great opening and start of my growing as a loving Husband, Person and Christian.

Thank you,

T.G

Joel and Kathy have provided hope for my marriage. I had decided to divorce my husband after four and a half years of physical/emotional abuse and nonstop lying. Kathy got my husband to make a 30 day commitment to try their teachings and she will provide accountability with allowing me to keep in touch with her whenever he breaks his promise. I know that I am not alone in this struggle. Joel and Kathy will be there for me and my husband going forward. They truly feel like family and I love them dearly.

Bright Dawn (Michelle McGregor)

THE WEEKEND FROM INTERNAL HELL:

The class was clearly not something I wanted or thought I needed. However, my wife clearly did, and I will take some great points and new ways to do things. It was an excellent chance to look within myself, and realize my issues. I am glad I had the chance to come, and I look forward to a better marriage.

W.M.

What Joel and Kathy's weekend was for me:

I was the wife who so desperately wanted to be loved (with AGAPE love) from my husband. My nurturing side gave too much grace, while my "take charge side" pushed and pushed.

This weekend (my 2nd intensive) showed me how to balance it out in a way that would serve God, receive from my husband and love my husband the way I was intended too. In the midst of an unbalanced world I have found thru this ministry balance in my marriage.

Happy, Happy, Happy - my safe place; my refuge from the world,

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

inspired by God, thru Joel and Kathy's ministry.

Thank you Lord for opening my mind and keeping me from going to the bitter side. It was really tough but you saw me thru it. Amen Amen

Dar

What Joel and Kathy's weekend did for me:

At Joel and Kathy's Weekend Marriage Intensive, I was opened up to what some of my past life was. There was so much buried and hiding inside me for so many years that I didn't know or remember.

This weekend has been an eye and heart opening experience for me. My life is changing for the good.

My wife is alive for the first time in a very long time.

Thank you so much for all you have done. I came to life and it passed to my wife. This is a great weekend! J & K have your answers!

Dennis

Testimony:

Dear Joel and Kathy

We want to thank you for the blessing your books have been to our marriage. Your inspired message about how the husband is to love the bride as Christ loves us has impacted Ed dramatically.

Since reading your books he has been applying the principles and I feel like I have a new husband.

We realize now that we have already received our miracle! We are now on our way to a second honeymoon so we can have a special time of "Livin' it and Lovin' it!"

Thank you for taking the time to put into the words the message that God clearly gave you and is so needed in hurting marriages.

We are still amazed at how quickly Ed has assimilated the information in your books and has been able to immediately use in our life together. I feel respected and loved as never before in twenty years of marriage.

God bless you as you continue to work with hurting couples. You may include us as one of your success stories. If we run into speed bumps we know your ministry will be there for us. We ask for your prayers as we begin our new journey together.

Warmly

Karyn and Ed Bosch

The marriage intensive weekend has meant a tremendous deal. I learned a great deal about being the husband and father I should have always been, as well as usable tools and materials to help me become that man. Much of the information was completely new - I wish I had known before, as I believe my marriage would have been completely different. Thank the Lord that our children will have this knowledge prior to their getting married. This is information everyone should have and Joel and Kathy are truly gifted.

ML

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Joel and Kathy, Thank you for portraying your life in the seminar! I appreciate all the information - past (bad) + present (good). The group session was great. I know we are not the only ones struggling. I read both books, but the seminar taught me so much more. Looking forward to a great marriage! Thank you both!

Steve L

What Joel and Kathy's intensive did for me

God has never forsaken my marriage the way I have. God has never abandoned my family the way I have. God has only shown my wife that He loves her with the deepest way possible. Since the we watched the DVD intensive first we went to Daytona expecting God to do more for our marriage. We came expecting God to move us to a higher level of love for one another.

At the intensive I had the opportunity to meet some truly amazing people. Joel and Kathy have pioneered a path of success for my marriage much like the pioneers of the west did for our country. They carved the sculpture of marriage the way God truly intended marriage to be seen. I believe this AGAPE love was that of the days of our ancestors generations ago.

I am grateful for their leadership, advise, and guidance for the past few months and I invite any couples whom need some Amazing Council in their relationship with each other to attend the weekend intensive. Trust me by saying that if it can change my life with my family, your life can be transformed too. It takes determination and true encounter with God to see your miracle unfold. Be true to God, your wife, your family, and yourself and join the train of successful marriages around the globe.

Tom and Mary

Weekend Marriage Intensive Testimony:

My marriage had no hope of survival without this ministry. Within the pages of Joel and Kathy's books were the answers I needed to keep my marriage going strong.

We ordered the DVD intensive which included an over the phone consult and temperament analysis for us. We had even more revelation of why our marriage was failing and how to get it back on track. However, it was the intensive that made all the difference.

You might ask why an intensive is necessary if the information remains relatively the same. For one, each intensive is led by God, so He will custom design what examples are shared, what topics are covered in depth, and what questions will be asked through Joel and Kathy so your individual intensive will meet your personal needs. Also, Joel and Kathy are right in front of you so you can get additional clarification on something you may not understand. Plus there is nothing like the move of the Holy Spirit in that room as you are plowing through hundreds of man hours of research and information in just a few days. The message and prayer from Elizabeth and the private session with Joel and Kathy are unique and invaluable to every marriage restoration.

This intensive experience kick started our restoration into high gear and we are on a journey from one of the worst marriages out there to an incredible testimony of how God can breathe life into us and our relationship. I am excited to see how we will go above and beyond the call so we can be used of God to minister the truth to others who so desperately need it.

Thank you Joel and Kathy for paving the way and being willing to invest your time and energy into us and countless others.

May you be richly blessed and your reward great.

Don't miss out on this opportunity - it will change your life!

Mary and Tom

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

Joel and Kathy are so open and real in their message, presentation and life. It is really fun and revealing to watch how they interact with each other. The beauty Kathy exhibits physically and spiritually is a demonstration of how well this teaching ministers to marriages. My dream for our marriage is to have as good a marriage, or better than Joel and Kathy!

Stan (I think we got the right name with the right note!)

Joel and Kathy, This intensive was great. It answered the questions surrounding why things were the way they were (arrested development, mother/son issues etc.) But most importantly, practical instruction was given on how to make positive changes to die to yourself and become the man God wants you to be as well as the husband your wife needs you to be. For me, the thing that I am taking away that is probably the most important is to "just do whatever Joel and Kathy tell you to do," and STAY WITH THE PROGRAM. God has provided a solution to marriage issues through Joel and Kathy and I am so thankful that friends pointed me to them for our marriage help. Thank you,

Christian

Joel and Kathy,

As a "repeat offender" , this week was a shot in the arm and a kick in the butt. I had to finally get to the point where I was ready to admit my motives and desires. After that I was filled with so much loathing and self-hate that had I stayed in that place, I would have gone back and utterly failed.

Praise God, that was lifted through prayers and the power of God as I came through my personal garden of Gethsemane.

I am ready to whole-heartedly commit to going home and treating my "girlfriend" like a princess every day.

Thanks for everything!

Ray R.

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I never imagined that my husband was going to get it. He REFUSED to come to the Intensive. (Note: they were scheduled for two intensives that he backed out of)

On Thursday night, he was just angry and thought that Joel and Kathy were crazy. He had only read seven chapters of book one and simply was NOT interested!

By Friday in the Intensive, he began to realize and understand what I have been telling him for so many years. After being married for 42 years, this is a new and wonderful beginning.

I am very happy and hopeful.

Zuny (and Al)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

As Zuny said, I did not want to come. I came just to get my wife off my back. There was "NO WAY" that I was always wrong about everything that happens in our marriage. After the second day, I understood that every woman's feelings were almost identical to my wife's and that my feelings were just like every other man's!

This conference helped me understand what my wife has been feeling for years and how I have been ignoring her.

Al (and Zuny)

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This weekend has meant the world to me. It has put a new perspective on marriage. I am 22 years old and my fiancé is 21. I am now ready, with these tools, to be the man of her dreams. I now realize what my job is as a Christian husband. I must always be thinking about the Lord and my wife.

No matter how bad you think your marriage is, somebody else has a worse one. And they all have a chance to be saved. As long as you both want to change. But remember, the husband goes first!

I feel that my parents have the worst marriage, but they are trying and they will make it! (Parents were at the October Intensive!)

In conclusion, husbands, the reason why we are here, is to become the man of her dreams. Husbands, if we learn these tools, begin to grow-up, mature, heal our wife's wounds and be the initiator, we will make a safe place for our wife to heal, love us in return, and become the woman of our dreams! When we accomplish this, believe it! - we will have an outrageously happy marriage!

D and B Engaged

This weekend has been amazing. It has really given Daniel and I a better understanding of each other and how we both work. It has brought us closer and has given us tools on how to show love, commitment and understanding for each other.

The teaching shows REASONS why men are the way they are and why women are the way they are. This helps the men change because they know WHY (!) women are the way they are! This is what helps the process of change happen.

We are both so thankful for the program and are blessed to have been taught by Kathy and Joel.

B and D Engaged

WOW! We've been trying to get to an Intensive since June - but this was worth waiting on God for His timing! Source of his provision you'll find out soon about on the forum when we tell our story. It was awesome how he showed us we couldn't afford not to go! Had to use even our grocery money for the month and our emergency money realizing this was an emergency!!

Again- Joel and Kathy- being the incredible example they continue to be- made two things possible that again made this boot camp happen.

You ask- "Was it worth it?" Was heading into the promised "Honeymoon" (Kathy's mother-in-law - God save our marriage "Mom's" prayer)- worth it? Was meeting four of the most hurting, emotionally arrested developmental couples who by the way became family, worth it? RIGHT ON!!

Sharie of Roger and Sharie H.

Joel and Kathy,

This weekend is the best weekend of all that we have attended on marriage. It goes into much more depth than others.

Roger of Roger and Sharie.

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

This weekend has been an eye opening, heartwarming, mind opening and educational experience. I have now begun to learn how I can change and become the man my wife needs me to be-the man of her dreams. I know that I can do this. I will do everything in my power to make this happen and make ours an "Outrageously Happy Marriage."

Michael C. of Michael and Carla

Joel and Kathy,

(Beverly says) It was profound for me to realize just how much power a husband has with his wife- to literally build her up or destroy her.

(John says) It is the burden of the husband to understand that he is responsible for many of the actions, emotions and thoughts of his wife. He is the "Initiator" and she is the "Responder." Her responses may address many things initiated by the husband recently or from a long time ago. Or it may have been from things initiated from another (man) in recent or from a long time ago, but it is still the husbands' responsibility.

(Beverly says) It was comforting to know, I am not crazy and God did give the man a greater responsibility in marriage. Joel and Kathy's perspective FINALLY holds the man accountable- something the church is not doing! This is a must attend weekend Intensive and it is INTENSE!

John and Beverly G.

Joel and Kathy,

I fell in love with Joel and Kathy. Their ministry has given tons of wisdom. If these principles are heeded, anyone can have an extraordinarily happy marriage. I greatly appreciate their love and generous spirit; for after their tragedy, they are still giving.

Justine of John and Justine

Joel and Kathy,

What would I say to anyone to come to this Intensive?

This is the doorway to having the "abundant Life."

Ted of Ted and Sandra

Every married couple in or close to the Body of Christ needs to come to an Intensive!

So many things were clarified for both my husband and myself. My chief need for safety and security in marriage became crystal clear. Joel and Kathy gave us a wonderfully practical piece of advice to address that. We're going to make my security legal! At a lawyer's office! I.e.: both names on all property, etc. So much new, wonderful, scriptural information!

Sandra of Sandra and Ted

As I near the end of the Marriage Intensive my thoughts are of Christ telling us he wants us to have life abundantly. For the past 21 years my life has not been life abundant due to being in an emotionally abusive marriage. The teachings, scriptures and testimonials that have been seen/heard this weekend has given great hope and were extremely life -giving. The blinders have been coming off my husband's eyes and he has decided to begin treating me the way the Lord instructed, beginning on Thursday night, the first night of the Marriage Intensive.

Since then, I was able to sleep the entire night for the first time in months!

Since he is a procrastinator, the turnaround was impressive to me. It was also providential for us that the movie "Fireproof: Don't leave your partner behind." came out this weekend. We saw it last night and it added to our weekend. We know that God really intends for us to "get this" and for our marriage to become healed, restored and jubilant, a testimony to our children. This is very important so that our heritage, our children's

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

children will be able to see a Godly marriage.

Kathy and Joel gave so deeply of themselves even in the midst of the grieving over the death of their 13 year old Shekinah Glory and I've been so very humbled; and know God truly has honored their transparency as well as our willingness to yield. All Glory to God! And blessings immeasurable to Joel and Kathy

With much love in Jesus,
Diane and Marlin

The part on Thursday night that was hammered home was the "Tax collector and Pharisee". They kept drilling it and drilling it.

This put me on the cross in my marriage and I was given a choice to either go through the weekend and be a new person or quit. Thank God my wife and I choose the cross.

Marlin, or Marlin and Diane

This weekend has been great because I feel like my husband is finally absorbing the material. We read the books, but being at the Intensive is what it took for my husband to really start to live the message.

I feel like we are emotionally remarried even though we have been emotionally divorced essentially since our wedding day. I was surprised to find out my husband felt the same way. God has answered my prayers and I believe that we will have complete restoration in our marriage.

Kim of Paul and Kim B.

This weekend has been incredible. I have been stuck in a cycle of sin and abusing my wife. This weekend has given me and my wife the opportunity to get away for the first time in a long time; just the two of us. During this weekend I got to work with Joel and Kathy to gain a much clearer understanding of how I have been hurting my wife and also how to stop.

I believe I am going to be able to continue changing for years to come. This was the most informative weekend I have ever been to. I am so glad I came.

Paul of Kim and Paul

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Before this weekend, I had no hope. Our 18 year marriage was "over" and I had no expectation for it to be salvaged. This weekend has restored the hope in me that was lost.

Thank you!!!

Love, Angela of Shane and Angela

We didn't get a letter from Shane as of yet, but after talking with them earlier today, **THEY ARE DOING GREAT!** We are very proud of Shane for deciding to lay his life down for Angela. Thank you Shane, for being one of the rare and uncommon men who walk on planet earth who has decided to be a Christ-like man of God first behind closed doors - your home!

Shane and Angela **ARE DOING GREAT!** We are very proud of Shane for deciding to lay his life down for Angela. Thank you Shane, for being one of the rare and uncommon men who walk on planet earth who has decided to be a Christ-like man of God first behind closed doors - your home!

This weekend reinforced the information and concepts in the books. These ideas are new and contrary to much of former teachings regarding marriage. The reinforcement is a blessing in that it helps mold thought patterns,

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

attitudes, ideas and view of self - take every thought captive.

The weekend gave practical measures to assist in accomplishing the necessary changes (example: 20 hugs, 20 smiles, 20 kisses) These practical steps will prove very helpful, I believe.

The roles, responsibilities and contributions for both the husband and wife were clearly identified. The scriptural foundation for these and their practical application offers powerful encouragement, hope and faith knowing "the plan" is in accordance with God's commands and the power He offers to accomplish it!

Thanks!
Kevin of Kevin and Vickie

This weekend has given me hope for my marriage when I had all but given up. I have seen the beginnings of understanding dawn in my husband and seen emotions break through that were never there before. I never thought anything could break through the selfishness and "all about me" attitude he has had since we got married. It gives me encouragement that there is a chance for a happy marriage.

Vickie of Kevin and Vickie (or was this from Lynn of Lynn and John? We are not sure!)

Joel and Kathy,
Your intensive seminar is absolutely the most effective marriage restoring experience anyone can experience. Universal truth revealed through real life examples revealing root issues, all backed by scripture and concise advice that will heal any couples marriage. Jackie and I have received the miracle of hope and are thankful that we found the J&K ministry- marital happiness is achievable for those that apply these principles.
James of James and Jackie

Dear Joel and Kathy,
Special thanks for having the Intensive this weekend. I know it was hard with the passing of your daughter. I saw how you have made it through this adversity. You gave everyone here 100 plus % at all times. It has given me strength, when I had no hope to make it.
Thanks for not giving up.
God bless,
Butch

Butch came to the intensive alone, as Cathie was unable physically to make it. We are driving to their home to meet with them on Monday. (That is the plan). The reports from them though are wonderful already! Butch is treating her like a princess. She is so happy, that she gave him a foot rub last night! Here is one of the short e-mail updates they have sent:

Today I heard Butch laugh for the first time in years. It touched my heart. He told me he feels like he is getting his joy back. I hope to laugh again and find joy again myself, still hurting so deeply, but blessed he is trying so hard. Enjoy blessing him for every little thing. Gave him a foot rub before he went to bed as he has really been trying to listen to my heart. (Thankfully his feet were clean!)

God Bless,
Cathie

Impressions of Intensive:

What I learned?

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

The B's for men:

BE humble
BE brave
BE consistent
BE positive and encourage your wife.
BE trustworthy
BE always learning to be a good husband
BE grateful for correction from God
BE a man
BE honest
BE open
BE loving to your wife
BE respectful to your wife
BE always listening to your wife
BE together
BE maturing
BE a communicator
BE a man of God
Be focused toward your wife

The B's will result: Positive acting = positive behavior
If the B's are implemented, God will bless you and your wife.

MenaPapa (and MenaMama) Forum names

(Note from Joel and Kathy: We don't actually teach the "B's" for men per se. These are the points that MenaMama pulled from the weekend as we did what we do. We were pretty impressed!)

The Intensive filled in the missing pieces of the puzzle regarding our marriage. The traditional teaching on marriage, where the wife is taught to be submissive, love and pray for her husband has not worked. We have been married for almost 4 decades.

Now we have the tools to help us both change. Also, we have the follow-up support and accountability necessary to keep us on track. The intensive has helped both of us to see and understand why our attempts to make our marriage work have not worked in the past.

Since reading the books and attending the Intensive my husband has begun to listen to how he has hurt me by not laying his life down for me, as Christ laid his life down for the church. He has repented and asked for forgiveness. I feel we are no on our way and have begun our journey to an Outrageously Happy Marriage. Thank you Joel and Kathy,

MenaMama (and MenaPapa) Forum names

My wife and I really enjoyed the intensive. We were not sure about coming at first but it was great. Joel and Kathy took the time to focus on us and answer questions thoroughly. Meeting them in person was encouraging and inspiring. What an awesome ministry.

631 of: 631 and Hope (forum names)

The marriage information Joel and Kathy teach is the "only" thing that has changed our marriage! There is a love and commitment in our relationship that has never been before. The frustration, conflict and hurts are melting away. I thank God for bringing this ministry into our lives right when we needed it.

Hope of Hope and 631 (forum names)

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

Why did I decide to come to the intensive:

My wife found that her acquaintance, who went to an intensive was a changed person, changed for the better. She was glowing.

It was supported by the transparency of the husband. Transparency about their problems and how the intensive and the books helped them. I knew we needed help and I saw it in my wife's eyes, reactions and recognized this in the same eyes I had been looking into for the last 14 years.

My wife asked me to read the books and go to an Intensive because we were looking for more tools for our marriage. We got this through the intensive. We are bathing it in prayer renewal. Asking for the Lord's blessing on our marriage.

J (of J and Lisa)

I had no idea what to expect out of the intensive. J & K are very down to earth and do not sugar coat anything. This is very important because you learn that his WILL take work - the intensive is not the end. It is the beginning, but you must take the responsibility for following through on what you learn at the intensive.

This weekend gave both of us the tools we need to go back home and make this work. I feel empowered to be able to make this work and do my part. It is very helpful knowing there is help after this weekend with phone calls and forums. I feel hopeful and cautiously optimistic!

Lisa (of Lisa and J)

Joel and Kathy,

I was not sure what to expect this weekend but I am pleasantly surprised at the material, experience and commitment to helping me and my wife with our marriage. The intensive opened my eyes to many issues. I had no idea that my wife needed me the way you showed me.

Thank you! Ray (of Ray and C.J.)

I appreciate your direct approach in your marriage ministry. My husband was, at least, able to understand your concepts and new paradigms. Our marriage is so messy but since you were able to reach him perhaps my next note will be to tell you how wonderfully different things are.

C. J. (of C.J. and Ray)

Here is the update from CJ:

Joel & Kathy:

I just want to thank you for the miracle you performed in our marriage. I didn't realize, until I was on the plane returning home, that Ray & I had our breakthrough!

While Ray was driving me to the airport, we discussed the events of our weekend and he began sharing things with me that he had never told me before. He applauded you for 'going right for the jugular' and touching him in those secret places where the 'mess' resided. He says that you presented things in a way that has changed his viewpoint of how marriage is supposed to work. Praise God!

Since Monday, he has been calling me at work to give me my "HK&S". I was tempted to doubt yesterday by thinking that he's going to change back to that 'evil seed' and I should not fall for his attention but I fought it and kept reminding myself that we HAVE RECEIVED OUR BREAKTHROUGH.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

As you know, we still have a lot of decisions to make and have begun exploring ALL options - not just his options. So I am 3 days in and still excited about our Miracle!

Thanks so much for your patience, your prayers, your delivery AND your own life experience for without that you would not have had the anointing to reach us the way you have.

CJ (of CJ and Ray)

Note: HS&K is "Hugs, Smiles and Kisses"

During the Marriage Intensive, Biblical truths are brought forth to help couples truly be happy in their marriage when what is learned is put into practice. Thank God for Joel and Kathy's boldness to step up to the plate in helping those that need a miracle in their marriage. Every couple can benefit.

M.B. - PA (of M.B. and Ken)

I am a professional counselor. After about 30 years of helping people, I received the answer I have been looking for my entire life. I have been searching for why I wasn't complete. Joel and Kathy taught me how to fill the missing void in my life. That void made me treat all people in a controlling manner. I suggest this for all people whether they are having problems or not.

Kenneth B. (of Ken and M.B.)

God is so good! He uses all things for His glory! Over the past year, the Lord has taken me on a journey of revealing to me the wonderful plan for an Outrageously Happy Marriage and Life! The Lord led me to "godsavemy marriage.com" in September , 09 and revealed His plan for an Outrageously Happy Marriage!

Through a series of events my husband and I attended the January Intensive, and God continued to do a miraculous miracle in our marriage. God is after revival and truth.

He is after people and marriages being free. They use scientific evidence, scripture, making sense out of marriage.. They bring understanding to childhood trauma, etc., revealing how Satan wants to destroy and it starts in our childhood then heading into adulthood to destroy adult relationships.

Thank you Lord for what you've accomplished,. Thank you Lord, for Joel loving His wife your way!

Diane M. (Forum names: Missy of Jeff and Missy)

This was not what I was going to submit myself to. I looked from afar and wasn't ready to face my issues, because I believed it was my wife's issues holding us back. I came to the cross road of striving to "Please God" and the option of "Trusting God." I placed myself in his care and listened to my wife. "If it means that much to you, I will go." Now that It means so much to us, I will choose to participate with my whole heart. I want to "Trust God " enable me. (Gal. 2:20.....my life verse for Diane)

Ken M. (Husband of Missy)

The most important thing learned was my faults as a husband. Why it was having these thoughts (arrested development) and the concepts of marital submission.

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I believe our marriage is not far from an OHM. Knowing the benefits of a happy marriage, I'm willing to change immediately. We aren't that far. The difficult part will be winning my wife's trust.

It was good to see I was not alone. My behavior, which is wrong, is also common. That explains the 50% divorce rate in the nation. The positives is that help is a phone call or message board away.

The choice is yours. My choice is to change.

Dave of Dave and Mary.

The Marriage Intensive Weekend is a wonderful jump start into understanding the keys to having and Outrageously Happy Marriage. After receiving much bad counsel on the roles of a "submissive" wife, I found the message of truth taught at the intensive to be immensely freeing. It's all about mutual submission. The wife does not have to stay stuck in a miserable marriage I highly recommend this weekend to anyone wanting restoration in their marriage.

Mary of Dave and Mary.

Joel and Kathy, I am very happy to have come to this Intensive. I came feeling very down and skeptical about Jack's desire to change or do whatever he needed to do to maintain and keep our marriage together.

I believe he has started to see things differently and will put the effort for the change.

It will take some work on his part and mine, but we have received the tools to survive. We now have to put the work into it.

The couples we met even though with different issues helped us see that the solutions are all very similar and based on love.

You both have the spirit of the Lord and are blessed speakers.

Thank you very much for your dedication to helping others and your devotion on helping us see the light at the end of the tunnel.

C.H. (wife of J.H.)

This can be a life changing weekend if you will let it be. This was my second time. I was blind but now I see.

This weekend is like a fresh new start. Everything I have done in the past did not work. I am convinced this will work.

Thank you Joel and Kathy,

God bless you,

Bruce Deaton (Bruce on the forum)

Having read both books, twice and watching the DVD'S, going to the Intensive was vital in putting it all together for teaching "Lin's husband skills in becoming the husband my wife needs me to be.

Lin's husband was more than a Narcissist, he was that X's 10, Joel and Kathy pointed that out.

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Lin's husband feels closer to his darling wife than ever before. Thank God, Joel and Kathy and Lin's husband for being teachable.

Lin's husband could not change without this program and without Lin holding my feet to the fire.

Thank you,

Lin's husband and proud of it.

PS: The intensive is vital for men, to help them move forward in making your marriage as perfect as it can be.

Not only did this week of teaching with Joel and Kathy save my marriage, it saved my life. 20 years of illness brought me to a place where I know that I know, I could go on like this anymore.

My husband was able to see through this week what he has been doing to feed me death. It's been a relief to see the walls come down and for him to start to be a source of life after 30 years of marriage.

As we leave this teaching week, we have the tools that can guide us to keep walking in truth and love toward one another.

Lin of Lin and Lin's husband, Dave.

Name: Mr. Proactive of "Mr. Proactive n Lovin it",

When my wife told me about the intensive (after much delay), I said that we didn't need "another marriage help" system. After kicking and screaming, I didn't have any choice. She said that she was "going on" with our without me so I decided that I would go.

I am so glad to be here. This weekend with Joel and Kathy has given me the correct point of view or understanding that the Lord intended of: Love your wife as Christ loved (s) the church. I'm looking forward to starting a new life.

Thanks, "Mr. Proactive"

Hi, I'm "lovin it" of "Mr. Proactive n Lovin it",

After many years of marriage counseling, this intensive definitely breaks them all! Not only do you get a lot of good information, but you also get to witness in J&K 's marriage! It gives you hope & inspires you, and to top it off, after the intensives are over, there's help on forums and phone calls. That's better than anything I've found! Praise God! Thank you Joel and Kathy, God Bless!

I have attended the Intensive Weekend in 2010.

Thank you! "Lovin' it!"

To any guy who is considering or has been "requested" to go to an Intensive by Joel and Kathy We men tend to think " we are not that bad." Don't be in denial or fooling yourself. Seriously, ask yourself if you are true to your marriage vows. If you wife isn't important enough to you that you can't learn about the most important relationship in your life, you don't deserve to be married. God has called us to love our wife unconditionally. To fulfill your destiny, and become the man God has called to be, you will find no other seminar that will enable you to full that call.

John P. (John and Sarah P.)

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Joel and Kathy,

Well, Wow, what I knew and practiced all my life about relationships was wrong....got a lot to do, but now with the right tools and my Fathers Guidance and Love, we will have a GREAT LOVE LIFE and PARTNERSHIP.

Thanks,

Jack (of Jack and Jennifer)

Dear Joel and Kathy

Thank you so much for your transparency and truth. I came to this Intensive with much uncertainty, confusion and overwhelming pain. Totally Shut Down!
I had no idea where my life was headed. Will my life go on with this man or will I carry on with life without him?

I believe traveling to the Intensive this weekend was a doorway(?) to the crossroads in my life! Open to what God had in store, but REALLY ready to get out of all this Hopeless mess! I was REALLY DONE!

But as the Word says, "the truth will set you free!" Not free to run as I really was ready to do. But, free to have hope, love, I make positive changes!

Our marriage, my husband and myself truly had a touch of God, which brought on the beginning transformation of our hearts, mind and spirit!

Thank you so much, I love you both. You are an awesome example, not only as a married couple, but you both shine the light of Jesus in very dark places. God bless you and your precious family. Amen!

I absolutely love Kathy's Mother in law! Wow! She has the anointing of the Lord and Love of God flowing out of her!

PS. Kathy, you are so special! I love you. What a strong daughter of God you are

Thank you for your heart!

Jennifer (of Jennifer and Jack) F

Intensive: Wonderful new insights and trusting God to bless this ministry and restore our marriage of 29 years.

Forthright, transparent information to help even the most difficult problems and the tools to get to an Outrageously Happy Marriage.

The Intensive with Joel and Kathy will strengthen good marriages as well as help repair and restore those marriages which are in the "danger zone!"

Sharon (of Sharon and Dave)

Joel and Kathy,

I think everything you taught was right - on and I learned a lot. I will recommend it to others.

Dave (of Dave and Sharon)

We've spent 10's of thousands of dollars on counseling for the last 33 months. Nothing has worked. What offers me hope is the ground breaking teaching and most important to me: FOLLOW UP and ACCOUNTABILITY. I have hope for the first time in our 11 1/2 year dysfunctional marriage!

Samantha (of Samantha and John)

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

This weekend helped me to understand better how to apply what I had heard in a way that years of counseling had not done. Your practical ways and stories helped to identify the issues to a greater depth of understanding. I realized I was still living as a child in my response to my wife. This ministry (?) will help me "put meat on the bones" and will hold me accountable. We are looking forward to a healed marriage!

John S. (of John and Samantha)

Eric and I have been working with Joel and Kathy's program for almost two years. We understood everything, but there was something that just was not clicking with us. I think we both hated to admit that we both were not getting it. Michael and I talked us into signing up for the Intensive and here we are.

We are surprised that Joel and Kathy call us dysfunctional! It's like finally getting a diagnosis to explain the problem. This must be taken seriously. It's important for our Christian Testimony, to our friends and family and more importantly for ourselves and children. This has been a fantastic weekend and we both are completely committed to each other and our future now. Thank you so much for your commitment to our marriages.

Sue (of Sue and Eric)

I have never been a religious person although I feel I am spiritual. Therefore I need convincing on most topics. Having read Joel and Kathy's book, on a scale of 0-10 my belief of the topics may have been a 7. Attending their Intensive weekend I needed the same convincing as most things in my life. The content of the experience made sense to me and as the days progressed I gained an understanding from the information provided.

I have to say that after the days I sat and listened, that I believed in the idea that I can be the husband that my wife needs me to be. As I told her, "I may stumble along the journey, please help me by letting me know when the things I say or do are self-indulgent or cruel and those things will be fixed and repaired and I will be the man you need me to be."

John of John and Lynn

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Every moment of this Weekend Intensive has been absolutely MIRACULOUS!!

From the 1st person who came forward to sow a seed-gift into our marriage and then every person who continued to graciously give, to make this weekend a prayer-turned-reality for us.

But the GIFTS did not stop there... God wanted to shower even MORE of His LOVE upon us - \$20 bill by \$20 bill until we sat here felling surreal about God's goodness and the graciousness of SO MANY of our brothers and sisters who don't even personally know us, but LOVE us just the same!

So, our miracles started even before we landed on the ground in Jacksonville - and they sure didn't end - just the opposite - when we got here!

After reading both books, being actively involved in the forum and being on the weekly calls, I knew that there would be a lot of review, but there is a totally different dynamic, being here in person, surrounded by 6 other clueless men and their wonderful-but-worn-out wives - and of course, listening to Joel and KATHY in-person, definitely beats reading the books @ home, while fielding 100 different interruptions from the kidlets!!!

I received SO MUCH VALIDATION through what you taught us and our husbands this weekend!

There were MANY things that you emphasized to the men that I have been saying to Brian, over and over in

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many different ways, hoping he's "GET IT" one of these times!!

Well, guess what? You said it and BRIAN LISTENED!! I can't tell you how many little notes he wrote to me on the backside of the hand-out pages, validating me, acknowledging that my pain is VERY REAL and that HE HAS BEEN THE ONE WHO HAS CAUSED MY PAIN - NOT JUST EMOTIONALLY, BUT EVEN THE PHYSICAL PAIN!

For the past 2 years, I have suffered with DAILY CHRONIC PAIN that has SEVERELY compromised and hampered my QUALITY OF LIFE!!

As Brian was nearing the end of reading book 2, he began to understand that he has been the cause of my pain and he has begun the process of sincerely apologizing to me. Brian has acknowledged and apologized to me more these past 4 days about more things than he has, cumulatively, in the past 6 YEARS!!

For the 1st time in our entire marriage, I believe that Brian has FINALLY "GOTTEN IT" - the light bulb has finally gone on!! I truly believe that Brian is going to embrace what you've taught him and I believe that he will go home and put it all into practice, laying down his life for me, being Christlike, listening to my heart and AGAPE LOVING me, his bride, as Christ has gone 1st and set the example of exactly how to walk this out!

As painful as it is to know the sheer terror and abuse that Judy Hegstrom went through @ the hands of Paul; and the YEARS of abuse that you, Kathy, went through with Joel - if you ladies wouldn't have suffered such pain and if you wouldn't have made the choice to GET BACK UP ON YOUR FEET AGAIN & FIGHT for your GOD-GIVEN RIGHT to be HONORED, CHERISHED, LOVED, ADORED & PROTECTED by your husband, as he was learning, growing and changing into becoming the man that God created him to be, by becoming the Husband that YOU need him to be, then we wouldn't be here today, receiving the benefit of your wisdom and being equipped to allow God to transform our DEAD marriage into an OHM!!

So, Kathy, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, for Rising up and finding the POWERFUL SPIRIT of the WOMAN that God created you to be!! You are such an AWESOME WOMAN & you my sister, are a SURVIVOR of the best kind! You inspire me & so many women - you help us to BELIEVE, once again, that we are Princesses worth being LOVED!! Joel, thank you for waking up and coming to your senses! Because of your courage & your willingness to learn, grow, change & become CHRISTLIKE, not only have you RESTORED LIFE into your PRECIOUS, GORGEOUS AND GODLY PRINCESS - but you've given so many couples HOPE that they too can move from the pits of Hell in ABUSE, into an OHM, as God intended for us to have!

We love you both SO MUCH & We thank God for His miracles in your life - & for your OBEDIENCE TO MINISTER to others, passing on the LIFE-GIVING tools that He's taught you both!!

Much love and prayers,
W and B

Joel and Kathy,

We started reading your books in March after Wen found them. (Thank you, Wen!) It really became clear to me that I have been an abusive husband for six years. I have been so wrong about so many things. Your books and the power of this weekend has saved my marriage. I can heal Wen's heart as I love her and that is a miracle. I praise our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for this new chance. I will spend the rest of my life loving my beautiful bride, Wen.

B and W

After years of individual sessions with at least 15 different counselors, countless relationship workshops and dozens of marriage training weekends, we found your weekend intensive. It has given us the impetus and the tools to have an outrageously happy marriage. We won't be taking another - we won't need it!
Bejart (and Just Peeking)

Forum Names

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

The weekend marriage intensive has been one of the most amazing investments of our time. We have heard God's Word in a nourishing, new way. God is an awesome Creator and has always done what is best for us. His Word and instruction are for our total good and to keep us emotionally, physically and spiritually strong and equipped for the journey to eternity.

We are to be a life giving blessing to one another and to all those around us. The intensive has brought His vision for us and we are going to grab the Lord's hand and as Joel and Kathy have helped us to do, we are going to have his resurrection power flowing through our marriage.

Just Peeking (and Bejart)
Forum names

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I came into this intensive hopeful, but still skeptical that my husband would really "get it." Besides the denial of any abuse on his part, he's also heard the teachings on mutual submission, team leadership, and how "helper" doesn't mean personal secretary, maid, mother & mistress. The problem was he was hearing these teachings mostly from me and thought I was twisting the Bible to suit my own interests (and you all know how well "pre-intensive" husbands listen to their wives). The other problem was I was doing "WWKD" before he was doing "WWJD"!

But there was also kind of a "missing link" in my understanding before the intensive. I could still see Biblical support for leadership in the home-but it also clearly wasn't a hierarchical form. It all hinged on the true meaning of kephale: I had heard the arguments for "source," but no one ever made any sense of that. Understanding it as "source of life," and husbands as initiators, was the key that made everything else come together. Understanding arrested development was also a very crucial component to begin a path toward healing.

After taking this intensive, I'm convinced it is the most powerful marriage ministry out there. Joel & Kathy are very genuine, FUN-NEEEE, and work great as a team! And because they have lived what they teach, it gives them incredible spiritual authority to speak into others' lives. I believe my husband "heard" them-which is huge. It really is-I thought he would come out of it still resistant to the message in one way or another. If he is, he's not saying so, so only time and actions will tell. I am more hopeful now that we might one day have an OHM too, but still cautiously stepping forward.

OK, that's my wordy version; here's the short version:
"We laughed, we cried. Old thought patterns died."

~Deb

This weekend God has shown me how some of our current marriage issues have roots in my own childhood. When we first started to apply the principles in the books to our lives, I asked other Intensive Alumni, "Would the books and DVD be enough for our marriage?"

The answer was a uniform, "Get to an Intensive!" My husband has realized through this weekend how deeply a husband can wound a wife. My husband recommitted himself to our marriage on July 4th. The past month has been more calm and peaceful than we've had in a long time. The fellowship we found here with Joel and Kathy and the other couples helped me feel a little less lost and the things covered in the Intensive answered a lot of questions.

Before this weekend, I felt like no other woman could feel as insecure and hopeless as I did because of marital problems! I believed other women were more "together" than I and the fact that I felt so broken meant there was something wrong with me. I felt like "I am just a big failure after all." This weekend has shown me that "how I feel" is "normal" and the fact that I was unable to function for so long because of my pain is NOT evidence that I am too messed up.

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Some women exhibit "crazy behavior" in response to their pain. Other women get angry. I shut down. None of these reactions are "wrong" or abnormal. God doesn't make junk and thanks to the forums and the weekend, I am finally starting to believe that!

Thank you, Joel and Kathy, for choosing to be a blessing to others and letting God use your miracle to bring healing to a wounded world. My husband and I have already agreed that when we are ready, we will most definitely lead a conference call. How could we possible do less?
God Bless you and your ministry and family.

All my love,

Susan (and John)
Aslan's Child and LargeOne - Forum Names

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for a great weekend full of learning, growth and understanding. The main thing I learned from this weekend was to listen to your wife's heart. Sharing this experience with other people showed me how much pain a husband can cause his wife. It was great just seeing the transformation couples made in healing their marriages in just a few days. I hope that I can continue to win my wife's heart back to where one day she can say she has fallen back in love with me. Until then, I will use the principles you taught us to bring healing to my wife's heart.

Sincerely,
John (and Susan)
Large One and Aslan's Child -Forum Names)

After reading both books and watching the DVD's, I was excited.. but unsure what more we could learn at a Weekend Marriage Intensive? My husband and I have been loved and coached through the forums and phone conferences as well. GREAT progress has been made from all of this. Praise God!

The Intensive was the icing on the "Davisson Cake." The one-on-one counseling with Joel and Kathy was such a blessing. The group sessions were like holding your breath as you dive into deeper truth. Whether you are reading the first book, second, or you frantically typed "God Save My Marriage" into your computer search bar with tears flowing .. no matter what depth of water you are in, I highly recommend taking the plunge and attend an Intensive! You won't regret it.

Be prepared for God to meet you where you are and He will!
Danielle (and Bruce)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for your ministry! Between the books, forums and conference calls, you gave me what I needed to turn my marriage around. Even before the Intensive, I could see the healing that I started bringing to my wife by applying your principles. Yes, I am becoming the man that God has called me to be as I become the husband that my wife needs me to be.

Now, after the Intensive, I feel like I have the tools that I need to cultivate and nourish this new marriage that God has blessed us with.

Any men who are reading this and are still on the fence about this material, I would encourage you to take the plunge and just do it! You will not be disappointed! My marriage is better today than it has been in the 16 ½ years prior to Joel and Kathy.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Thanks again, J and K, for a great weekend! The "Intensive" was definitely appropriately named! It's been a whirlwind of information. God bless both of you!

Bruce (and Danielle)
Ornate Design and Simple Design - Forum Names

My wife is wonderful! For the last six years, all I have provided to her and my family is pain, regret, fear, exhaustion, neglect and anger.

I never hit my wife, but I still feel I physically abused her. I have mentally "beat her down" since the beginning. Still, after all of that, my wonderful wife still gives me a choice; either come to the Marriage Intensive or divorce. Obviously, I didn't want to do either, but divorce was the worst of the two options, so I agreed to come.

Then she informs me that I have to read two books before I go. Strike one! - in my head. Against my better judgment, I read book one. There is something you should know about me. I hate being told what I should think or what I should do. So, I read this book that tells me that I am wrong; my wife is right - and this is what I need to do to change!

My first thoughts when I read the book were about "what a sorry excuse for a man Joel is. He lets his wife run him, his marriage and his family. What a moron!" (I later find out that I am the moron, but for now, that is how I thought. Sorry for the insult, Joel.)

So, I finish book one, and have no desire to pick up book two. But, as much of an ass I am, I promised my wife I would, so I did. I am so glad I did. Something in book two came out and slapped me in the face. It in no way instantly changed me, but now I was open to the idea that I have been wrong. Even more important, I was now open to the idea of changing, just in time, too! - I finished the second book the night before the Intensive.

So, we finally arrived at the Intensive at 6 PM on Thursday and jumped right into it. The first thing I noticed was how much hurt and pain EVERYONE in the room was wearing on their face. In an odd way, it made me feel good, because I knew I was not alone.

Day after day, we sat in class and drove the idea home that the man is wrong and the wife is right. If I treat her right, her pain will start to diminish; in turn, I will receive the benefits of treating my wife the way she should be treated, so the group teachings were great. It really did drive home what I need to do to fix OUR marriage.

Three days into it was to be the day of our miracle. The day started out slow, with more group discussion than normal, which delayed the group teachings. Joel's mom came in and prayed for us, which was amazing - but was not our miracle. At 3:30, we had our private session with Joel and Kathy. Again, an amazing experience. I learned so much. I was BORN AGAIN during this session; but this still was not our marriage miracle.

Our miracle came at about 1 am, after the group dinner on Saturday night and after everyone else was gone for the night. We were alone in bed, holding each other. My wife told me, that over the past year, she has been trying to find a guy named Adam that she dated in her High School. Adam was her idea of the perfect guy. He had always treated her like she was his best friend. Anyway, she told me she had been trying to find him. She felt he could come in, love her, love our kids and they could live happily ever after.

Two weeks ago, she found him on MySpace. She saw that he had changed and was no longer the guy she thought he was. She then told me she now knew that I was the one that she needed to change. I am the one that is supposed to step up and love her and our children.

I felt no anger at all that she had been pursuing Adam. Instead, I held her tighter as she lay there crying and told her I was sorry for causing her to look elsewhere for the love I should have been giving her. Soon after, we make love. It was the best two minutes of our lives. (joke - LOL - smiles). Just kidding. We made love like we haven't in a long, long time. It felt perfect. That, Joel and Kathy, was our miracle and start of a new, OUTRAGEOUSLY HAPPY MARRIAGE together.

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Thanks so much and God Bless,
Mike (and Jen)

PS We did lay together for a while after we made love and then we took a shower together. Fun Times!

This weekend has truly been a blessing! Ten months ago, when I found out about Mike's affairs, I was done; completely ready to pack up our kids and try to forget about him forever. I was completely devastated and never would've believed that only 4 days of listening and learning from Joel and Kathy would make a difference or change my mind. But that's exactly what happened.

After this weekend, I have renewed hope and truly believe that WE CAN have an Outrageously Happy Marriage. I know there will be bumps in the road and it's going to be a process, but at least now I feel like Mike is willing to take this journey with me. Before, I was completely alone; we weren't even walking the same direction anymore.

We laughed and really talked to each other more in these four days than we have done in years. He began to hold my hand again and really listen to what I had to say. These seem like small things, but mean the world to me because they signify a new beginning.

If all that happened in just 4 days, I can't wait to see where we'll be in 4 months, or 4 years. Joel and Kathy, you really do create miracles and I want to thank you for bringing God back into our lives. This weekend has reaffirmed to me that God really does work in mysterious ways and does have a plan for our lives.

Thank you for giving our kids the opportunity to have their dad in their lives daily and for me to finally get my "best friend."
Jen (and Mike)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for this Weekend Marriage Intensive! One of the things that I appreciated the very most was the openness. The very first evening, you went through the room and asked each couple if they were separated or living together. Reality was constantly at the forefront of your talks. For us it is especially helpful to have a "new beginning" with clear cut boundaries and guidelines that were developed when we met privately with you. I am also looking forward to the ongoing support and accountability.
Julie (of Julie and Bruce)

Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for this weekend marriage intensive. For the first time, I am beginning to understand clearly how much I have hurt Julie. I do have hope for a happy marriage (for the first time in a long time) and am learning to listen to her heart. I am excited to bring healing to Julie's heart. This is a new starting point. Thank you for your teaching!
Bruce (of Bruce and Julie)

Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for this weekend! This weekend has meant to me:
Hope and promise for the future. I believe that I CAN have an outrageously happy marriage. I am thankful that I have someone (the forum, calls) to hold us accountable to doing what the Bible teaches. Indeed, Antwan and I can have "heaven on earth" in our home. Our home/family can be healthy and whole. Thanks to Joel and Kathy for the sacrifices they make to be obedient to the call on their lives.

Chrystal (and Antwan)
TC on the forum

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

This weekend has meant a lot, not only to me, but my family. I have learned that I have not met any of my wife's needs and not only that, I really did not know her. After this weekend, I have each and all confidences that my marriage and family is going to be born again. I am going from this day forward to be the man God wants me to be and the man of my wife's dreams. Thanks, Joel and Kathy!
Antwan (and Chrystal)

Joel and Kathy's approach is based on sound biblical principles and helps me see that the main thing is the main thing: Loving my wife as Christ loved the church is THE primary assignment from God for me as the Christian husband. I intend to leave here with my wife's needs at the forefront of my mind and life. I will let God show me what to do and be daily, and allow him to rebuild her trust in me.
R. Martin

This weekend has been extremely helpful! We as a married couple have tried many different ways to help restore our marriage; but they have obviously failed. I personally found that this workshop has been an extremely eye opening experience. I am abusive, and that is a fact. What I have done to my wife is terrible and I have to change. How do I need to change? I have to love and stop thinking of myself as the victim.

need to say to all that this time was/is so important that I recommend this to all marriages that are not doing well. My advice to all men is to fix it, not hide it. A man must realize his shortfalls and how it affects his wife.
Jim O. (and Anna)
Anna is Chefy on the forum)

I was totally blown away by Joel and Kathy's dedication and commitment to all of us and how humorous they were in dealing with our BAD MARRIAGES. Thank God for humor! Thanks guys!
We think this was from Anna of Anna and Jim
(Chefy on the forum)

Dearest Joel and Kathy,

Our marriage has been in crisis for a year. We have probably paid \$2000 in the past year to a "psychologist" for marriage counseling that was not a Christian based message in any way. If anything, it made matters many times worse. He would agree back and forth with each one of us with zero solutions to the root cause. Three weeks after our last session, we found ourselves "separated."

For 2 weeks we barely spoke and one evening I went online looking for "Christian" counseling and I found Joel and Kathy's website. I sent my husband to the website and he was receptive to the Thursday - Sunday "Intensive" for marriages in crisis.

This has been not only a fabulous weekend that has "Saved Our Marriage" but also a weekend where we have been renewed in the Holy Spirit. For those men who are resistant, I will tell you I asked my husband on Saturday evening, "On a 1-10, where are you right now with Joel and Kathy's message?" He said, "I'm a 10." I said, "Okay, where were you at the end of the first night?" He said, "I was a zero."

So, wives whose husbands are NOT believing that it is biblical that "husbands are to their wives as Christ is to the church" as my husband did not believe, then my husband is proof (college educated) that this became clearly true before the end of the weekend to him.

He went from ZERO belief to a 10! My husband's comments privately over the last two days indicate to me that he is as dedicated as I am to having an Outrageously Happy Marriage after 37 years of just getting through our days with one another.

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Nancy (and Rocky)

Joel and Kathy,

I have to admit at first, that my past was telling me that my situation was different than most. As the weekend progressed, I began to see myself in multiple situations and examples that exactly mirrored my life. I began to see that not only had I learned a false way of handling my spouse's feelings but that her issues were not hers but had resulted as a response to my issues.

Upon further examination as the NFL referees say, I found that not only am I charged to be the source of my expansion and healing, I am charged with hers too. Thanks for the enlightenment and help. I will take the ball and run with it now that my marriage has made it to "overtime" and there are no "penalties". (You may note that I am a defensive coach - coaching High School football.)

Rocky (and Nancy)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This has been the most important information about marriage that I have ever seen or heard. So much of what you teach has brought healing to my heart already.

My eyes have been opened to TRUTH. I can see the ways our marriage was jeopardized and you have given the answers that can save our marriage if my husband will "just do it!"

Thank you for your time, your love, your energy. It may be the thing that heals a marriage that was destined to fail. God Bless You! May he grant you all the desires of your heart and the MONEY to fulfill all of your dreams!

Patty Downing

Note: after this was written, we met with Patty and her husband, Bill. They had a most astounding, and wonderful, miraculous breakthrough. They are not on the forum, but you can often meet them on the weekly marriage mentoring phone calls!

My marriage had no hope of survival without this ministry. Within the pages of Joel and Kathy's books were the answers I needed to keep my marriage going strong. We ordered the DVD intensive which included an over the phone consult and temperament analysis for us. We had even more revelation of why our marriage was failing and how to get it back on track. However, it was the intensive that made all the difference.

You might ask why an intensive is necessary if the information remains relatively the same. For one, each intensive is led by God, so He will custom design what examples are shared, what topics are covered in depth, and what questions will be asked through Joel and Kathy so your individual intensive will meet your personal needs.

Also, Joel and Kathy are right in front of you so you can get additional clarification on something you may not understand. Plus there is nothing like the move of the Holy Spirit in that room as you are plowing through hundreds of man hours of research and information in just a few days. The message and prayer from Elizabeth and the private session with Joel and Kathy are unique and invaluable to every marriage restoration.

This intensive experience kick started our restoration into high gear and we are on a journey from one of the worst marriages out there to an incredible testimony of how God can breathe life into us and our relationship. I am excited to see how we will go above and beyond the call so we can be used of God to minister the truth to others who so desperately need it.

Thank you Joel and Kathy for paving the way and being willing to invest your time and energy into us and countless others. May you be richly blessed and your reward great.

Don't miss out on this opportunity - it will change your life!

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Marie and Tom

What Joel and Kathy's intensive did for me

God has never forsaken my marriage the way I have. God has never abandoned my family the way I have. God has only shown my wife that He loves her with the deepest way possible. Since the we watched the DVD intensive first we went to Daytona expecting God to do more for our marriage. We came expecting God to move us to a higher level of love for one another.

At the intensive I had the opportunity to meet some truly amazing people. Joel and Kathy have pioneered a path of success for my marriage much like the pioneers of the west did for our country. They carved the sculpture of marriage the way God truly intended marriage to be seen. I believe this AGAPE love was that of the days of our ancestors generations ago.

I am grateful for their leadership, advise, and guidance for the past few months and I invite any couples whom need some Amazing Council in their relationship with each other to attend the weekend intensive. Trust me by saying that if it can change my life with my family, your life can be transformed too. It takes determination and true encounter with God to see your miracle unfold. Be true to God, your wife, your family, and yourself and join the train of successful marriages around the globe.

Tom and Marie

Hello Joel and Kathy,

I just wanted to say that I am doing a lot better! Am on your second book, called in more to the calls lately and even tonight my wife listened in on the call for her second time.

God is doing such a work in my heart through the Truth that He is speaking to me throughout the books you have written. I am really growing up! Your books are such a miracle from the Lord! They have spoken to me like nothing else ever has, and have gotten to the root of things and helped me to see the need to grow up and stop getting defensive when she shares her feelings.

I have stopped dumping my feelings on her or talking about my feelings when she starts to share hers. I have stopped being so much all about ME and shifted my focus to her.

I have truly been able to see my wife as my marriage manual-this has changed everything!

Whoever was running the couples call tonight we heard was who took a call from me a few weeks ago super late and he and his wife really poured into me a lot and helped me see that I needed to see her as a gift from the Lord to help me grow up and she will tell me how to change for the better.

Anyways, got to get off here as my wife could give labor this weekend with our first! I am so thankful for you guys and your ministry. Our friends Don and Cheryl are at your intensive in California right now-it was a miracle they made it there and we are praying Don really Gets it!

Blessings!

Palmer

This weekend has meant a lot and I have learned a lot. It has all been very revealing. I like how all the bible verses are referred to. I have learned WHY I feel what I do. I have learned that how I was treated was very wrong; and it was not my fault.

My not having sex was because I was not romanced or treated well. He didn't tell me he loved me; didn't caress

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me after lovemaking. I've learned why I can't have closure to the affair. I've learned that especially, in the last 15 years of marriage, he has been single, and getting what he needed from other women; so he didn't have to show any emotion.

I've learned that he has to make the decision to grow up; and change. Romance me; treat me good - and we must move so that I can have closure and heal from the adultery.
Judy (and Ron)

Joel and Kathy,

I really believe that everyone who is considering getting marriage should be required by their state to read your books before getting married! I believe the Intensive workshops need to be spread throughout the US. There is a real need in America to save marriages through this knowledge.

Just as stupidity breeds stupidity, abuse breeds abuse - and this is the only program that I know of that is designed to break that chain.

I wasn't sure what I was getting into when I agreed to come to this Intensive Weekend. I was surprised to find out that no one was yelling at me or calling me a stupid baby, screaming at me to grow up. The host was professional; light hearted and sincere; while getting their message across.

This is not some money making scheme. The program has support videos, books, website, phone mentoring and 24/7 help on their marriage forum.

After going to other marriage counselors, marriage retreat weekends and prayer, this program gets to the root cause. It is not just a treatment for the symptoms/problems. I pray that God will help you reach as many couples as possible.

Ron (and Judy)

Thank you, Joel and Kathy, for your very straight forward teaching; it has been SO helpful. Finally, I can see that the reason my husband has been so passive and non-responsive is because of his arrestedness and that the root of this passivity is his fear - and fear is the root of all abuse.

I feel validated that his very passive treatment of me has been abusive in the extreme. I hope my husband has really gotten the message this weekend. I'm willing to keep trying, with the hope that he will begin ACTING out of the truth we've learned this weekend.

Jenny (and David) From Australia
Want2heal and Want2healher - Forum names

More from Jenny, a month after the Weekend Marriage Intensive:

Here's a bit of a follow up praise report after the Intensive....I admit when I wrote the above paragraph at the Intensive I was more in touch with pain than joy....that is the honest truth because the Intensive brought a lot of issues to the surface for us, but that is good because they can get dealt with. In just a few weeks from the Intensive, NOW is when we've turned our corner. And it is awesome. We've found a much deeper connection.....so much that I say both of us can't help but smile, kiss and hug each other MORE than 20 times a day, because Love2 has come out of his shell (he was sort of like a little lost boy locked up in a lonely castle, too scared to let himself out to be known) and a LOT of things are changing in a short time.

God has used Joel and Kathy to give us His truth about how a husband and wife should love and respond to each other. I believe this to be a beautiful thing. We saw beautiful things happen all weekend to all the couples. I thank God for getting us here and opening my husband's eyes to what he has done and what he can do to change bad to good. It is a journey we both want to take to get God's goodness and to be outrageously happy and madly in love. This has been my dream for many years. This weekend is what God has used for my dream

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to come true and give me the desires of my heart. I pray this knowledge gets to many; that many marriages get healed and the knowledge gets passed on from generation to generation.

Connie of Connie and Rick
Indiana

This time with Joel and Kathy has opened my eyes and my heart to the fact that what Connie was trying to tell me was all true. It wasn't just something Connie wanted, it was what God wanted me to do and be. (to become the man that He had created me to be and the husband that my wife needed me to be.) I learned why I had done a lot of things I had done. I learned that Connie was just reading to me from the marriage manual (in her heart) and not putting me down or condemning me. She just wanted to help me change a lot of wrong thinking. I now have the ability to make the right choices and a friend to help me; and that friend is Connie!

Rick of Rick and Connie
Indiana

Kathy and Joel,

(I let Kathy take the lead because she broke my hardened heart the most! Smile)
Thanks for a weekend that helped me see myself as I am. This weekend helped me understand the many issues that I have and gave me the tools to work towards being the man that God wants me to be. My wife and I are so thankful that we were led by the Spirit to come to this intensive. You have worked a miracle in our lives. I feel set free, delivered and healed. I will never forget this weekend. God has truly blessed. Thank you so much and may you have many more "Livin' it and Lovin' it!" years.

Lee of Lee and Cynthia
Louisiana

Joel and Kathy,

This has been a priceless experience. A miracle was worked on the everlasting hope of God saving our marriage. My husband had decided that he could not love me as Christ loves the church. I could not pray anymore for restoration in my marriage. I simply stated, "Lord, let your will be done." I also said, "Lord, you know the desires of my heart." There were other couples at the Intensive and we were all genuine with sharing our experiences. Through the process of "what comes from the heart, reaches the heart" - God worked a miracle and my husband decided that he would love me like Christ loves the church. The other participants in the Intensive held him accountable! May God forever bless this marriage ministry!

Cynthia of Lee and Cynthia
Louisiana

I thought nothing else could help our marriage. I had tried every resource for marriage that I could think of and nothing really got to the core of the stubbornness in my husband's heart. I didn't know a ministry like this existed. Before I started reading the first book, I dreaded coming down to this marriage intensive. However, when I started reading the book, I was amazed & relieved. I saw and heard truth being taught so simply and in such a new way that I was amazed! As a teacher, I love to see truth being taught simply and clearly because I also fully believe that because of a lack of knowledge the people perish; and our marriage was perishing! Thank you, Joel and Kathy for allowing God to use you as vessels to breathe new life into our marriage. God bless you.

SOS of SOS and BraceMan on the marriage forum.

The time spent with Joel and Kathy brought us to the miracle of our marriage we so desired! I believe the information shared with us is inspired by God and gives wisdom and understanding needed to experience a

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healthy and outrageously happy marriage. My people perish for lack of knowledge. This is the knowledge needed to have the outrageously happy marriage that Christ died for us to experience. The joy of the Lord is our strength. I received a miracle from God this weekend. Thank you Joel and Kathy!
BraceMan of BraceMan and SOS on the www.JoelandKathy.com/boards/marriage forum.

More from BraceMann after the weekend:

We are one of the two couples who was on our way to divorce court and God touched our hearts through this ministry. If you believe in God and you're asking Him for a miracle He will give you one through the ministry God has anointed and ordained through Joel and Kathy. People perish for lack of Knowledge, this is the knowledge the world needs to save all marriages. Thank you so much for your faithfulness in this outreach, you are truly special people.

Well, this is challenging but the rewards are visible. Dying to one's self takes so many angles. Yesterday was our 7th wedding anniversary and we mingled some business together (miracle) and had fun with a trip to the beach on Tybee and had fun doing that also. We ate a sub in the pavilion at the beach we had picked up on the way and just let the breeze relax us. We relaxed on one of the swings, which was unoccupied, miracle, next to the pavillion. We just sat there for almost 2 hours holding each other and some PDA, miracle for me. We actually had a really good time. (note: PDA equals "public displays of affection")

The way back home was filled with ideas for our home that my wife was wanting to get done this summer. We discussed creative and inexpensive ideas to get our floors redone and utilize some rugs we have in storage in our garage.

The evening ended up with baking a razzle-berry pie and looking at floor staining ideas on the internet, fun. The pie ended up coming out of the oven

This morning was very positive interaction and the pie was good for breakfast.

Before the intensive, my wife and I had quit talking and I had moved out of the house for five months. The dilemma was on what to do about filing for divorce. I had no grounds other than she was screaming and yelling at me for everything, (which I deserved), but my arrested development, (which was revealed to me at intensive), was kicking me all the way to the gates of hell. The best thing was to be involved in a Christian group of men for mentoring.

One day one of my friends approached me and suggested to speak to Dr. Brandt on getting direction. After meeting with Dr. Brandt he suggested to meet with my wife. After Dr. Brandt met with my wife he suggested the intensive with Joel and Kathy. He also gave us "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!" The book seemed a lot far out to me but the Lord was keeping an interest due to the desire to have a successful relationship if my wife was willing to take me back. We were still not talking but Dr. Brandt was mediating for us information in regards to counseling. Dr. Brandt said my wife was open to counseling but was more concerned about my issues and my healing than she was about getting back together. The main thing is she agreed to go to intensive.

During this time our home was being neglected. The water pump on the well that supplied water to our lawn and landscaping had quit working. In the south lawns will die if not watered and plants will go into shock and die if not watered. I was not aware of this until after the intensive because I had abandoned my bride. This is very wrong

The correlation here is to the husbands responsibility in maintaining (listening to, being sensitive towards) our bride. Guys if we don't keep the water of life source open our lawn, (bride) will go into shock and start dying.

The Intensive with Joel and Kathy was major revelation and by Saturday night the conviction on me was pretty heavy. I had really messed up big time. If you guys don't know what your arrested development issues are ask for wisdom and knowledge in understanding what this means !!!!! The devil is deceiving and robbing you blind, trust me I know. The conviction to humble myself and tell my wife how sorry I was for hurting so deeply was overwhelming. We went our hotel room and I asked her to kneel down and pray with me. The ability to feel had left me until now, I asked God to help me experience the pain I had caused my wife with our business failure, me leaving her alone to suffer.

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God starting restoring our marriage the moment I starting feeling the pain and truly feeling repentant in heart.

Saturday night we were divinely placed in the car with the other couple who was at the intensive but it seemed like they were not going to work out their marriage. With everything sinking in and the healing that had been started in our marriage, the husband of the couple we were with started asking me what was going on with us. He noticed something different. God had moved in and was working on the other husband. That couple was Lee and Cynthia!

One major revelation my wife had, which allowed her to be open, was that when Jesus died, he won his bride back. The world was Satan's bride and was lost but when Jesus came he won back, through his sacrifice, his bride. The husband, through sacrifice (humility, repentance, confessing when he hurt his wife and being sorry for it), wins back his bride. The world did not know love nor could know love until Jesus loved us first with His sacrifice. Do you love you wife?

You can follow this couple on the forum by reading the "BraceMan" and "SOS" posts on the forum.

Thank you Joel and Kathy! The information in your books and the Intensive gives life. It leads men out of darkness and inspires them to finally live as God called them to live. As a Christlike man of God, putting their wives and children as their top earthly priority!

"His Crown" of "His Crown" and "Her Crown"

I feel like this weekend served as a jumpstart for a marriage that had all but ended. I am not sure if it would have ended up in divorce, but I am certain that without the teaching, we would have lived an unfulfilling, emotionally shallow life. The teaching has given my wife a reason to believe in me and what might be. It has given me the tools and understanding to effectively fight for her. There is still a lot of work to do and I have a long way to go, but I feel I am more prepared.

Kyle of Kyle and Tiffany

Just when I had given up and already emotionally divorced my husband, my hope was restored. I am beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Through the light (God's eyes), I am seeing flashbacks of the person I fell in love with and remembering that He put us together for a reason. I am looking forward to the day I receive my complete healing from the inside out and my soul-mate is revealed to me once again.

Tiffany of Tiffany and Kyle

Amazing Weekend! Joel and Kathy, ya'll are a God send for sure! I just love you both! I am hopeful, apprehensive still; yes, but hopeful. I look forward to the changes Steve will make. I look forward to really "being" a princess, being pursued; being cherished, etc. I can't wait to "really" bond with Steve. I hope I will someday get over this pain of betrayal. Maybe from now on, I will be the "only" one. Consider us a partner in the ministry and message! We'll be in touch.

Blessings,
Julie of Julie and Steve

Thank you! This weekend has opened my eyes to how deep I have hurt my wife over the last 22 years. I have received tools that will really help me die to myself. I am excited about bringing healing to my wife. There is so much healing in understanding who I am.

Blessings, Steve of Julie and Steve

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The Intensive has been a good time to focus on our marriage and apply the teachings to our struggles. Even though I had already read the books and seen the DVD, it's time to concentrate on the principles which I can see how they will work in our relationship.

Blessings,
Fallen Knight of Fallen Knight and Damsel in Distress (Forum Names)

Even though I had read the books, read on the forum, watched the DVD's and listened on the calls, being at the Intensive brought things together and in focus in a way that all of the above did not. I also feel like I came out with a concrete game plan to follow when we leave here.

Blessings,

Damsel in Distress of Damsel in Distress and Fallen Knight.

This weekend helped me to realize that Christ died for me. We are to love our wives the same way, as Christ loved the Church. We are to be willing to die to our non-spiritual nature. Seeing my wife through the eyes of my lord means willingly walking with my cross and allowing my crucifixion daily.
Oops - no name on this one!

Joel and Kathy,

Coming to this intensive has been the best experience of my life. My husband and I are 22 years old and have only been married for 7 months now and NEVER thought that the threat of DIVORCE would get us here. Nevertheless, I am eternally grateful to the Joel and Kathy Ministry. (smiles) My husband and I leave this intensive with the security and love that I thought was totally impossible to have in our broken marriage. Not only that, but I leave this place to begin a NEW JOURNY with a brand new man that will be lasting and a lifetime. With the help of Jesus we will have an Outrageously Happy Marriage!!!
All things are possible to those who BELIEVE.....

Victoria of Jorge and Victoria (Michael Jordan23 and Music444 on the forum)

Joel and Kathy,

I think this intensive has been a wakeup call for me and has helped me to understand that I need to fulfill my Beautiful wife's needs daily for the rest of our lives. I can understand her better and can now LISTEN to her without becoming defensive. I'm so happy that I can be honest and can bring healing to my wife! For all the abuse I put her through, thank you Joel and Kathy for giving us the keys to a Happy Marriage.

Blessings, Michael Jordan23

PS. I can't wait to get back home and apply all I have learned at this intensive. We are the first couple to get pregnant at an Intensive so we are going to be the first to have an Intensive Baby. (Big smiles)

Thank you Joel and Kathy,

Your example of your lives and combined with your teaching has given us our miracle. You have dealt with every troubled marriage interaction with wonderful skill and wisdom. Keep fighting the battle. You are being used mightily by God. Hopefully we can go out and be great examples of your ministry and give God the Glory.

Blessings,
Don Of Don and Cindy

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Joel and Kathy,

AMAZING! Transforming! I would not believe the changes in all of us had I not seen it myself. Thank you for exposing the many false teachings and we take for granted even though they don't work. What you guys (Joel and Kathy) say makes so much sense. It starts working Immediately and there is so much help afterwards. This teaching is profound and it all adds up. You lived it out BEFORE you preached it. God is truth, so thank you for radiating his truth.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!
Cindy of Cindy and Don

Joel and Kathy,

I gained a new perspective on where we both came from and what we both brought into our marriage. Your weekend has given us some valuable tools to heal our lives together.
Blessings, D of D and M

Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for gifting us with your wisdom and timeless energy these last few days. We have taken a few steps forward and hopefully we can increase the momentum of the process of healing in our marriage. I've really learned a lot from ya'll. Your ministry is powerful. I will be strong and healed with this marriage and in life.
Blessings, M of M and D

What I have learned at this weekend trip is to be positive with my wife and do what she wants me to do the first time that she asks! I also learned to not react by getting mad at what my wife says when she vents and to know what to do when she does. Don't react to what she says and just be nice. Also, that it is my job to initiate positive words and actions first and let her respond! So this weekend I learned a lot and I have a lot of new things to apply in our life! Thank you, Joel and Kathy, for teaching me!
Bakarri of Bakarri and Angel

This was a wonderful weekend! The information shared was so wonderful. There were things that both my husband and I needed to hear. I am very grateful for the much needed time away from our kids in order to solely focus on our marriage. There have been two other seminars that we have attended but this is the only one that has addressed the truth of all of our issues. I am also grateful for the prayer that we received from Kathy's mother-in-law and for the people we met. We have made new friends for a lifetime.

Angel of Bakarri and Angel

I have come away with a much better understanding of being the husband that God has been calling me to be. The intensive weekend really helped solidify the information presented in the books and more! I have a better understanding of why I act the way I do and why my sin, lack of listening and ministering to my wife's heart has hurt her so deeply. In fact, deeper than I have ever before realized. I'm expecting a miracle from God in making me the man that my wife needs. I'm committing myself to God, my wife, and our happiness as one.

Gideon of Gideon and Kat

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This weekend has definitely brought my husband and I closer. I believe he is getting it and I will be waiting and responding - and we will see what happens! I have hope and I am encouraged that we will one day have an Outrageously Happy Marriage!
Kat of Gideon and Kat

Joel & Kathy,

Things are going better than before the intensive, it definitely keeps improving. But, it's been lots of hard work!

We shared your books with our pastors and they are loving them. They are wanting us to start a small group with them as soon as we are ready (which we don't feel quite ready yet). It seems as though God is bringing people to our attention all the time that need your books, so we are passing them out and giving out your website. We have several couples we would like to send your way for an intensive, but need to do a bit more talking to them first. We will let you know if any of these materialize. Would you ever be interested in doing an intensive in OH?

Thank you again for the ministry you are doing!! It has made such a difference in our lives! I shudder to think where we would have ended up if we had not found you!!

Nancy and Lee
April Intensive

From John, of John and Kim, three days after the Intensive:

WOW!!!! What a mental and spiritual shift. The Holy Spirit has begun to literally transform my entire perspective on Kim our Marriage and our awesome future together. This is FOR REAL!

As I diligently seek Him and continue to be fed the TRUTH He builds up my Spirit man and reinforces my actions. Kim will share her sense and feelings by next week after a bit more time elapses.

You all have discovered "God's Operation Manual for Marriages"!

We desire to share the Truth of God that has so desperately been missing, and He has revealed it to you guys!!! Can't wait to see you all soon. Blessings!

From John of John and Kim on day number four after the Intensive:
WOW!!!! What a shift in the way I view everything concerning our marriage, which bottom line is "everything"!

Over the years we have been to most "Top Marriage Conferences" spending a lot more \$ and time away from our children. It was either the same surface information we have all heard or even worse; the scriptures were twisted and fueled my husband even more to believe I was unforgiving with a closed and cold heart.

Because of the false teachings of the "Spiritual Heads" in our life and in the church- I have been crucified for the very thing I just knew I was to do, which is to call my husband to be a better man. This has eaten away at my health and made me a resentful and bitter woman.

I am very analytical, it takes a lot to get me excited about anything. The scriptural Word Studies are awesome and so freeing. The spiritual truths are absolutely what we needed, to know what our roles are. No confusion-No justifications-No excuses.

The pit of overwhelming hopelessness and accusations made me feel like at any moment I could lose my mind. The Intensive has given me the Freedom to Heal and the truth that my family can be restored.

Kim of John and Kim

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

This weekend's intensive was yet another dramatic weekend, full of wonderful breakthrough miracles! We never cease to stand in awe at the miracles that God works through the Intensive weekends. We are seeing an increase in the anointing upon the weekends; which is really cool. We are watching the Lakeland Revival Outpouring for 30 minutes to four hours at night - sometimes delayed, watching it at midnight!

The impartation from this revival is unique and tangible. We are sensing an impartation into us, increasing the anointing on the ministry to marriages. We have always looked to God for miracles - and this increase in His presence and anointing is only increasing that.

We do not believe that any revival is "worth its salt" if that revival does not include making an impact on marriages. While the Lakeland Revival is seeing physical bodies being raised from the dead, we are seeing MARRIAGES being raised from the dead!

This Marriage Intensive has revealed God's truths and design for a Happy and Fruitful Marriage and family. After nearly 23 years of Marriage and at the very end of our rope, God's provision and timing was divinely ordained. Joel and Kathy Davisson are the two most dedicated people in Marriage we've met, whose hearts are in this to change the destinies of Husbands, wives and families all over the World.

God's spirit led my wife to discover this Anointed Ministry to save our marriage and my life. My wife and I have been to FOUR major marriage ministry weekends with other big name marriage ministries - to no avail. In our opinion Joel and Kathy's "Man of Her Dreams, Woman of His" Marriage Intensive is by far the most insightful, transformational and anointed operations manual for Marriage. (Note: Names of the other ministries deleted.)
John of John and Kim

The Intensive was not what I expected. Of course, my wife had to sign us up without my approval. In the first and second sessions, my heart opened up. After I heard the principle of the husband being the initiator and the wife being the responder, I dropped the list of things that my wife needed to fix. I tried to fix everyone else's problems and made my family a mess. After taking on my responsibility of initiator, I feel that my wife will follow and my kids will respond. I look forward to apologizing to my kids and regaining their hearts.

Thanks Joel and Kathy
Barry of Barry and Glenda

This weekend has just completely grounded and confirmed what Brad and I were already doing. (We read the books three months ago and began this journey to an Outrageously Happy Marriage!) It was nice to come and know we are on the right track. The teaching on why men act like toddlers in marriage and how women are sometimes affected by these same type of issues, was the most informative for me.

Anna of Anna and Brad

This is one weekend I will never forget. It's a wakeup call to all men. Men put your ego aside and finally do something. I think every man should read this (and attend an Intensive!), it will change how you think and your marriage will thank you.
Brad of Anna and Brad

"What God reveals God wants to heal."

God revealed to me that my marriage was in crisis by a series of events. He brought Kathy and Joel into our lives. We came to the Marriage Intensive with high hopes that this would be the jumping start that we needed to help heal our marriage.

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The weekend has set the foundation that we needed to heal our marriage. Whether you have a husband/wife who is physically, verbally or one who doesn't talk at all, there is hope. The foundation is laid for an "Outrageously Happy Marriage." The tools are made available that will break the chains of Marital Frustration. We are excited to see what the future holds for us. We are looking forward to having an Outrageously Happy Marriage."

Mary of Edsel and Mary

Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for bringing to my attention my real age in reference to being a husband. You have brought to my attention many ways I need to grow up in my relationship to Mary, my wife. Most of all your relationship to God our Heavenly Father shows up. I really love how Kathy helps in the presentation and supports the teaching. It is very real. I have been helped much in regards to warning signs of what to look for and not to do in regards to flirting and what becomes of it. Minor things become major before you know it. I have been blessed and will promote your program to help other couples and my family.

Edsel of Edsel and Mary

The Intensive has been very Intense. It has reaffirmed biblical truth relative to Marriage relationships: (that truth not tainted by man's agenda or interpretation.)

It has also emphasized to be a doer of the Word. Without taking a step, faith alone is inadequate. For me it also pointed out the extreme difficulty of overcoming anger, resentment and bitterness. These things of course represent a large measure of fear and takes an extreme amount of Love to overcome.

Ron of Ron and J

At this Marriage Intensive,

I learned that I have become an angry, bitter and resentful woman, full of unforgiveness, however: I also learned that specifically, in marriage, forgiveness w/o an apology and true repentance is unwarranted-in fact, an error.

I felt very angry, even disillusioned, at this, particularly at myself, since I have spent much time and effort in continuous soul searching, discernment, confession and repentance to God. Truth is, I became the husband in the marriage(!) and an emotionally divorced woman- I walked with a physical limp now for 2 years now since my husband left the state. Thank God for the breakthrough that we have received this weekend! We have a new beginning!

J of Ron and J

This weekend I learned that I must grow up and mature as a 100% Mature man or my 5% immature child can and will destroy my remaining life. I learned that the only way I can have a Heavenly and Outrageously Happy Marriage is to die to myself, undermine my pride, keep my wife on top of my mind and in front of my eyes.

Love my wife, adore her, love and accept her as she is just the way she is.

Thank you and God Bless,

H of H and L

Atlanta, GA

Wow! I can't believe what a life changing experience. The information that Joel and Kathy teach is the complete road map to heal hurting marriages. My husband and I have attended: Family Dynamics: "A New Beginning", a Gary Smalley Seminar and Family Life's "Weekend to Remember." None of these taught us the truth that would get to the real root of our problems. We left with no real tools to take home and work on our issues.

Joel and Kathy have shared with us real life tools to help us grow and heal our marriage.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

I am so grateful for this weekend. Joel and Kathy share their life and growth. This brings help to help every marriage in the world to not only mature; but also to grow in Christ.

L of H and L
Atlanta, GA

Dear Joel and Kathy,

After 5 years of misery and intense pain, this is the only thing that has opened my husbands' eyes. Traditional counseling did help some (when we were in it), but nothing really changed until we found Joel and Kathy and their wonderful books. This concept is different, but it makes sense and it WORKS! For the first time in years, I have real hope for our marriage.

God bless you both,
Shez M. (of Shez and Steven)

This weekend has saved my marriage and life. Two weeks prior to coming, my mother had passed away and I lost my marriage – all in one week!

I am so thankful for this weekend! The hope for a happy marriage is back in my heart. I have learned the answers to questions, both that I needed and ones I never thought to ask.

I have learned that I need to simply do what my wife has asked me to – to love her and be there for her which in turn will heal me.

The other people in our group have become people whom I care for. I wish for them to also be better and healed.

Anyone can benefit from coming to a Weekend Marriage Intensive. Joel and Kathy have "a knowing" in which they know how to heal; through God, our marriage and life.

Thank you,
Steven M. (of Steven and Shez)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This weekend has been a ray of hope. Before we arrived, the lawyer was on stand-by to serve my husband with divorce papers. My husband never learned how to meet my needs. Now he feels like he knows what to do. This is the first time in 17 years that he has listened to me, heard me, validated me and acted loving even after I said something he disagreed with.

Thank you for changing our life.
Susan and Tom

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thank you so much for you ministry. This intensive has opened my mind to new thinking. I received information that will change me and my marriage. It has restored my marriage, view of marriage and family. We have been home for a few days and I have totally changed my focus.

We've not had a fight or argument. We've made love every day. I am focused on meeting my wife's needs like never before. I am, telling her I love her, showing her affection and initiating things that I know she likes - like walking around Wal-Mart, buying Christmas decorations and putting up the tree. We spent the day together and relaxed at Starbucks.

Tom and Susan

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We were referred to Joel and Kathy's intensive by another couple. Our marriage had reached the end. Abuse in all forms as well as addiction, had ruled in our 21 years of marriage. I longed for the cycle to be broken and for the spirit of God to reign in our home.

Joel and Kathy's ministry, their love, approachability, honesty, knowledge, wisdom - reached into our life. My husband and I learned why our marriage had reached brokenness and despair and what God's word says regarding the healing of it.

God used this couple and the information to plant our feet on a solid foundation to walk out a marriage abuse - free.

Blessings,

This is the best "fail-proof" biblical way to have what you want as a man and make your wife deliriously happy at the same time. If you feel your wife needs to change and if you are hurting but want to be a man of God, then come to a Weekend Marriage Intensive! Joel and Kathy are humble servants and don't judge you because they love you. It works

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This workshop is definitely worth the time and effort. I believe that if every married couple would attend BEFORE they have problems, preferably right after the honeymoon, they would be able to avoid and or prevent the many problems that destroy marriages. Joel and Kathy are teaching principles with new paradigms that make it possible to truly have an Outrageously Happy Marriage. If both spouses are willing, a miracle can occur! God Bless,

Dear Joel and Kathy,

The principles presented in this Intensive are aligned with the Word of God. If followed, they will produce an Outrageously Happy Marriage!

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I want to say how much this weekend meant to me. I learned a lot. I learned how things that I was doing for the right reason, I was doing wrong. Thank you for all the help and information, the love and prayers. I want to put this into action for my New Beginning to life and New Marriage.

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This weekend has been incredibly validating for me. I came here with some intense and great anger. I have been beseeching God to remove the intensity up and out by the root, and he has.

I feel free in knowing that I am getting healthier.

I have seen God work this weekend and it has been awesome. Joel and Kathy have both inspired and encouraged me.

Joel and Kathy,

-

Thank you so much for your anointed ministry!

-

Your books, website, DVD's, forum and Weekend Marriage Intensive, in conjunction with Life Skills, have

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

created an absolute miracle in our lives and in our marriage.

Mike used to be a belligerent, unreasonable, angry, vengeful man inside, with a caring, thoughtful, sugar coated outside- classic Jekyll/Hyde. He's been on the journey over the last 4 months to becoming a peaceful, healthy, mature, whole, undivided man of God. He's been listening to me vent and hearing my hurts, but the Intensive finally gave us the miracle breakthrough we were both looking for and slayed the dragon that had been destroying us both.

He now understands the reasons for my past and finally feels compassion for the hurts I was dealt from the time I was a little child on into adulthood. He told me last night on the way home from the Intensive that he's more committed than ever to healing me, not only from the damage he's done, but from all the damage inflicted on me by other men in my life as well. I believe he can do it. I told him just today I thought he was awesome- and I said it because that's how I really feel! I'm so proud of him for every step he's taken to fight the 'old man!' I know there will be setbacks, but the progress we've been able to make is worth the price of 10 Intensives, no question.

I recommend an Intensive to anyone who wants to have an Outrageously Happy Marriage. Whether you've been dealing with infidelity, porn, abuse, or neglect, your eyes will be opened to truths that can set you free. Skeptical men started to open up as they were given concrete reasons for the craziness in their marriages, and women's deep desires and hurts were validated. How awesome!

Marie of Marie and Mike
(happierwifehere- truly a much happier wife!)

PS It was so great to meet you! We feel like we're part of your family. God has anointed you guys and I'm so excited to continue being a part of your awesome ministry!

Joel and Kathy, I love the way that you communicate clearly and honestly, with lots of fun. It is outstanding.

The ability to communicate simply and honestly, yet lovingly the "slug" that we men are and the "flower" my wife is, finally got through to me..

I had lost my faith, my wife and more before I got to Palm Coast. When I left I had and have the rejuvenated seed, to be a Christlike man for my wife, children and community.

Thank you, Scott (Husband of Patricia)

This is a life-saving seminar for marriage! The fresh perspective is Biblical and life-giving. It validates a woman's feelings and gives understanding to a man for his dysfunction. The marriage Intensive is intense, which is - what's needed for healing! It's straight talk and deals with the root issues.

Thank you! Your ministry brings hope to couples who are about to give up. Marriages were beginning to be restored before our very eyes during the Intensive!

Patricia (Wife of Scott)

The Intensive teaches men to treat their wives as they did when they were dating. That's what's meant by "cleave" - leave to cleave.

To cleave is like climbing a mountain - work at it and the trip is worth the view!
The last 5 minutes answered a lot of questions!

Thank you!
Kay of Kay and Barry

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Joel and Kathy,

The Intensive - the information is a one of a kind intense marriage surgery.
If you are serious about being happily married this is an outstanding God based program that really works.
Barry of Barry and Kay

Thank you Joel and Kathy for what you do! You are truly anointed with the Holy Spirit to present a REAL solution to marriage problems that is Biblically "on target" and completely different than any other message out there that we have seen. Your message saves marriages!

Thank you, Bill J. (Husband of Stephanie J.)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thank you so much for your ministry and all that you do for marriages. It is difficult for me to put into words what this week has done for me.

The word that comes to the forefront of my mind is HOPE.

Up until this point I felt hopeless and I didn't know where to turn. Finally, I feel like we have some tools to fix our marriage. Also, I am amazed how a lot of principles taught can help with other problems as well, such as overcoming anxiety, anger and addictions.

God gave me an incredible gift when he connected me with your ministry.

I now feel a sense of hope and know that if we can do the homework and implement what we've learned, our lives will be forever changed, as well as the lives of our children. I can't wait to share this with other couples.

Thank you, Stephanie Jones (Wife of Bill J.)

Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for this weekend. It has been a learning experience and has corrected so much bad teaching we have received from the church.

The first two days my heart was hard and I resisted your teaching. The third day my heart began to soften.

Please pray for me - I have so much to deal with..

May God bless you and your ministry.
Humbly, J.P.

Joel and Kathy,

This has been so helpful! I have learned so much. I promise to do my part. I truly want our marriage to be healed. Our kids are so wonderful. They deserve our best.
Please pray for us!

Kathy P.
PS. I am recommending others to your intensives.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Your marriage Intensive is the capstone to what the Lord has been teaching me this year, especially in the last three months.

I can't think of a better place for my wife and I to have been on our 22nd anniversary than at your class.

Blessings,
George M.

Joel and Kathy,

You have a wonderful family. Thank you so much for being so transparent and sharing your life with us. I enjoyed meeting your kids. They are great kids and very talented. Thank you for giving your time, energy and heart.

I just appreciate what you gave to us this weekend. HELP, TOOLS & LOVE.

We will be praying for you and I love how you talk about Shekinah.

This weekend has validated my feelings, beliefs and things that I've been confused about for the last 27 years.

I've been to a string of counselors the last 27 years and I can't say any of them had good marriages.

We usually quit going to them because they would tell us (Norman and Jan) "we can't help you" or they have point blank told Norman that if he was not going to change, there was no use for us to continue. They would give us no hope. No encouragement, reason or tools for me or Norman to change.

They had no truth, and Norman and I finally would realize we were not smart to draw water out of dry wells. .

This weekend shouts TRUTH, HOPE, and ENCOURAGEMENT! It gave me a voice and gave my Husband ears to hear me and God!

We tried to make the wrong things the Church teaches our FOUNDATION, but those things don't work. They imprison women, cover us with despair and breed hopelessness. They take our voice away, turning us into slaves with no rights.

This weekend cleared out the lies, blasted the poison out of our lives.

Those lies were replaced with truth, light and love.

Basically, we got MORE of JESUS.

More rungs were put on our ladder that we can actually work to climb.

Thank you for the tools and understanding. You all were a blessing beyond measure!

Thanks for a week that shouts TRUTH and giving me a man and the tools to make my marriage the BEST!

Thank you, thank you!
Jan S. (Wife of Norman S.)

Thanks for everything! I really believe our marriage and my life are on the right road now! Your tools and knowledge are awesome. I already can see a huge difference in our relationship and in me! It is a constant battle in my mind to think and act differently in everything and I can't wait until my brain "rewires" so it will

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come naturally.

Thanks so much for helping me to start becoming the husband my wife needs, so I can become the man of God I desire to be and God wants me to be. I am excited to be able to bring healing in my wife's heart as well as others from the past and realize I need this as well to bring peace to me.

Donald (and Stacy)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thank you so much for giving us the possibility of our very own marriage miracle! After going through two years of abuse and heartache, I had hoped to just have a marriage that could "survive." I never even considered the idea that I could have that "fairy tale" marriage that I dreamed about as a child.

Thanks to God and what I have learned from you at the weekend intensive, I am beginning to take out those old, forgotten dreams and dust them off! I am excited about the future for the first time since I said "I DO!" I can't wait to update you about our progress toward an Outrageously Happy Marriage!

Love Stacy (and Donald)

Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for validating my feelings, heart and soul. Most important, thank you for making me believe in and love myself again.

Love and God Bless,
M of M and J

This weekend taught me what a Christian Attitude should look like. The tools I now have will enable me to love and serve my wife the way the Lord Intended.

Thank you so much for love, concern and compassion in our marriage.

David B. of David and Tracy

Joel and Kathy,

The Marriage Intensive has helped me to understand the reasons that I have felt the way I have for so long. I do look forward to an Outrageously happy marriage. I really want to know what that will feel like. I think my husband gets your concept and I look forward to seeing the results in him.

Thank you so very much and God bless your ministry,

Mitsy of Mike and Mitsy

Dear Joel and Kathy,

To anyone with trouble in their marriage you have to come here. I now know why J & K call this an Intensive. You will learn things about a man and woman you never imagined. Anyone can do this. J & K take marriage very seriously and personally. They are very committed to your marriage. You owe it to yourself and your wife to experience this.

Mike of Mike and Mitsy

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

This weekend has given me the knowledge, understanding and tools as to why I had kept hurting my wife, who is the most important person to me in the world; and the ability to STOP HURTING her. My wife is the most forgiving, understanding, loving woman in the world and I kept crushing her spirit time after time and this weekend gave me the opportunity to win her heart and have an Outrageously Happy Marriage.
J of M and J

JOEL and KATHY,
THANKS FOR SHARING YOUR EXPERIENCES, KNOWLEDGE, WISDOM, TEACHINGS AND LAUGHTER WITH US LAST WEEKEND. THANKYOU FOR HELPING ME OPEN MY EYES, HEART AND MIND TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF HOW LUCKY I AM TO BE MARRIED TO SUCH A BEAUTIFUL WOMEN. IF THERE IS ANYTHING I CAN DO TO HELP YOU SPREAD YOUR MINISTRY PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO CALL ON ME. ONCE AGAIN THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU. OH YEAH U HAVE A VERY INTELLIGENT CHARISMATIC YOUNG MAN IN YOUR SON CHRIS. HE WAS A JOY. I SHOULD HAVE GIVEN U A BIG HUG FOR HELPING AND LEADING ME TO AN OUTRAGEOUSLY HAPPY MARRIAGE! GOD BLESS, I WILL KEEP U IN MY PRAYERS. J of J and M

Dear Joel and Kathy,
Yes, I have been listening on your Thursday nights and am in touch with a couple of others here in Aus. Thanks for your reply on the thread, we are finding the forum extremely helpful, I'm blessed that Don is now reading online too. (From Kiwi of Kiwi and Koala on the forum)

Remember! We offer a weekly marriage mentoring call in and also a marriage forum where you can get help on a daily basis from us and others who have been helped by "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!" See details below.

Hi kids (referring to Joel and Kathy!)

We were not on the conference call last night - we were on a "Valentines Date."

Elegant dinner, hotel suite, flowers, candles, Sexy red nighty purchased and waiting for me on the bed at the hotel - Not bad for an old man????????? LOL.

(My husband) initiated the WHOLE THING!!!!!!!!!!!!!! If you were to ask him he'd tell you, "he's getting it!!!!!!!!!!!!!! and loving it!!!!"

He is reading your book #2 everyday; we watch the DVD twice a week. Everyday day and night we pray and thank God for your ministry and for leading us there.

He has apologized to three of our children for the hurt and shame he has brought into our lives and theirs.

Be encouraged!

We came away from the "intensive" blessed!

We love you. You're in our prayers.
Ted and Mandy

Hi Joel & Kathy,

J and A here. Just want to thank you both for your books, DVD"s & all your support.

We are a part of Kristen & Ed's group from Buffalo NY. It's been a long hall but Adam & I are speaking again, seeing each other again & working toward reconciliation. So I guess you can say we are "back together" but I

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still have my own apartment.

We are midway through the DVD's & back at care group faithfully. My husband seems to have an understanding of laying his life down for his wife, has realized he needed to grow up, & has made a new commitment to God. I definitely see a change in him. & he IS winning my heart back.

The only thing we seem to be in disagreement about is me moving home. He says he is ready, i am not yet. How will i know when it is time? (I have been gone since Nov. 3rd , we did not speak at all for about 2 months

& right after Christmas we talked on the phone & have pretty much been speaking almost daily since)

I am not sure the way this process should work & believe you are the experts here so any advice to us would be greatly appreciated. Adam & I want to thank you very much & pray for you & your ministry & have bought several books & give them out to many people.

Love In-Christ,
J & A <><

(We spoke to J and A. They followed our recommendation to register for a Weekend Marriage Intensive as being the first step to living together again. They are scheduled to attend in a couple months and are living together now. The wait was too long for them to attend the Intensive, so we gave them a green light to go ahead and move back in together as soon as they wanted to do so. JK)

God saved my life, my wife, my marriage, my children and my children's children etc. through this Weekend Marriage Intensive.

Our marriage was a boat drifting aimlessly through the storms of life. We had no rudder on our boat! Joel and Kathy's information is the truth and it has transformed me into the "rudder" God calls me to be. I take full responsibility for the direction our marriage has gone and will go in the future.

I have to keep our boat aimed at Christ. I can do that ONLY by constantly telling my wife "I'm sorry. Please forgive me. I love you and only you. What can I do to bless you in this moment?" - and then truly listen to what she says.

Thank you, Joel and Kathy. You saved my marriage. I realize the most important thing in this world is marriage. I could make millions; I could help others beyond my wildest dreams. BUT, if my wife does not have the marriage of her dreams, then in Christ, I have done nothing. (1 Corinthians 13)

"Broken" (and "Loved")

Broken and Loved are this couples screen names on our marriage forum. Follow their progress there!

This weekend helped me find my balance. It saved my sanity and my heart. I got to dust off my dreams. I feel now that I have my PRINCE CHARMING! Thank- you, Joel and Kathy!

Erin "Loved" (and "Broken")

We were so blessed to take part in Joel and Kathy's Weekend Intensive.

We've been married for ten years, but I feel like just NOW, we are beginning to understand what marriage is - what the Lord created it to be.

It's a new beginning for us. When we went to the group dinner on Saturday night, I looked around at all the other couples (at the restaurant) who had not been at the intensive and my heart went out to them.

I felt as though I was walking in the light of this new revelation and they were still in darkness. The intensive

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with Joel and Kathy brought us "into the light" so we could see clearly in our marriage, rather than fumble around in the dark.

Thank you, Joel and Kathy!

Mia and John - Canada

This last Intensive was attended by couples from Australia, Canada, Florida, Virginia and Texas!

Joel and Kathy,

I was blessed through attending your "Intensive" this weekend. As I have traveled through life, I have experienced a few life changing events - and this is one of them!

We had watched the 8 hour DVD seminar, which included some of the material, but there is absolutely NO SUBSTITUTION for experiencing this message face to face. Getting large doses of hope and the promise of future healing is a true blessing to receive.

James (and Jessica)

This weekend intensive has given hope to me after decades of my heart hurting from hope being deferred. Joel and Kathy offered tremendous content, providing direction for us personally as a couple and daily nuts and bolts - practical ideas - so we get a picture of where it is we are going and how to get there. We were in a very supportive environment with 5 other couples - it was nice to know we are not the only ones!

Jessica and James

I believe that simply reading the books would be a great eye opening experience, but being at the intensive weekend is so much more effective. Time will tell what happens after, but I know that if we didn't come here, we would not have had a chance!

Samantha (and Ken)

This weekend Intensive provided a good foundation for me to begin working on our relationship.

Ken (and Samantha)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thanks! You guys are truly amazing. God's principles properly understood REALLY work!.

Doug moves his stuff home tonight. I woke feeling out of sorts and couldn't figure out why. Dropped him off at work and sent him a text telling him so. He called me (even though he had just minutes before he needed to start work) to reassure me he would NOT let me down.

It's been SO good, I'm scared to death of losing it again. He said, "I've got it!", and he does.

I haven't felt the kind of love and respect I'm feeling for him in a really long time. Now, the cycle is, he treats me great, I respond and he is psyched to do even more. What a great cycle!!

I'm truly lovin' it!!!

Meeting with Dory and a friend she's been wanting me to talk to for lunch. I'm really psyched right now, I KNOW that the truth set me free, and I so want others to receive that freedom!

Thanks again, Our lives are forever changed.

Sharon (attended January Intensive)

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Joel & Kathy,

You are both so blessed and are a blessing to the Heart of God. With every beat of God's heart it speaks restore, restore. Thank you for beating in time with His heart and bringing restoration to our family. The Dream Team, Winning our Children's hearts back on player at a time.
Ash Shade

("Ash" is referring to the the ashes of the dead guy; shade refers to the shade of emotional love and protection that a mature man of God offers to his wife and children.)

Joel and Kathy,

Greetings from Music City, USA. Ron and Darlene are doing great. Today is her birthday. I got her a beautiful ring with her birthstone and a couple of small diamonds. (pat on the back for me).

I hope the other folks from our class are doing well.

Ron

Hey Joel and Kathy,

Just another quick note to say we are doing great. I look forward to Valentine's Day tomorrow. Actually I think we are having Valentine's Day every day! OK, that's a stretch but you know what I mean.
Thanks again for your ministry

Ron (February 2008)

(Ron and his wife attended the Weekend Marriage Intensive in December)

I met Joel and Kathy two years ago. As with most men, I believed all of the problems with our marriage lied with my wife and her problems. Well, I found out just how wrong I was.

Through all of the trials and tribulations we've been through, and an intensive with Joel and Kathy, it has not been an easy road, but there has been LOTS of progress.

Bottom line? Two days ago, my beloved and I were remarried by Joel and Kathy. I still have tons of work to do to heal my wife's heart, and she has wounds that my sacrificial love will heal with God's help.

In other words, we're

LIVIN' IT AND LOVIN' IT.

Note from Joel and Kathy: Wow. What a ride! Congratulations to you both, so much!

This weekend was definitely intense. I came here with the hope of winning my wife back, and though I'm not all the way there, I started the weekend with little hope only to end with great hope. My wife had taken off her wedding ring 3 months earlier when we separated. She put it back on this weekend. If you want hope for your marriage this is the place to start. It may be painful as it was for me, but it is worth it.,

Daniel Moser, 01/06/08 (and Michelle)

Joel and Kathy's weekend Intensive Marriage Weekend was huge for my marriage. It is unbelievable how much sense it makes when you really understand the concept. The biggest eye opener for me was how dramatically opposite it is from what we're taught in the Church our whole lives!

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

When I saw how eye opening it was for my husband that is really what sold me. I was ready to give up and walk out until I realized the potential that was there. He was really understanding, grasping and believing that he needed to change- big time!

Thank God for giving my husband a sensitive and teachable spirit!

Michelle Moser (and Daniel)

This weekend has given me so much understanding and hope, to have a happy marriage. It has been empowering to know we can affect change in our marriage. The best ever. I have seen the goodness of God I never experienced.

Cynthia Harmon (and Pat)

This weekend has taught me a lot of why I do what I do as a man and why women do what they do. I have learned through this weekend that what happened to me as a child is not my fault and now I know how to deal with my arrested development. As I grow and become the man my wife needs, then in turn I become whole and healed and the man God has called me to be. Also, this brings my wife to the point of healing in her life as I grow and mature. Thanks to J & K's transparency, love, support and time this weekend and through out the journey. Days were long, sometimes with intense study, but I do not regret it one moment. Tons of tools and now we are ready to go forward with this knowledge.

Pat Harmon (and Cynthia)

PS. Thanks for your mom! I don't have words!

This weekend has been an eye-opening experience. I would recommend it to anyone who wants to get to the bottom of the real issues. It has given me hope for real lasting change.

Robin (and Eric)

This weekend has been a wake-up call to how men should treat their wives. It has showed me that being a real man is being compassionate, forgiving and supportive, not the ruler. If we will apply these principles our marriages will be great.

Eric V (and Robin)

The Intensive put a skin onto what I learned at Lifeskills International. It has given practical applications on how to apply and what to do with my arrested development. With the information that I have learned and am trying to apply, I do not have to feel impotent in trying to address my wife's needs. I have always, in my heart felt responsible for my wife and kid's outlook but I have been incapable of getting beyond myself to properly bless and uplift my family. I want to do this and with proper focus and commitment I can. There is much more to my family than myself. I repent for not pleasing my wife as #1 in my life behind Christ. I thank Joel and Kathy for sharing their lives with myself and my wife in order to give hope that there can be a resolution to the pain that I have caused. Thank you for opening my eyes to my wife's value to me. Thank you for encouraging my wife where I have been lacking.

Steve (and Jane)

We did not find a letter from Jane - but Jane and her kids stayed at our home for a day after the Intensive (their three kids stayed at our home during the Intensive) and Jean was very, very happy in the way that things were going. (Scott had to fly home immediately to attend to business; Jean and their awesome teenagers stayed in Florida to visit their grandparents for a week. For the first time in years, she felt a reality that they

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could have a marriage and life that would be focused and happy. Jean, if you wrote a letter at the end of the Intensive, sorry that we lost it! If not, send one sometime! JK

This weekend has been life changing for me. I learned so much valuable information. I really feel that my marriage has a fighting chance now. Before this weekend, I thought for sure that we would end up divorced within the year. I know if we go home and apply these awesome principles to our daily lives that we can have an "Outrageously Happy Marriage" and bring healing to our children. I want the patterns of divorce to end with us. I know that Marc and I can fall back in love with each other. I just praise God that Joel and Kathy have dedicated their lives to helping other couples to have an Outrageously Happy Marriage just like they do.
Laura (and Marc)

(Note, Marc is twenty years old. Pray for him to "get it". It is hard to understand maturity for a fifty year old man, much less a twenty year old. Pray for Laura. They have a two year old and one baby on the way. Ten days after the intensive, Laura had to put Marc out of the home. We are praying for them, for her to have peace as she carries the baby, and for Marc to repent, FULL TIME, and be a husband and father, FULL time. As we told Laura, it is not like she can say, "take this baby out of my belly so I can go and get wild and crazy with my girlfriends." Pray for Marc to get his joy and "fun" out of being a loving husband and daddy.)

What this weekend has meant to me is that it shows me how much I need my wife and how I was trying to keep my wife the wrong way. I have realized how much I need my wife, and how much I love her. This weekend has reinforced what I only had a clue about, a clue about having a very happy marriage, how to make and keep my wife happy and about me just being a mature adult male.
Marc (and Laura)

Thoughts from one of our "Weekend Marriage Intensive" wives. You can read MUCH more like this at our forum: Husbands are called to be the "source of life" to his wife. They are called to FEED into them, LIFE. Here it is in a nutshell, guys:

If I speak in the tongues[a] of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. (does your wife sound like a gong, or a clanging symbol??) 2If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames,[b] but have not love, I gain nothing.

To simplify this a little; YOU could give your wife EVERY WORLDLY THING KNOWN TO MAN. You could give her jewels too many to contain. And horses to ride beachside. And a house with fountain and birdbath in the front yard. And a nice, clean truck. And a clean kitchen, with dishes done and floors mopped. You could give her all of this and more - if you give NOT LOVE you give her nothing. Absolutely NOTHING. Love is the most important. Love is the basis of all other things. If you give not LOVE, you give nothing. If everything you do for your wife is not motivated by LOVE, you are giving her NOTHING. If you give her love (the way she desperately NEEDS you to), you give her the world.

Also, if your wife sounds like the resounding gong, or the clanging symbols (my my how those hurt the ears!!), you should take it as a very CLEAR sign, that your wife is not feeling LOVE. You should do everything you can at that point to FEED her what it is she is hungering for. LOVE
Laura

SO, here it is, the whole story. The good, the bad, and the ugly.

My husband and I have been married just over ten years now. Before I married him, I KNEW he was the right one. I truly felt like God had pointed to him and told me he was it. But very shortly after we were married, life took over, and the generous, loving, caring, listening man I thought I had married was GONE. completely. He didn't want to help in the house, he did go to work, but then he came home and wanted to basically live as

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though he was alone - except for when he wanted something.

My prince charming ended up being prince SELF love... And I was miserable. And the more I voiced it the worse it got. Now, my honey was never physically abusive (I would have left him a lot sooner if he was!), but he was emotionally horrible.

We were in a church that encouraged him to "be the man" and "lead his family", but he truly had absolutely NO idea what that meant. And so, he did what most "good men" do, and tried to be the "head" by making sure I couldn't say anything about what he felt or thought. He was always "good" to me, according to worldly standards - I was a stay at home mom from the moment we had our first child together. He worked hard most of the time to make sure that we had a home.

What he didn't do was listen to me when I would say that the kids have no friends, because I had no car to take them anywhere (we homeschool, so they didn't have school friends, either), or when I would tell him that I had not eaten all day, because if I did, the kids would not have... Or that we had no way to pay the power bill, again. And everytime I would try and get a job, we had no way for me to get there, because he always had the car, and I could not count on him to be home at any specific time.

Then came the emotional side of things. I needed him to be MY HUSBAND. To love me, and listen to me, and care enough to spend a little time with me here and there. And I wasn't even asking for the "usual minimum" of once a week. I would beg him just to set aside a little time to spend with me once a MONTH. To go for a walk, or play a game, or do a project together. The only time it would ever happen, was when I ended up yelling and screaming because I was so hurt that he didn't care.

I spent many years trying to figure out my husband. I babysat to try and help a little bit financially. I got a couple of cleaning jobs. I buy everything that I possibly can at places like Goodwill and other thrift stores. I tried to "make him happy" in bed. I tried "submitting" and asking him about literally everything I did, even when it would have absolutely no bearing on him at all. I tried not saying anything at all for long periods of time about anything that was bothering me. Or I would wait until he asked me what was wrong because I was being quiet.

NOTHING that I did helped at all. He seemed to grow farther and farther from being anything like a husband. to the point where I was ready, and he was ready, to give up and get a divorce. In 2006, we had gotten to the point where we were fighting everyday. If he was home, we were fighting. If he was at work (which he was ALL the time), I was at home trying to figure out how to fix things. I asked friends, I read the bible. I prayed. I cried. Oh did I cry. My kids would come and hug me and tell me they loved me.

It got worse and worse as the days went on. We got in bigger and bigger fights. He would say he was leaving, for good, I would beg him to stay. I would lay guilt trips on him and say "great, now that we have four kids, your going to just leave -and I will have to go back to working two or three jobs, and not be able to spend any time with them at all. After all this time of "agreeing with me" that I need to be at home with the kids.

I couldn't believe he would just give up, when I felt like I was asking such simple things. I just wanted him to show ME that he loved me, in the ways that I was asking him to. I wanted him to understand that I was telling him exactly what I needed from him, and DO that!

I constantly asked him what he wanted/ needed from me. The only answer I ever really got was "respect". And that is when he could offer any answer at all.

Then, I found J&K's site, thru a homeschool email loop I was on. I read the excerpts the same day, and then got in touch with them fast. I asked my husband to read the excerpts, and he did. He of course, was not "hooked" as quickly as I was. I was certain almost immediately that I had found our answer. He, well, took almost two years to be convinced.

We went to J&K's FIRST seminars -- they lived just an hour or so from us, and taught seminars for 12 weeks in the beginning. It gave it time to "sink in" or so I thought. My husband was the most resistant person IN THE ROOM. He did not want to take responsibility for ANY of our problems. He didn't see where he was a problem at all. He was mean, and he cussed at me, and he was mean and awful to the kids when he was mad (which was often), but it was always because I was pushy.

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Thru the seminars, he became less resistant, and tried to start listening (by about week # 10). Then, the seminars were over, and he stopped thinking about it, and within a couple of weeks, maybe a month, things were back to normal. Fighting all the time, progressively getting worse, him talking about leaving. So, I called Joel, and he talked with hubby, and things got better for a bit.

And we floundered back and forth for another year. Things would get a little better, and then a lot worse, and then a little better, and then worse again. By mid August of 2007, I was miserable, and did not want to go on any longer. I called Joel and Kathy (who I am sure were getting tired of hearing the same old garbage from me!), and I told them I was thinking of "leaving" for the weekend, without saying anything to my husband. I explained to them that I could not keep going the way things were, and I just had to get away. I really and truly thought that giving my husband a "wake the hell up" shock was the only thing left to do. they ok'd what I

wanted to do, and I packed up a couple of days later, telling the kids we were going on a "mini-vacation", and left while he was at work. And just a few short hours later, my cell phone rang. I did not answer it. It rang again, and I shut it off.

I had left him a letter, letting him know that if he wanted to work for this relationship, he needed to let me know. I had left him the paint, and the joint compound to fix the holes in the wall from the last fight we had had. I told him I would not come home until the holes were fixed, and he had talked to Joel to figure out what he wanted from our relationship. I left him J & K's card, to make sure he had their phone numbers.

And yes, he was shocked. And I spent the night at a hotel, and then spent a night at J & K's house, crying and feeling like my life was ending. Kathy assured me that it would be ok. It would take some time, but it would be ok. They could, just as I could, see into my husband's heart, and knew he WANTED to be married. But he just wasn't willing to do the work just yet. I went home, as he left home to go stay with his mother. He stayed there for two weeks, and read "livin' it and lovin' it", and came to see me and the kids every other day or so.

He kept saying he didn't want to get a divorce, but he also kept saying that what I needed, he couldn't do. By the end of the two weeks, he had signed up for the next open intensive, and read most of the book. He came home, and things were "ok" for a little while, then started getting better. Then, right before going to the intensive, got a lot worse. He was not going to go, all of this was a bunch of crap, and he was over it. He wasn't going to listen to "them" about his marriage. He didn't like it and there was nothing anyone could do to change it.

We went to the intensive, and he listened. He really seemed very different. I totally fell apart during the movie, and he tried to come and comfort me. I couldn't get anywhere near him. I didn't want him anywhere near me. But, he seemed to understand why, and seemed to really want to change it.

For a while after the intensive, things were great. He started changing. We planned to move from FL, to Maine. And we did. In Feb of 2008, we moved all the way up the coast. He had a job all lined up, and we had friends that let us stay with them when we got here.

And how quickly things started changing again. All of the sudden, there were new things to conquer, to think about, to deal with, and all of the sudden, I had no husband again. I told him how I felt alone, and how he was not there for the kids anymore, and that I needed him. And we went back to fighting. We had a couple of really big fights where he said some horrible things to me -- that I just wanted to control everyone's life, and I just loved being miserable. That I couldn't let him have anything that he loved - I wanted to take it all away. I was the reason we didn't get along, and that he didn't think we were supposed to be together at all. I gave up.

I totally gave up. I told my husband that if he wanted to have a relationship with me, he would have to figure it out. He would have to find out what he wanted, and do that. I was not going to try anymore. I told him over and over during the fights, that he was just trying to blame me instead of taking responsibility for the issues HE had. And every bit of it went right along with everything that Joel and Kathy had taught us thus far. And I stopped trying. I was taking care of my kids. I was doing what I had to do. But I didn't approach him at all. I talked when HE was ready to talk. And I didn't answer anything too well.

I waited for him to actually show that he WANTED to hear. I cried a lot. But at the same time, I was strengthened somehow. I knew that I was doing what I could to survive, in hopes that things would change. And the ball was in HIS court now.

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He started paying attention to our friends, and how their relationship was so much like ours. How she needed things from her husband, and he would absolutely refuse what she NEEDED., and he would see how that affected her emotionally. WHY he couldn't see that in ME, I will never know!

But he started changing. MY husband finally got it. Now, you ask him, and to this day, he will tell you he "doesn't agree" with the "whole" of J&K's teachings. BUT, he is living their teaching, EVERYDAY. He is putting great effort into making my life easier. Simply by loving me.

We have just bought our first home together. AND, we are expecting our sixth child. I FINALLY HAVE MY DREAM HUSBAND. I almost can't believe it actually happened.

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Last weekend was awesome. My wife and I had been separated for over a year and not seeing much hope or change in our marriage. We didn't talk much and obviously didn't have intimate times. After reading your books I immediately began to put your instruction into practice and began to see some of my wife's walls towards me coming down.

About the second day of the intensive, my wife let her walls completely down, we were intimate (and have been frequently since) and a new life for us began. At the end of the weekend, a subject was brought up that brought back painful memories (and over an hour of tears) to my wife and I was able to listen, love and help heal that situation instead of getting defensive and blaming others. It worked like a charm and felt great.

Dear Joel and Kathy,

What this weekend has meant to me is Hope! Knowledge! Understanding healing and growth! By helping us understand God's plan for us and what roles we should be taking - initiator/responder . No one is boss (!) is very freeing and gives us both hope.

There is hope for LaDonna because she can see that I now have the knowledge about where I am, what I should be doing and who I need to become. There is also hope for her because much of what she has been doing was the right thing. She now has validation that it was right and she can continue to do what she's been doing.

There is hope for me because now I know what I need to do. I need to grow up and be the initiator and I'm not just shooting in the dark, blindfolded. Healing and growth have begun and now I have knowledge to help me to get where I need to be so that our marriage will become outrageously happy.

Before the Weekend Marriage Intensive, I was in denial. Now, through knowledge, understanding and the work of the Holy Spirit, I have come to realize how much has been my fault and how little has been her fault.

I am looking forward to the outrageously happy life!

Ted (of Ted and LaDonna)
Florida

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This weekend was very validating for me and very freeing. I think that one of my issues was that bad teaching about patriarchy (the husband is the boss!) filled me with resentment when I needed to tell Ted what I needed from him. Now I can totally let that go because I am not only free to tell him - I SHOULD be telling him! This is so validating and now my husband believes me and understands me! Yay! I feel like recovery is going to be a sure thing for us. Thank you, Joel and Kathy!

Ladonna (of Ladonna and Ted)

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Four days after the Weekend Marriage Intensive, we heard from LaDonna. The title of the e-mail was "Nominating Ted for fastest learner!"

Joel and Kathy,

Last night was wonderful! Ted came home with his own typed up list, which he read to me with deep emotion. (He got right on it when I forwarded him your reply to me.) We talked about the list and we both cried and forgiveness flowed freely. We also (suprisingly) talked about the deep shame he felt on his first day in American public school when his family was here on furlough. God did a healing in my MAN's heart last night, and it was so cool!

Then he wanted to apologize to our son, Sol, for the previous night. He called Sol in to where we were, and honestly made things right. Sol was *happy* to see his Dad live the gospel in front of him. Both Sol and I have great respect for Ted standing up and doing the right thing. Yay!

Ted was up early, worshipping the Lord and praying. He had another breakthrough yesterday on his way to work. In his words, for the first time he actually heard the words to the songs on the Christian radio station (though he listens everyday) and he had a wonderful time with the Lord in the car that morning. Yay! Yay!

Also, we are keeping up with ALL of our home work. I hope he doesn't mind if I tell you that our first reading assignment, he read aloud to me while I took a bubble bath. Now that is multi-tasking at its finest! ;-) Yay! Yay! Yay!

Praising the Lord for your ministry and asking the Lord to bless you exceedingly abundantly beyond all you can ask or think.

LaDonna (of Ladonna and Ted)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I want to thank you both for your servant hearts, sincerity, compassion, care, concern and love towards all of us that attended your intensive this past weekend and for all the others you have helped before us and the ones you are yet to help.

I want to thank you for your kindness, empathy and your in-your face attitude which actually doesn't bother me but uplifted me, validated MANY of my concerns and made sense of many of the issues that I've suffered both during this marriage and in other areas of my history.

I feel blessed to have attended this intensive and it wasn't exactly what I expected. I thought Joel would be really hard on the guys (which I was kinda afraid of), but instead I found Joel to be firm and consistent (just like a loving father disciplines his children).

Kathy - THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU THANK YOU. You were such a blessing. Your bubbly personality and your very expressive way of relating to us all just simply affirmed me. Plus who can't help be in a good mood when your instructor is happy, smiling and bubbly even when what she is saying isn't such a fun topic.

I laughed so hard at the some of the teasing and jokes that we all shared during our night out that my jaw hurt. That hasn't happened in a long time. And, I really appreciated the camaraderie of the folks we were with.

I attended a different intensive with my husband a few years ago and both during the intensive and after I felt emotionally drained. But, not this time. I actually felt like the Lord watered me and strengthened me and refreshed me. I was concerned about going back to work feeling like a "wreck" and I feel stronger instead.

Please pass on our sincere thanks and gratitude to Kathy's Mother-in-law! What a gem!

C of C and J Cali/Florida

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Joel and Kathy,

With all of the information that I received this weekend, added to treating my wife as I did when we were dating, I will be able to utilize the things that I have learned on an "in the moment" basis. In these early learning stages, my desire is to indeed treat her as I did when we dated so that I can treat my beautiful wife correctly in any given situation.

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for this Weekend Marriage Intensive. It truly opened my eyes to what a terrible husband I have been for so many years. The realization finally came to me that all the problems my wife has is a direct result of how I have treated her.

Unlike other counseling/healing efforts, I will leave this weekend with very specific behaviors that I have to require of myself to heal this marriage. I am committed to those changes!

Glenn of Glenn and Sharon

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This weekend I received a HUSBAND! Now I am going to be a wife - truly. Because of his confessions, I have been able to forgive him. Now we can build a radiant marriage. The shackles just fell off during the time that Elizabeth prayed for us. (Kathy's mother-in-law). God gave me my life back - the trust now feels like it came for me. Thank you for being God's messengers, Joel and Kathy. I am going to be myself instead of a broken toy.

Joel and Kathy,

Thank you so much for taking time to minister to us during this intensive. This was an invaluable 5 days in so many ways. Not only were Chad and I able to relax and reconnect, but we were able to learn new strategies to communicate effectively with each other.

The information you presented was definitely different from anything I've ever been taught about marriage, yet it makes so much more sense for the "human rights" of both spouses. I think it was harder for me to swallow that the fault of our troubles is more his than mine. It goes against my need to protect and smooth things over and my desire to fix things...You know...if you want something done right....

However, the more I thought about what you said, I thought...Truly, would anyone answer a job advertisement where the requirements included "job skills" like: never question your boss, even when you know you're right; serve your boss unconditionally, even at great personal loss; anticipate your boss' every want and need and satisfy him, but expect to "catch hell" if you miss any details he didn't even tell you; be available 24/7 with no overtime or bonuses, etc.? NOONE in their right mind would go on THAT interview!

(...I'm going to think on this "interview" concept, because I might be on to something. I will email you the result. Maybe it will get through to some men, if you connect it to work....hmmm...) Nobody wants their marriage to have those requirements either!

Anyway, I am excited for us to start our "new" life....the one we set out to have when we said our vows. I'm nervous handing over the fate of our marriage to Chad, not because I don't think he can do it, but because it feels like I have no control. Perhaps the control I thought I had was an illusion all along, anyway.

I have seen growth in Chad already. Where there would have been a frustrated comment and the beginning of hurt feelings, I saw him stop, breathe, think, then say something supportive instead. That is huge, in my book. Last night I got that old feeling of something amiss. I asked him what was wrong and he took my hands, looked me in the eye, and said that he was frustrated and struggling with the new way of doing things, but none of his frustration was my fault and he just needed to work through it.

That's exactly what I needed to hear...that it's not my fault. He could have tried to blame me, but he realized it

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wasn't me but the "growing pains" that made him frustrated and articulated it to me. That was a success in my book! I do have to say, he did try to start down the old road with a "...but it's the Super Bowl and we've talked before about having beer at special occasions"...(insert puppy dog face)..."but if you'd rather I not get any, it's okay for you to say no...(as if he didn't know how I felt before, but whatever, he asked and that's a good thing...baby steps Bob! LOL)

I stood up for myself and said, "That was then and this is now. I'd rather you didn't." He went outside to smoke and pout a little, but came back in and curled up with me on the couch. We watched taped shows instead of the Super Bowl to ease his struggle with the beer/football connection, then went to sleep with him holding me.

I know last night was extremely difficult for him. He was without the two things he's always used for stress relief, beer and sex. (Not withholding sex...I can't right now...hate when that happens.)

Anyway, overall he is doing an amazing job of taking responsibility for the health our relationship, minor glitches and all. Thank you for being the catalyst for change in our lives. We owe you our marriage.

Hugz and smiles!

Heather B :) and Chad

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I can't tell you what this weekend has meant to me. There has been so many miracles and truths displayed this week. I truly believe every marriage can benefit tremendously from the intensive. It just makes sense. It is a simple teaching but I have seen it move mountains.

When a man can die to himself and lay his life down for his wife, then he will feel like a real man. The teaching creates the man God has called you to be and the man your wife needs you to be. The intensive is well worth your time and money.

A person cannot put a price on happiness. I truly believe the intensives are priceless.. The teaching can heal so many hurts. I would recommend the intensives to anyone. I truly believe the teaching is what God has called men to live out.

The power of the intensives is that you are face to face with your problems. A person can't hide behind a phone or computer. A person cannot walk away, (if their smart). If you can stick it out, not matter how bad it hurts, you will reap a reward that is life changing.

A man and woman will have the marriage of their dreams. Even though we are early into it, I can foresee the promise land that lies ahead.

Ashley D. (husband of Michelle D.)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

The closeness Ashley and I shared during the intensive was amazing. The teaching and truths this ministry presents is breathtaking and refreshing.

The books were amazing alone, but to couple the books with the intensive is where I was able to pull everything together and understand what a Godly marriage should look and feel like.

Seeing my husband "Walk the walk and talk the talk" allowed me to feel "safe" to let my guard down. On the last night of the intensive, I cupped my husband's hands and asked him to imagine my heart inside. I told him, I had finally given my heart to him but it was his responsibility to keep and nurture my heart.

When I let go of his hands, the bottom of his hands, the bottom of his hands where they joined stood a two

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inch crack. I gently closed the crack and asked that he make sure not to let my heart slip thru. Then he overcompensated and closed his hand to much.

I then asked him not to hold to tightly so that I felt smothered and unfree, but just cupped enough so my heart could still breathe life and beat freely. I asked that everyday that he pour love into my heart to keep it healthy. Joel and Kathy, your teachings is what saved our marriage. If Ashley didn't resort to you guys and grasp this concept, we would 100% be divorced right now. Instead, we are sharing a love that God intends a husband and wife to be.

Thank you, Michelle D. (wife of Ashley D.) Lovebirds for life!!

Dear Joel and Kathy,

It was an amazing weekend that for me filled in missing blocks or steps that I did not get from the books.

One awesome part for me was that you asked the wives to tell their husbands what they really wanted and it was absolutely incredible ie. A wonderful opening between us.

Now I can really meet the needs I know she really has. I also found out this weekend that my wife was physically abused and it has helped to really explain a lot.

I fully am going to fill the gap and become her hero. Before we married I had a strange feeling that I would be her hero but that never came anywhere close to fruition. I can now become that hero! That was the feeling I had back in 1994.

Thanks, Kevin (husband of Kristen)

Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for giving me hope and life for a new marriage- one of true freedom.

This message cuts through all the crap that hasn't worked in marriages (my marriage). Being more spiritual, although helpful in responding to my husband, ie: more grace, kindness, affection, love, did not in anyway help my marriage.

It was wonderful to know that it "finally" wasn't because I wasn't doing it right or long enough. It was out of Order, God's order!

Thank you and the Lord Bless you 100 fold for all that you continue to pour out in order for the body of christ to live in true freedom and experience the reality of his awesome love, kindness, mercy, grace, forgiveness , etc.

Love you guys! Thank you so much. Hugs! Kristen E. (wife of Kevin)

PS. Also, Thank you for providing the ongoing support. I felt like my husband was finally open to hear my needs and requests for the first time without feeling his scorn and judgment. I didn't believe it at first but, I realized I needed to. Through Kathy's instructions.....trust his efforts. Thanks for your availability and generosity!

Joel and Kathy,

This weekend was everything it promised to be! Joel and Kathy's transparency was refreshing! I was really blessed by Kathy's mother in-law as she prayed for us. I am looking forward to going home to work on changing our marriage from emotionally devoid to Outrageously happy.

D.S (wife)

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Joel and Kathy,

After almost 36 years of marriage, 3 kids, 3 grandkids, my wife and I came to the intensive.

For 4 years, I fought coming and felt that the theological differences were magnificent enough, to be major roadblocks.

Listening to Joel and Kathy's heart broke through the walls of resistance and allowed the healing to begin in my heart. That will begin the healing in my wife's heart so that we can be the blessing to our kids and grandkids.

Thanks, D.S. (husband)

Joel and Kathy,

I came to the intensive myself without my wife. I have received so much information that has been life changing.

I feel the scales have come off of my eyes and a new understanding has come. I have come to see my issues and my own selfishness like never before.

I began a journey of recovering from my abuse to my wife and to be the man of God I was designed to be. I was very skeptical in the beginning of being introduced to this teaching. I was wrong and God has done a great work in my life.

Thank you for everything!

A.C.

Joel and Kathy,

I want to thank you for all the knowledge that you have helped bring to light. I have a lot of work ahead of me, but can actually see some signs of hope when we came down here with none.

Please keep us in your prayers,

Aaron P. (husband of Amy P)

Your intensive has blessed me by validating my thoughts and actions.

You made me realize I'm NOT the crazy one and I'm not a sinner for standing up for myself and my children.

When I thought my spirit was broken you helped me restore it. You have set me free.

Thank you, Amy. (Wife of Aaron P.)

Joel and Kathy,

I am so thankful that I came to the intensive, it was definitely exactly what I needed to hear.

I know that this will not be an easy process but I am committed to seeing this through with the end result being and Outrageously Happy Marriage for Tammy and I.

Thank you both, for your ministry and I pray that God will bless you both and that you will reach "critical mass"

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in short order.

I know that I will become the man of Tammy's dreams and she is the Woman of mine.

Ed G. (husband of Tammy G.)

Joel and Kathy,

I thank God for the two of you. You have been such a blessing to me. I have learned so much about myself and what a marriage should be.

I love you two dearly and I will be praying for ya'll daily. Be blessed in Jesus Name.

Tammy Gault. (wife of Ed. Gault.)

Thank you for opening my eyes to my faults and weakness. This weekend I received many tools to heal my wife and my marriage for these things. Thank you.

Bill of Bill and Mary
Southwest U.S.

Joel's and Kathy's teaching, and their transparency in relating their experiences in their marriage, is a great encouragement to me. Although the weekend intensive is indeed "intense", there have been moments of relief and laughter that soften the message and the pace. Joel and Kathy are very good presenters, as well as warm, genuine, and delightful people.

There is huge potential for great, lasting healing and growing in Christlikeness in JandK's prescription for our marriage. We have had exposure to other counseling philosophies (one or two which even impaired our progress), but I believe JandK's teaching and the support offered after the intensive, if applied and with God's empowerment, will give us the greatest success in our hurting marriage.

Mary, (of Mary and Bill)
Southwest U.S.

Hi Joel and Kathy!

Have you recovered from the weekend? You two keep up quite a pace!!

Bill is making efforts. We listened to part of the calls on Monday and Tuesday nights. He began reading Ken Nair's book, *Discovering the Mind of a Woman*, on Sunday when we got home.

I confess that I wish I could see evidence of a deep heart change more rapidly. I guess that's because just getting to this point has been so agonizing and slow. . . and there are still "loose ends" dangling from the affair and the financial situation.

Traveling home Sunday was rough in some spots, and I pushed too hard on some subjects. The things that I had expressed ideas about were 1) the concept of him taking more responsibility for his first marriage, (recognizing it was difficult but a huge thing) based on what we were learning, and, 2) the new information he provided about the other woman's contact with him during our visit with you. Heavy topics, to be sure. I guess I "tested the waters" too deeply. (Sometimes just talking about them is perceived as pushing.)

He "reached his limit" and basically told me to stop talking about us or anything brought up in the intensive.

The next day was better (how could it be worse?) and he had calmed down considerably and was trying hard to be considerate. Yesterday (Tues.) he talked about what he was reading in Ken Nair's book and asked if we could

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focus on that book this week. He also told me he needs to see my support in the changes he is making (I feel like I DO express support), but that he basically just can't handle me expressing my pain, my opinions, or my needs the way I have been since Sunday, and he talked a lot about how difficult his own process has been to get to this point. . . .about how I need to be more understanding of that and not expect more from him, let him do it at his own pace, etc. He still cannot recognize, and does not want to hear, how desperate I have been for healing. He still wants to control how it will happen, and wants me to consider HIS emotions as much or more than he will consider mine.

I need to be patient and not expect much until he receives some revelation from God, or through someone, that will help him live in understanding with me. I'm hoping we will be able to listen to Thursday night's call.

Thanks.
Mary (of Mary and Bill)

Hi Mary and Bill,

It is very important that you two be on the calls as much as possible. Bill, you are going to fight going back into your head, in the way you want things done - which will naturally pull you away from the road to an outrageously happy marriage.

Bill is right (Hi Bill, you will appreciate that) in that you, Mary overstepped by continuing to harp on him about the additional contact from the other woman. That was covered in our private session - and there was not going to be any benefit out of continuing to talk about it.

Bill, your wife's feelings are what is important - but we will stick up for you if she asks too much. Just continue to be open about the dialogue that is going on, etcetera - and we will try to help you both understand what needs to be laid to rest.

Bill, as for your taking responsibility for the first marriage - that is extremely important - and the reason that we cover it the first night - however, you don't have to push on it, Mary. Let Bill process that himself.

I cannot overemphasize how important the calls are going to be for you guys.

Focusing on Discovering the Mind is a great idea - just keep up the ten minutes per day. Don't "self-medicate" Bill, by prescribing your own recovery plan. Keep the small amount of ten minutes per day up in our books - and focus on Discovering the Mind of a Woman the rest of any time that you have available to read in the day.

You two can be a wonderful success story. A woman, wounded deeply by adultery and being put into a secondary role as a "rancher's wife" - and a man who for generations, only has the example of ranchers and their wives - wives who are happy to "support their man" as ranchers wives. (I think I have that right..)

Bill, I want you to know that I am proud of you for stepping into the "world" of learning how to be a GREAT husband. It is a different day that we live in - the learning is a challenge, but the rewards are OUTSTANDING! To have a wife who is FULLY alive and FULLY happy is the greatest life that you can imagine!

Blessings!
Joel for J and K

The intensive and your personal time with us was priceless. We will never be the same. Thanks for helping save my family and marriage!
RC

PS. Our counselor has been treading slowly and carefully with us due to the heated nature of some of the topics. When he heard all that was accomplished through your books and seminar all he could say is, "Wow, do you think they would let me come to a seminar and learn more about what they teach?"

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I'm totally amazed at the events of the past two months...since I found your books. I read them and gave them to my husband saying, "This is the answer." As you know we had been separated for over a year. His involvement in adultery and emotional adultery were the most obvious problems, but there were many, many serious issues that we have struggled with for years with no resolution. He read the first book that evening. The entire book! That in itself is amazing. He then read the second book and everything BEGAN to change. He was seeing our relationship and me in a different way and began to change the way he treated me. I told him I wanted to go to your Marriage Intensive weekend and he immediately got us booked for the last week of November. (2007)

I can't say enough about the weekend. It was life changing for us. Issues that had been completely at an impasse for a very long time were settled. Most of all, his heart softened towards me and I began to open my heart to him again. I know that we're at the beginning of a long path of healing and recovery but we have new hope that God will complete what He has begun in each of us and in our marriage.

Thank you for giving your lives to this awesome ministry and for bringing life to a marriage that was hanging on by a thread!

DC of RC/DC

Thank you Joel and Kathy,

This has been a very important weekend for me. If there was ever going to be any hope, we have found it here. The information and education has given us both the tools we need to go on. This is an approach we can move on to make our remaining years the happiest! I have hope now that our dreams will come true and that I can someday trust again with my whole heart.

Kathy (and Vernon)

For years, my wife has said that I was not restoring and rebuilding the damage I have caused to my marriage. This weekend has given me a framework to respond. I can proactively respond by focusing on creating a safe environment for my wife and focus on meeting her needs. For me, this is a huge advancement. I learned a lot from how Joel would create a safe place for Kathy to vent by owning the issues that she was bringing up. Learning to process what my wife was experiencing regardless of what I thought I was communicating is a very practical process for me to receive her insight without becoming defensive or hurting her during a conversation.

Thank you, Joel and Kathy!
Tim (and Lisa)

This weekend has been very eye-opening to a drifting Christian. The "scales" have come off of my eyes! My marriage will never be the same. So many areas of my marriage that I thought were great were lacking. My wife and children all deserve to get the best "me."

Scott (and Neal)

This weekend has taught me many things. I learned the reasons behind why I felt so lonely. I also experienced hope for restoring our marriage! Scott has had a huge awakening as to why I seemed to ignore him and how he got his positive feelings from being nice to the girls at work!

Joe and Kathy, you have been a real blessing to our life. Ya'll are so warm and honest and tell things like they really are. Thank you so much for giving me hope of having an Outrageously Happy Marriage!

Fondly,
Neal (and Scott)

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Dear Joel and Kathy,

I so much appreciated the real life examples that you continued to give that illustrated the concepts we were learning. This time is well spent. We would never have been able to pull this off at home; trying to find time to dedicate ourselves to watching your DVD set of the Intensive. It would have been put off, we would not have talked and we would not have started working on making our marriage Outrageously Happy! I am so glad we came here in person.

Our marriage was a little different than any others that have attended. We were not in a serious crisis; we simply wanted the best for our marriage and will not settle for anything less! We want the best and most awesome marriage and are determined to live "happily ever after!!!" We both wanted a completely happy marriage and life together, we just did not know how to get there.

We talked for hours in our early years, but recently, our communication was very limited. He understands now that it is all about COMMUNICATION. I think he, and we are getting "it!"

The greatest thing I have learned is what I have learned about myself and what this means to our marriage. I now understand how Kevin can bring healing to me and our marriage. Much of our issues have had to do with my past and Kevin simply did not know how to bring healing to my heart.

Joel shared a story about a husband who threatened suicide. My ex-husband did that and I have been bound up in bondage to that for 14 plus years. When y'all listed the types of abuse in order of severity, it was sooo freeing. Physical abuse was only toward the end of my first marriage, and a more minor thing (like physical abuse is minor!)

I have always carried a heavy dose of guilt from the other forms of abuse I have suffered. Others don't see the other forms of abuse, so - "it must not be so bad." - right?!?!? Well the other forms of abuse were HORRIBLE!! Much guilt, especially as a Christian. I am so glad that we learned that Kevin can help me now. He CAN bring healing to my wounded soul, even though he did not cause it. Te abuse can finally stop HERE AND NOW!

Thank you!! Blessings!
Melanie (and Kevin)

Last weekend (September 27- 30) was the heaviest duty of Weekend Marriage Intensives. Joel cried as he spoke to the couples of his desire to see them all make it, all the way through to a successful, outrageously happy marriage. So far, so good. See the fabulous testimonies that have resulted, and we fully expect to keep getting great reports from ALL SIX couples!

Joel commented to one wonderful couple, who is going to do so great, that their problems (the husband committed adultery twice) would normally make them one of the "heavier" marriage miracles in a weekend. However, in this weekend, their issues were one of the "lightest" issues that we were dealing with. We are praying for the success of every couple, as we do for every couple in every Intensive, in JESUS' name! Amen! The things that you will learn when you come to an Intensive have the ability to create an outrageously happy marriage if they are learned, embraced and acted upon.

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I have been thinking all week about how to thank you properly for all your efforts over the intensive weekend. I can't even put into words how amazing your message is and what a wonderful job you both do of presenting it. Reading your book, "The Man of Her Dreams, The Woman of His," was a "life changing" event for me. I handed the book to my husband and said "Here are ALL the answers to ALL of our marriage problems!" After years and years of counseling and so much wasted money, I couldn't be happier to have found you on the Internet. I was ready to give up. I thought I had tried everything and I bartered with God, that this is the last thing I would try and then I was done with my marriage.

I ordered your book and was AMAZED beyond belief as to the MIRACLE that GOD delivered to me through the

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two of you and your teachings! I never thought anyone could truly understand a woman's heart the way the two of you do. Your book was the Biggest RELIEF and the greatest SOURCE OF COMFORT I could have ever asked for, a true GODSEND directly the heart of a very hurt and broken woman - me. Your book was a complete renewal of strength for me emotionally and gave me a complete and utter restoration of my sanity.

I have had to learn the hard way, that when you have trouble in your life, you should run TO GOD for help and not hide from him or run away. I am moved in such a profound way that you two are able to reach men and troubled marriages by teaching men that God has provided them with all the answers on how to have a happy marriage and a good life, if they would just do their part and listen and follow the Word of the Lord in their life.

The intensive was amazing! I wish that every married couple in the world had to attend your intensive prior to marriage. I don't know how or when the message that men need to treat their wives with love and respect got lost, but I appreciate you two so much for bringing it right back and putting the TRUTH of how God wants men to treat their wives in the face of men today.

It has been one week since the intensive now. My husband's attitude has changed quite a bit towards me. One night when I was crying, he actually got out of bed and came to me to try and console me. He was not able to console me, but that he even TRIED was AMAZING! This was AMAZING as previously he would have just IGNORED me. Instead of being angry the following day, I let the next day be a new day and it went well. One time this week my husband initiated lovemaking, which again is a pure miracle, and it was a good experience. :-)))) There have been moments this week when he has been selfish and less than considerate, but his considerate moments this week have been FAR MORE than what was ever considered the norm.

I am writing you this note after he got up, went to Starbucks and brought me coffee and breakfast. :-))) The other night, he sat close to me and held my hand in front of our friends when we were out socializing. I liked that. Previously, he wouldn't treat me that way. He has opened car doors for me, called me from work just to say he loves me and given me a lot more kisses this week than I have had in a long time. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!!!! AND THANK GOD for choosing you two to teach HIS WORD to men.

There is a lot of healing that needs to take place in our lives, and I know it will take time, but I BELIEVE in the MIRACLE GOD GAVE TO ME THROUGH YOU!!!! It is amazing what GOD can do if you will just open your heart a little and let HIM in, or not slam the door in His face when He tries to show you THE WAY!

GOD BLESS YOU BOTH! I will eternally be grateful for the two of you and the work that you do for GOD and for hurting couples in troubled marriages.

With all my heart and soul - I love you both so much! A million thanks to you both!

Veronica (and Dave)

Written one week after the Intensive. (Name changed because of the lovemaking detail)

This weekend was extremely challenging. Showing me that it is my responsibility as a man to grow up emotionally, was difficult to hear but was right on the mark. I see now that my life of initiating (in the wrong way) has pulled us down and my wife has paid the price. I saw Jeanne suffering, but I had been unwilling to acknowledge that I was causing that suffering. I finally get it today and I realize that I need to get it everyday. I see how selfish I have been and I am convicted to change. Thank you, Joel and Kathy, for your straight talk, and for your passion for sharing your story to help us change our marriage.

Marc (and Jeanne)

Two days after the Intensive, we received this from Jeanne:

"Marc is being incredible! I feel loved and valued and heard."
Jeanne (and Marc)

The work that God is doing in Marc and Jeanne's life is huge. Jeanne's letter contained information that reflects

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a powerful work that God is doing, but that is confidential.

I really enjoyed the Intensive. Thank you so much. I feel like I can serve the Lord in freedom now. In the past I always felt guilty because I couldn't live up to what I thought the scriptures taught as far as submission goes. I haven't been happy in our marriage since the beginning. Now I see hope and light ahead in our future.

I am especially happy that now my children will live in a happy family. And - they will have happy marriages. By the way, the meal together at the restaurant with the other couples was so fun. It was nice getting together and laughing and getting to know each other a little. Great idea!
Patty (and Ivan)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I came to the weekend, not knowing at all what to expect. I only had hope that God was going to do something great in our marriage. The first couple days were extremely difficult and painful as I realized how much hurt I have held inside for the 9 years of our marriage. God was also breaking a lot of my old mind-sets and patterns of thinking about marriage that I walked in throughout my relationship with John.

I realized how wrong I have been in my thinking and thank God for the truth that has brought freedom to us. On Saturday, when John began to reach out to me and express his love for me, my whole heart and attitude changed and it made it so easy for me to love him back. I am looking forward to our relationship being all that God created marriage to be. This weekend has been like a new beginning for both of us. Thank-you, Joel and Kathy.

Marybeth (and John)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This weekend has shown me how much communication can improve our marriage and how essential daily re-affirming words and actions are to creating a happy marriage in our daily life. Before this weekend, I though marriage was a team effort - (like 50/50) I never realized that it was my job to minister to my wife. Now I know that I need to re-affirm her and let her respond to my love.

Dear Family and Friends:

As you are all probably aware, Tamara and I have been having difficulties in our marriage. But before I give you a little background, I want to apologize to God for not being the man of God that I should be. Next, I want to apologize to Tamara for not being the husband that God called me to be. And lastly, I want to apologize to all of you who are mentioned above. (Names were omitted)

I want each of you to know that the problems that Tammy and I were having were in no way her fault. And that we were on the brink of divorce was not her fault. It was and is mine. She was just responding to the negative atmosphere that I created in our home.

I now understand that Tamara, like all women, was designed by God to respond to her husband. Her natural reaction after cumulative years of emotional abuse was normal.

It was and is my responsibility as a husband to love her unconditionally and to meet her needs, whatever those needs may be. All that Tammy is designed to do is to respond. Her response is based on me. Obviously I was not holding up my end of the bargain.

A few years ago, Tammy served me with divorce papers. Thinking that we had addressed the issues from the past, we moved to a new house and we were looking for a new start. However, in recent months the same problems had seemed to reappear. We were constantly arguing. Then we were introduced to an enlightening pair of books on marriage. (The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! and Book2: Livin' It and Lovin' it!)

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

The authors of the books, a husband and wife, (Joel and Kathy Davisson) also provided weekend "marriage intensives" near their home in Palm Coast, Florida. This past weekend, Tammy and I attended the "marriage intensive". My eyes have been opened while at the same time my heart was crushed.

As I mentioned before, I now understand that it is up to me to create a positive atmosphere in our marriage. I was crushed because I also understand that hurt that I have caused Tamara over our almost 13 years of marriage.

Now I know some of you may be thinking that I have become a henpecked or whipped husband. I thought the same thing when I saw another man implementing the principles of "agape" love in his marriage. Now his wife is happy and their marriage is wonderful.

I want all of you to understand that I have decided to become the man of God I need to be by being the husband that God has called me to be. If any of you are curious about the books, then let us know. May God bless you all!

Sincerely,

Michael

Congratulations to Mike and Tammy! You read both books and attended the Weekend Marriage Intensive with open hearts and minds! Congratulations to Tamara for being bold enough to tell Mike that she wanted him to read the books and agree to attending an Intensive... or she would be separating from him. Congratulations to Mike for swallowing his pride and doing what is needed to repair his marriage!

To My Wife, Friends and Family:

A couple of weeks ago Susie asked me to attend a Christian Marriage intensive weekend in a final attempt to save our marriage.

During this weekend I realized that for as long as we have been married I have been treating her horribly and abusively.

For years I have blamed her for the problems in our marriage which have been my fault. I have lied to my family about her and treated her in a cruel and abusive manner in front of them. I made her out to be the one causing the problems, being unstable, when in all honesty it was me who was the one who was acting childish, selfish, and irresponsible, mistreating her, and verbally and emotionally abusing her.

I have embarrassed her in front of, and isolated her from her friends and family. For this I apologize to not only Susie but to her family, her friends and my family too.

For years Susie has respected and honored our marriage and has worked hard to make it the marriage it should have been had I listened and treated her as a wife, person, and an equal.

Instead I chose to treat her as a possession and had no regard for her feelings, opinion, or value as a person. I did not ask her or discuss important major decisions, purchases or anything at all. I would listen to what she said and totally disregard or ignore she input and do what I wanted and disrespect and devalue her yet again.

I chose to be verbally abusive, emotionally abusive, emotionally adulterous, cold hearted, selfish, and uncaring. I totally ignored her feelings, opinions, advice, and love and used everything she offered me against her to fulfill my own selfish needs, wants and desires.

When we were out in public, I was emotionally adulterous; I would take a second look at another woman or flirt with her right there, not giving it a second thought. I talked to another woman on the phone for a few months not even thinking about how I was ruining my marriage by doing it. I would not take into account how these acts disrespected or devalued Susie.

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As a result of my own selfish, irresponsible actions, I have destroyed the marriage Susie has worked so hard to honor, stolen the life and family she rightly deserved, destroyed any chance of her having any physical, emotional or financial security, and destroyed a 17 year career that would have given us a secure future and retirement.

To Susie: I am sorry for the years of hell, pain, abuse and neglect I have put you through. I am sorry I have not respected you as a person and valued the things you have tried to tell, teach, share, and show me. I am sorry I treated you abusively and disrespectfully in front of your family, my family and your friends.

I am sorry I have acted like a selfish childish fool and not been the husband you deserved. I am sorry I have stolen your life, past, present and future and taken from you the things you so rightly deserve.

Your loving husband,
Rob

Note from Joel and Kathy: When "Susie" wrote her summary of their marriage before coming to an Intensive, she said, "Pray for wisdom.. You will need it for us to get a miracle!" Rob sat and listened to the whole intensive, and absorbed every word. When you come to an Intensive, COME EXPECTING A MIRACLE!

When you said Intensive Weekend, you meant INTENSIVE!

This was INTENSE... in a good way. You have brought revelation that forces restoration if you really want things to work. I realize how much of a child that I was (in my marriage) and understand now that a husband and wife are equal. I feel like I have so much to do because this Intensive has caused me to have such a mind renewal. I realize that I need to be accountable (to my wife) for everything and that the problems in my marriage are mostly my fault! Thank you for being obedient to deliver your message, regardless of church tradition. I pray that your ministry EXPLODES with blessings to you beyond your wildest dreams.
Ricardo

This Intensive was an awesome experience. It totally changes the way you think about marriage and traditional church teachings on submission. My husband and I are looking forward to continuing the healing process after we get home. I would definitely recommend Joel and Kathy's books and the intensive to those with ANY type of marriage difficulties. Joel and Kathy have revelation knowledge on marriage with Christian couples. What a blessing!
Gina

After the marriage intensive, I am beginning to understand the responsibility of a man towards his wife. Men, if you really love your wife, you will want to open your heart and mind to this message. I am looking forward to creating a happy marriage with my wife. I honestly believe that it is possible to be "Livin' It and Lovin' It!"
Mike

After 13 years of marriage, I was done with Mike's controlling and abusive ways. During the Intensive, the blinders have fallen off his eyes. On Friday night, he gave me a sincere apology for all the hurt he's caused me. He did this while holding me and sobbing. God is softening my heart and allowing us a second chance for an outrageously happy marriage! I can't wait to get home and start living our miracle!
Tamara

This has been an action-packed and informative weekend. I've learned things that answered so many questions.. questions about "why" that have haunted me for years. After so many years of just "surviving" marriage (and each other!), Lisa and I are already extremely happy and at peace with ourselves after this intensive – and I know it will only get better.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

We see now how our marriage can be joyous, happy and fulfilling.

Thank you God for providing this weekend for us and thank you, Joel and Kathy.

Tim

Our weekend with Joel and Kathy and the other couples was amazing. I had been searching for meaning and purpose for our marriage. Time and I left with clearness of thought instead of confusion and we have renewed love for each other. It is awesome to begin a new life after 27 years of marriage... together!

Lisa

Dear Joel & Kathy

This is just a quick note of sincere thanks and gratitude for allowing Patty & I to be a part of your marriage intensive weekend. What a wonderful way to bring in the New Year.

We both felt the hand of God was in the entire weekend.

As you know, I have read your books and feel that you are "right on the money" about the common misconceptions most men have (especially in the Christian Church) regarding what the Bible says about the marriage relationship.

The weekend with you and Kathy and the other couples brought me to an even further understanding of the importance men play as the "source of life" (or death) for a marriage.

It's a major responsibility we men have to make sure that our wives and families are able to draw positive and nurturing love and kindness from us.

The only way for me to truly be the husband that my wife needs me to be is to die to myself, and my innate selfishness as Christ died for all of mankind. What an awesome truth from the word of God.

I'm excited to see Patty blossom once again as the beautiful self-confident woman she once was, the woman that I fell in love with and married 28 years ago. Already the change in her is obvious.

We will continue to work through our past issues that I have caused, and continue to see God's hands work to bring full restoration to our marriage.

Blessings to both of you...

Mark

"Thank-You Joel and Kathy for a life changing weekend.

When I first read your book last year, it was like nothing I had ever read before. It was what I knew all my life was truth. That truth was in my heart, planted by my savior. Thank you for presenting the truth in a way that couples in crisis can understand and apply in a very real way. I know we will make it, correct past mistakes - and have opportunity to share this message.

Most of all, thank you for your love and obedience to God."

Patty

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This weekend was a breath of fresh hope for my marriage at a time that I was feeling my world was falling apart around me. I now have confidence that we will together come out of this crisis with an incredible marriage of which I've always dreamed.

Mary

Only in God's providence did my wife and I find ourselves sitting in one of Joel and Kathy's Intensives. After a hellish start to this week, I can confidently say that we are on the verge of experiencing an outrageously happy marriage. I knew we were doing some things right and now I feel we have the "rest" of what's needed to have that ideal marriage. We leave here not only equipped to make our marriage whole but also ready to help those we know God will send our way. Joel and Kathy, thank you for letting God use you the way He is! Both of you are a joy to be around and are such encouragers. Thanks for sharing your story!

Shawn

One of the really special miracles at this weekend's intensive is the couple who had not made love for six years. Friday and Saturday nights were very special nights for them! None for six years – three times in two days! Hallelujah! God is on the throne and STILL working wonders and miracles in the hearts and lives of men and women!

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thank you so much for your ministry. My parents have a wonderful ministry for married people and they recently came across your book. I knew I could turn to them when my three year marriage hit crisis mode, three weeks ago.

I feared that my marriage was over and my wife would never have feelings for me again.

When I called my parents, my Dad said, "You can win her back". I didn't know how I could do that, considering the fact that my beautiful wife of three years seemingly had no feelings of love left for me.

My parents got a copy of your book in my hands the next day. Two weeks later we were acting like newly weds in love again because of my applying those principles.

Things aren't perfect and I have a lot of growth ahead but your principles helped me win her back and take responsibility when time was working against me.

Thank you so much.

Tom

Patty and Steve attended a Weekend Marriage Intensive - He began to Change, She then began to deal with her issues, resulting in her ending an affair and confessing her desire to have an Outrageously Happy Marriage. Here is the letter that she wrote - a letter that can express the heart of ANY Christian wife who comes out of an affair in response to her husband's agape love and emerging Christlikeness - pursuing his wife as if in a dating relationship!

A letter from a wife,
who has come out of adultery:

Dear Steve,

Thank you for coming here with me this weekend. (To Joel and Kathy's home.) I know it was just another step

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out of your comfort zone.

You've taken a lot of these steps lately in order to save our marriage.

My heart is filled with wonder and hope at the changes you've been making.

I feel that our marriage has made excellent progress the past few weeks, especially, as you've been trying hard to implement the concepts from Joel and Kathy and God's Word.

Thank you for blessing me and I know you'll continue to do so.

I feel that in order for our marriage to be completely restored, I need to be honest with you about some things.

I am hoping that God will allow us to be healed from the past today, and from this point forward have an "outrageously happy marriage."

I have sinned.....just as you have, in our marriage. In fact, I understand now that I "responded" with sin because you sinned first. However, I am still responsible before God for my sin.

I need you to know that I am right before God and forgiven. I have put the sin behind me. God has given me grace and restored my relationship with Him. (Praise God)

Over the past 5 years, I have had three male friendships. They developed out of desperation. It seems that these "friendships" fulfilled needs I had to be admired, respected, to have meaningful conversation, and to feel loved. You were not meeting my needs in these areas, and I reacted in ways Joel and Kathy talked about at the intensive.

The first "friendship" was brief and completely ended 4 years ago. The second tapered off quickly to an occasional phone call. The third was more intense and some feelings developed.

Over the past few months after reading the books, I had been cutting the ties of this friendship, and was able to completely end it 4 weeks ago.

I have now stopped all contact with these 3 ex-friends, and it has ended for good

I am sorry for the pain that it is causing you to hear this. Based upon the past circumstance of the abusive marriage and your relationship with our ex-sister-in-law, God does not want me or you to condemn myself anymore or hurt those involved or their families by giving you any more details or any names.

The 3 males are not any persons close to us, known to you, at our church, or at my work. I will probably never see them again. If I ever do run into them, I promise I will not have a conversation.

I NEED you to understand the pain, anguish, guilt, stress, and self-loathing that this sin and your abuse have caused me. I need healing, and I need it from you, my husband. I need your forgiveness, your unconditional love, and admiration.

I need you to be sorry to me just as I am sorry to you. I need what I've told you today to only be between us, Joel and Kathy. You can never share this with anyone else.

I am asking you to die to yourself and the pain I've caused you today because you caused me pain first. Please ask God to help you do this! - so our marriage can be saved.

I need, want, and beg for our marriage and family to be saved. I am making a choice to stay married to you. You now have the "tools" to be the husband that I've always needed you to be.

I know that we can now, with God's help "build" a fabulous marriage like Joel and Kathy's!

P.S. As far as trust goes, I know I will have to re-earn yours just as you are re-earning mine. Thank you for

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going first.

Yours Always,
Your wife,
Patty

Notes from Joel and Kathy: "Patty and Steve" (names changed for obvious reasons) came to our intensive. They came because Patty had given an ultimatum. She was going to file for divorce if Steve did not get serious about the marriage. Steve came and accepted the teaching. He began to make some efforts toward change, but faltered along the way.

Kathy ended up talking to Patty and Joel called Steve. Joel reminded Steve his wife was ready to divorce before the Intensive and that he needed to focus back in on treating her like he was pursuing the woman of his dreams!

Steve accepted this re-directing, and was grateful for the phone call. He dealt with his heart issues so well, and treated his wife so well, that Patty began to deal with HER issues. (as we teach is the normal response for a wife that FOLLOWS her husband dealing with HIS issues.)

Patty ended the affair. She has made herself accountable to Steve with her cell phone, e-mails and whereabouts, just as a husband must do for a wife. (In a healthy, good marriage, spouses do not have private e-mail accounts, pay as you go phones, or other "secret" ways to communicate with others. They have nothing to hide.

Most importantly, Steve has accepted this revelation gracefully. Even though he had stated for years that he would not forgive her if she got into adultery and would file for divorce, he swallowed his pride and has opened his heart to bring healing to Patty's heart.

Thank you to our monthly supporters!

We did not "charge" Steve and Patty to come to our home for the weekend. We spent all day Saturday and Sunday morning with them. Joel presented Patty's letter to Steve, alone with Steve in a restaurant and helped him to work through this information. This is what we do.

You who give to us every month, to help us stay "in business" full time, in marriage ministry, made this happen. If Joel had to work full time, at another job, then we could not have given this amount of time to Steve and Patty - and the end result may not have been so pleasant.

You are creating miracles in marriages, all over the world, when you send us a check each month, or when you allow us to receive an offering every month from your credit card. YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN! - AND FOR THAT WE THANK-YOU!

The following letter is written by "Jennifer". Jennifer's husband was following the "letter" of many things that we teach a man to do in order to become Christlike and win his wife's heart back. The problem was, that he did not embrace the SPIRIT of what we were teaching him.

His pursuit was NOT to become a Christlike, mature man. His pursuit was to get his family back together, but internally, he wanted to remain unchanged.

Jennifer is writing to "Lori". Lori finds herself in the same shoes that Jennifer was in a year ago. Her husband is making efforts at change. They are separated, and the wife has not wanted anything to do with him - however, because he is changing, she has started to spend time with him, and that has become very scary. What if he is not sincere? What if he cons her - and WE were the ones who help him to do so? Jennifer shares her story - her experience with Joel and Kathy - when she had a husband who did not make the transition from selfish heel, to Christlikeness, as all men have to decide to do at some point in their life!

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Lori,

I know you are very leery of them, but you can trust Joel and Kathy.

They will not try to push you back or guilt trip you or anything. They will not tell you 'he is ready for you' if he isn't. They reassured me over and over that if I didn't feel safe, I wasn't safe - and therefore, to go ahead and watch my ex-husband and react however I needed to. They said that "if" and "when" Russell was safe. I would know.

It was hard for me to really hear what they were saying, because so many had told me 'a Christian woman never gets a divorce, a Christian woman always forgives and respects her husband'. I just knew Russell had found another well meaning Christian program to help him con/force me into going back and I had just got free.

I knew if I went back, I would lose my mind. But what Joel and Kathy say is true, if he has changed, you will know and then you can decide. If he hasn't changed, everything in you will scream and you will know too. There will be times you will think...maybe??? Maybe he is? Maybe he is. If it is of God, it will last.

Even if he does change, you do not have to decide to go back. You focus on you and God and grieving and healing for yourself and your kids and getting close enough to God to hear Him again. Just pray and pray and pray that God shows you the truth and what He wants you to do. He will show you.

One thing God convicted me of was to not kiss Russell or have sex with him (we were divorced) unless God had shown me Russell had changed, and I felt safe enough to remarry him. Thank God I obeyed that, because getting that close to him again would have clouded my thinking.

One of my girlfriends is a Christian counselor and had been in an abusive relationship herself. She explained to me that there is something about when a woman has sex with a man, his pheromones (?) get into her system and she gets addicted to them. It is breaking a physical (drug) addiction as well as emotional. The 'drug' will keep your thinking cloudy. Wow! That sure explained a lot!

If you don't feel safe, you are not. If you feel you need to run, run! God is telling you. If you feel repulsed, there is probably still good reason. If you need to cry, cry your little eyeballs out. If you need to scream, scream your lungs out. (just do it in the car by yourself with the windows rolled up, driving on a back road so nobody calls the cops).

Trust yourself. It is ok to feel what you feel. It is ok to be done with it! Joel and Kathy will validate that completely. You do what you need to do for you and your kids and your healing. If Randy is for real, he will stay steady and the changes will continue. If it is of God, it will last.

Another thing you may be thinking is 'Oh this may be just great for Joel and Kathy and their program. But if he cons them and I and I go back and nothing has changed, they get to walk away and I get to pick up the pieces.' Joel and Kathy stuck by me through the whole thing. I am still healing. They have not abandoned me, not once. They have been on my side the whole time.

Others in the group talked to me too, to help me through after Russell's con fell apart. (Joel and Kathy's Intense List) I updated Joel and Kathy periodically on how he was behaving afterward. They were supportive and compassionate the whole time. I know their books are primarily for healing marriages, but they will also help you heal no matter what.

I had been so battered by the church, over how co-dependent I was, how he behaved that way because of my co-dependency, how if I was just good enough, if I just was able to love like Cor. 13, if I just respected him enough, supported him enough, if I was just submissive enough, if I was just loving and Christ like enough, God would honor that and make Russell into the man he was meant to be.

A pastor even told me one time that Russell was having the affairs because I wasn't paying enough attention to him!!!! A Mirnith/Meyer (sp?) Clinic counselor told me it was my fault because I didn't respect Russell enough!!!

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Even though I had felt God telling me to get out and leave and not go back, I felt guilty through the whole divorce. God hates divorce! I hated divorce. All I wanted was my children raised in a happy, well, whole family.

Was I sure I had heard Him right? Or was I really deceived by Satan like Russell was telling everyone? I was doing what I needed to do to survive and help my kids, but it felt so wrong. Surely I was sinning! The guilt was awful!

Thank God for Joel and Kathy and their books and e-mails. It explains so much. It explains how we have been 'mommy' not 'wife'. They explained why this lunatic - (who was so unhappy in the marriage that he had to have multiple affairs - and then he had to go around telling people what a 'religious cult fanatic' I was and how miserable I made his life), now stalked me, got into my voicemails, accounts and all other kinds of craziness, 'trying to get me back'.

He was the one that found Joel and Kathy's web site and turned me on to them trying to get me back. LOL! Their books made so much sense of what I was going through. I learned that I wasn't being 'unforgiving', I was trying to heal and he hadn't really repented. Wow! It wasn't my fault for once!

From the private list e-mails, when someone's marriage would heal, I would cheer. I would read about what a real man was, and know...Russell wasn't it. And some day, I will be totally healed. And I expect to find a real man of God someday. Right now, God, my real Christian friends and my kids are plenty.

Wish I could tell you it didn't hurt. It did. I had to run away one time with the kids, up to my sister's for the weekend. Joel and Kathy would call me when I would be crying so hard I couldn't talk and pray with me when I had panic attacks. There were times I would cry so hard I would almost feel like I was in convulsions and end up throwing up.

Joel and Kathy told me the truth, they told me it wasn't my fault and that I needed to heal! They didn't beat me up with the bible, and tell me 'if I had just been long suffering and patient'. Sometimes it seemed like I would call them a lot, but I needed to hear the truth over and over, because I had been lied to so much! Not just by Russell, but by the whole well meaning Christian group I had been around!

It took a while for me to really believe them. God used them and their books and their e-mails to validate and re-affirm me so much, even though Russell never got it. My healing began and continues.

A few weeks ago, I was grieving, but I realized I was grieving the dream, not a real person. As hard as it was at the time, I wouldn't be this healed if I had not read their books and talked to them and allowed Russell 'one more chance'. Hey, and at least my remodeling got a bit more done.

Either way it goes, in the end you will be better. Re-read over and over what Joel and Kathy sent you. 'Your wounds were not your fault, so you are like a person who got hit by a car and is lying there, still wounded deeply'. They truly have compassion for you and aren't trying to help him con you.

I wish I could get them up here for one of their seminars. There are so many of my 'babies' and marriages here that need their wisdom, insight and compassion. In fact I was just thinking of that on Sunday in church, no less! :o)

Praying for you.

God loves you and wants only the best for you and your kids.

In His Love,
Jennifer :o)

Living with "Dead Guy!"

Recovering from 22+ years of bad marriage is going to take awhile; however, we ARE making progress. I realize that the new habits are so gradual that to someone looking in from the outside, it would be unnoticeable.

I liken it (our growth and progress) to a momma who is with her child a lot. She may not be able to measure

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her child's mental development, fingernail growth or that he/she has gotten taller "that day," for just a few examples. She may not even be able to see measurable growth in a month, not because it isn't happening, but because she in the "daily" so much.

I believe that this the track that Dead Guy and I are on, we ARE growing and I am NOT going to give up.

I believe that I am personally the one who has made the greatest amount of progress these past few days. I have FINALLY figured out that avoiding confrontation with my Dead Guy is not avoiding it, it is ONLY delaying it. (Yuck!)

I kept waiting for there to be a "perfect" time for me to confront Dead Guy about something or I would even believe the lie that he didn't want to hear what was in the marriage manual in my heart. I broke through and "let him have it," this past week-end! I even stood my ground when his first few... several responses were childish and negative. I just held my ground and threatened to "call Joel." This one a "biggy" for me and I feel really good about it! J

Something else that has also really helped, I believe, is reaching out to help other couples. We take a mini refresher course every time we share a tid-bit. This makes the books more than just info. We are continuing on in this "war against our old, icky synapses" to form new and MUCH improved ways of thinking and living. We are well on our way in our journey towards our desired destination of "living it and loving it." I think that I'm gonna like our outrageously happy marriage!

Wife of "Dead Guy"

Dear Joel and Kathy,

How can I begin to describe what your Intensive has meant to my marriage? My wife and I have been separated for about four months. In that time, my wife introduced me to your books and the scales began to come off of my eyes. It turns out that I was not Prince Charming - on the contrary, I have been quite the clueless husband who has fallen short of meeting my wife's needs.

Not only has your Intensive Weekend given me the knowledge and skills needed to be the man who God has meant for me to be by meeting my wife's needs - we are no longer separated! Praise the Lord!

Michael (and Annalea)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

When my husband and I separated for the THIRD time and I had filed for divorce, I began searching for something - ANYTHING - that would give me a reason as to why I had come to such desperate measures. Your web site, books, phone counsel, group calls and this Weekend Marriage Intensive have been like cooling water to my marriage.

After some "not so subtle" hints, my husband finally agreed to read your books. Then he began to listen to the weekly conference calls and he both knew that coming to an Intensive was a must for the beginning of true healing. We have both learned so much from your guidance, love, honesty and support. Because of these things, I now have a glimmer of the hope I've been so desperately searching for. Can this be real? Is it really possible to be treated like a queen? I've always known I was meant to be a "Royal" (smile)

Annalea (and Michael)

This weekend was a breath of fresh hope for my marriage at a time that I was feeling my world was falling apart around me. I now have confidence that we will together come out of this crisis with an incredible marriage of which I've always dreamed.

Mary

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Only in God's providence did my wife and I find ourselves sitting in one of Joel and Kathy's Intensives.

After a hellish start to this week, I can confidently say that we are on the verge of experiencing an outrageously happy marriage. I knew we were doing some things right and now I feel we have the "rest" of what's needed to have that ideal marriage. We leave here not only equipped to make our marriage whole but also ready to help those we know God will send our way. Joel and Kathy, thank you for letting God use you the way He is! Both of you are a joy to be around and are such encouragers. Thanks for sharing your story!

Shawn

Hello Joel and Kathy

God is good. Ben and I are doing very well. He is a changed man. He is so attentive and caring. God is blessing him in ministry, and he is so excited. He told my daughter Sharon "I am so glad I went to the marriage seminar, it has changed my life.

May God bless you and continue to use you
Ben and Blanche

Dear Kathy and Joel,

Here are a couple highlights that have taken place so far since we have come home from the Intensive.

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First, I made a non-exhaustive list of a few of the things that were on my heart for immediate change/focus when we got home. We stopped at Barnes and Nobles before getting home to go over my list and we also went to Clare's, while at the mall, to get my Tiara. I asked Ron to give it to me in front of the children, as a sort of outward declaration of his inward determination for change. He "gave" it to me almost as soon as we got home, with a brief explanation plus a few highlights from our Intense week-end.

-
I have worn my Tiara a couple times since then. I can't describe what this does, it IS way cool. The spiritual and mental abuse was almost ALWAYS "there," I just never realized how much and how often. Wearing my Tiara has helped me to realize some of this. Yet, I am also beginning to see that I am a SPECIAL prize to be treasured.

-
Almost all of our married life, I have been "behind the scenes" making for sure that my "mask wearin' head" (husband), always looked "good." He was kinda like a televangelist on the camera. I would go behind him cleaning up his "MESS" and touching up his TV "make-up" to make for sure that HE "looked good." This is the way we were able to portray our family as "perfect" and most importantly that HE WAS "perfect." I would make excuses for his CHILDISH ways.

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Together, we had those around us believing that I was a Blessed and Honored wife and that all was well on the home front.

-
This Holy Spirit word picture has made such an impact in my thought life. I wanted to find a way to walk it out in front of the children. The main challenge that I saw as far as Ron dealing with the children, is/was his "anger issues." He would explode in his words and facial expressions, if ever something didn't go his "way."

-
This was another one of the things that OUR marriage manual in MY heart "said" that we needed to attack most urgently. So, the second stop on our way home was to go to Wal-mart and get some of those foamy, make-up applicators. The plan is to give the children this word picture and permission to go get one and hand it to him when he is acting out. This will hopefully be a way for them to express their tense or hurt feelings in a healing/healthy way.

-
There are two reasons that we have not had to get the make-up applicators out for him. The biggest one is time, he has completed a major project for work just yesterday and it has only been 7 days since the Intensive. (So, there really hasn't been that many opportunities for him to lay down his life for us... YET!)

-
The second, and most awesome reason is that Ron truly seems to be considerably changed in the "core" of his

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responses to our Blessings (this is what we call our children) and I.

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I pray that this core change will continue. I realize that I cannot expect perfection, yet I'm also "on guard," because I can't afford another EMPTY promise. (You know the "kind..." with NO action to follow.)

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Time will tell. I believe that as we continue on this path, that we are well on our way to a marriage that we can BOTH LIVE and LOVE.

-

Blessings to ALL!!!

Cindy

This next letter is what Ron wrote to Cindy at the Intensive:

Dear Cindy,

My Heart breaks as I read what you have written above. (referring to an email she had sent to him before they came to the Intensive. It took FOUR MONTHS for Ron to respond to that letter!) As I watched the Paul Hedgstrom movie with you today, I realized that I was just like him in my heart even though I have never physically abused you, (by the grace of God), I have emotionally, and spiritually abused you worse than Paul did his wife and children. I have even used knowledge to abuse you to keep you down and under my control. I am learning the why behind what I did (do), and I now have hope that I will be the man of God that I yearn to be and that we can be the TEAM that we have always dreamed about (until lately).

It is hard to come to grips with the damage that I have caused you and the children. I don't know if you noticed, but I was crying through much of the movie because I was identifying with the pain and damage that I had caused to you and the children all of these years. I am now beginning to understand your world and the pain you have been going through. I have been in shock this weekend trying to figure everything out and the impact of my selfish, childish manipulations and actions not only to you but to everyone in my life for so many years.

I believe what Joel and Kathy are teaching us and now have hope that I truly can and will become the Man of God that he has called me to be by becoming the Husband that he has called me to be by listening to the marriage manual in your heart and dying daily to meet your needs. I actually have felt healing and joy as I have begun to put this into practice lately. I believe as I continue to do this that the poison of the wounds of the past will begin to be cleansed and leave you. I commit the rest of my life to doing whatever it takes to bring complete healing to you and the children and in the process I believe I will grow up and be a fully mature Man of God that Loves his wife and children as Christ Loves the church.

Cindy, you are worth anything you need me to do to restore our relationship. I truly Love you VERY MUCH!!! Even though my selfishness and choices(no matter what the reason) has convinced you of the exact opposite and left little hope for you to believe that I could possibly ever Love you like you want to be Loved. Your Cinderella dream has been dashed, stabbed, killed and buried long ago. I look forward to the transformation in both of our lives, especially how my heart will be transformed back to when you were the only thing I could think about. I am looking forward to Loving you like I used to when we were dating.

Remember when we would talk all night long on the phone and fall asleep then wake up and keep talking; when we couldn't wait to get off work to be with each other and just spend time together, even if it was doing yucky things like cleaning the house. I remember when I would endure the yuck of helping you make the church bulletin boards for HOURS just to be close to you; when I would work 2nd shift and get off at 12am Friday morning and drive 6 hours straight, in the middle of the night with no sleep, just to spend less than 36 hours with you and drive all the way back to K.C., all because I had a passion and desire to be with you; when we would write a letter to each other every day when you lived in Dodge and I in K.C.; when I would write to you every day when I was in the field in the service; when we would dream and plan our future out together.

I now have hope, and more than hope, a true knowing in my heart that we will come back to that place in our Love for each other and even greater, because we will be healed of all of the hurts and wounds of not only what has happened in our relationship, but also of what happened in our childhood.

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I also believe that we will fulfill the call of God on our lives to the tee without error and with a double anointing to make up for all of the time lost because of sin and choices that I have made as well as choices that were made apart from us by others, like our parents. I believe as I lay my life down for you and meet your needs that we will be able to live madly in Love again and even so much better because we will be healed and whole and truly doing God's perfect will for our lives.

I look forward to changing lives one couple at a time as we have dreamed about for so long, but in perfect unity and mutual submission to one another with God's Love flowing and changing lives. But, more importantly, I look forward to our children being healed and renewed as we are in order for them to hear God's voice clearly and follow after God hard and passionately, and therefore, fulfill God's perfect will for their lives as well.

I Love you Cindy, with all of my Heart and Strength and I will start from this day forward to prove it in my actions, consistently, dying daily and not only in words. I LOVE YOU!!! I LOVE YOU!!! I LOVE YOU!!!

Your Knight

Ron

The following praise report/marriage update may not seem like much to a casual reader, however, this report represents one of the most wonderful letters we have ever received.

Scott and Jodi's marriage problems were so intense – and we have been working with them for over a year – that we did not share the letters with our readers or on our web site, except for maybe an occasional letter. The wounds were just too deep – the marriage dysfunction was simply too painful to share. They even flew from another country for personal counseling and it still, at times, seemed so hopeless.

Perhaps someday, as Scott and Jodi's marriage continues to improve, we will all be able to put something together to share in more detail. For now, just send up a praise with us for what this letter represents.

As this progress continues forward, Scott and Jodi's story will truly be one of our greatest miracles ever. (Yes, even comparable to the miracle that would be represented if the other three most difficult marriages we work with end up with a miracle of progress. I am referring to D and N from Chicago, W and C from Georgia and F and L from Australia.)

If Scott and Jodi can get a breakthrough that is represented in this e-mail, then anyone, yes, I said, ANYONE, can get a miracle if they will continue to try and fail, try and fail, try and fail.. but yes, keep getting back up again, as they let the principles of "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!" guide their way. Remember, "A righteous man falls seven times – and gets back up again." Own your issues and keep getting back up!

Hi Joel and Kathy,

Just a quick email to let you know that things are going ok. We did have a bad time a couple of weeks ago but I feel God has changed things within me. Jodi is enjoying real estate and we have got off to a great start. We have not had the Internet on until a couple of days ago so it is good to get your emails again. Church life is going well and we are in a caring church seeking to repair marriages. (Contributing to Scott and Jodi's problems previously was the fact that they were in a church that rejected "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!" and had no clue as to how to support their marriage. They had to withdrawal from that fellowship and find a church that would support them in the way that they needed.)

We have moved our house which is good and we are in a much bigger place which Jodi enjoys. I have started reading Ken Nair's book "Discovering the mind of a woman." I am not the fastest reader so it may take a little while. It appears you guys are going great with no shortage of marriages in need of repair. Will keep in touch and Jodi will no doubt email in the near future.

Love
Scott

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Scott, I am SO PROUD of you and Jodi. Keep going forward. Someday, you two will have an outrageously happy marriage and you will be able to help others. In the meantime, make a LOT of money so that you have a foundation to minister from financially.

Blessings!

Joel and Kathy

Note: Just the fact that we have not received a TOTALLY desperate, end of the rope e-mail from Jodi testifies to the truth of Scott's report. Yes, there will be ups and downs, but Scott and Jodi, you are finally on track to a great destination! It is not about surviving a marriage – it is about going all the way into an OUTRAGEOUSLY

Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for this Intensive! It was healing to learn that I am not being "rebellious" when I place boundaries and expect Tom to honor them. Over the years of calling out to the Lord, he has shown me many of the concepts that you teach, but you placed them in words which Tom could hear. I could not tell him these things because of the (false) "Man is the head" teachings. Thank you for being the "third party" who was able to communicate to him in a way that he could really "hear!"

This is without a doubt the best decision we as a couple have made to help save our marriage. I feel like I have been set free from bondage. After reading the books, I was about 50% in agreement. Now, after the Intensive I see 100% of what they teach is true.

I have learned so much about me and how my past life as a child has made me into the abusive husband I had become. Even things that I was sure did not apply to me, God allowed my past to be revealed to me over the weekend to reassure me of my past problems.

Thank God for bringing Joel and Kathy and this ministry into my life.

This Intensive has changed my life. I have realized all of what I was feeling and thinking was correct. I wasn't crazy.

My husband has become a completely changed man! We have learned so much through this Intensive.

This knowledge is power and truth. The truth will set you free! If your marriage has problems you have to get

There is so much revelation in this intensive for me, to me, and all with scientific evidence. I received revelation about mother/son issues and also the male/male trauma contact issues. I received revelation about how they make a mature arrested person....behave or act out.

I have experienced some of these behaviors for 40 years! I knew those behaviors bothered my wife and affected some choices in my younger life very profoundly!

I didn't understand the depth of my flirting and second looks. These revelations have helped me to face and realize why I do these things. That understanding is helping me to process the solutions so that I can eliminate the problem! I came myself to this intensive but me and my wife are coming together in January!

Tim P.

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The marriage Intensive totally changed my life. In all my 30 years of Christian life and leadership (dozens of conferences, seminars, including Christian college) no one has ever answered my questions about marriage and family like Joel and Kathy. They hit the nail on the head over and over, explaining EVERYTHING in my previous 28 years of marriage.

Everyone will benefit from the marriage intensive- this is a game changer! This teaching will change the church and the world, no question.....it's a no-brainer- just GO!

Everyone needs this, even if you already have a good marriage. I hope every Pastor and leader will come!

Susan (wife of Randy)

The Holy Spirit activated many of my painful memories and created an awareness of where my arrested development and mother/son issues first began. In my mind, I saw the unfolding and genesis of my dysfunction.

As each day of the Intensive passed, my defenses and walls began to fall down by the truth being presented! I realized i was hearing many things for the first time.

I am grateful for the opportunity to be blessed by a teaching ministry with a message unheard of before, a message of truth.

This weekend has helped me understand that I'm not crazy! It was completely laid out with God's design for how marriage is "supposed" to be. Christ laid his life down for his bride as the husband is suppose to lay his life down for his bride.

I have been looking for sanity in my marriage since the day it began. I am so grateful for the intensive and all the horrible times it saved from happening in my future.

Michelle (wife of Brad)

Joel and Kathy,

This all makes me realize that the church has been teaching marriage incorrectly.

It makes sense that Jesus laid down his life for his bride, the church. As Ephesians says, we shall lay down our lives for our wives.

It's an easy concept to understand that I should put my wife 1st on ALL THINGS.

I've been looking for answers and I believe this is it!

Brad (husband of Michelle)

For Weekend Marriage Intensive Information,

This weekend has brought hope back into my heart.

I feel happy for the first time in years. I have new tools and ideas on how to be the best helpmeet I can be!

I learned not to totally trust and give my heart to him till he has shown me he will watch over it carefully. To be awake and aware to correct him in love.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

During the Intensive, I was able to see myself for the person I really was. I began to understand the abuse that was inflicted by me upon my wife. The pain that caused her hurt that was escalated. My intention was never to hurt my wife but my impact devastated my wife.

My moment of acknowledgement was through Kathy's story and how similar it was to my wife's story.

The 2nd moment of acknowledgement was the mother/son issues and same sex childhood experiences.

I am now committed to bring my wife happiness for the rest of her life.

God is still in the business of miracles. I was blessed with a miracle as were all of the participants in the October 2010 Intensive.

While I came to the Intensive expecting to learn, I had no idea that it would be the groundwork for a complete transformation.

For the first time, in a long time, I have hope that my marriage can be Outrageously Happy. I look forward to

My wife's favorite color is PURPLE!

This weekend has shown me how dedicated I need to be (even when I don't feel like it) to change for my family. This process will be very easy, AFTER going through the hard parts.

My children NEED me to be a great dad for them. My wife (ex or not!) needs me to be a great dad. God wants me to redeem the time and raise Godly children for His kingdom.

I need to be consistently positive not just when I feel like it because:

1. Its right to do. 2. If I'm not, my brain will go backward and 3. It's the only chance God has left to work in our relationship (mine and my wife's)

I NEED MY WIFE.

September, 2010

Joel and Kathy,

This has been a very eye opening experience, reading your books, watching the videos and then coming to this Weekend Marriage Intensive!

The Intensive was great for learning how to initiate. I needed the help of examples to make this work. No longer do we have to "hang on" but I can start working now. You have restored to us our marriage, which I didn't even know I was losing.

THANK YOU!

John B (husband of Sheila B) I LOVE MY WIFE.

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

Joel and Kathy,

This weekend has meant so much to me. It means that I don't have to "settle" for an unhappy and even abusive life with my husband. I learned that it is not wrong for me to crave "agape" love. Agape love is what I am created to crave.

I used to separate God and my husband. God was to meet my emotional needs and my husband was to be served by me. Now I know that I experience God's love for me through my husband. I am to lean on and trust in my God through leaning on and trusting in my husband. So, I'm not being unfaithful to or cutting out God when I look to my husband for AGAPE love.

This weekend has also meant that my "inner knowing" that my husband can be so much more and what I need is 100% TRUE!!

I know now, that I do matter and I am precious. That my husband does need me. That we are a team. This weekend has meant life to me. It has given me the strength to choose that "I will live and not die."

Joel and Kathy,

Just wanted to say a big "thank you" for being a great helpful resource to marriages. Your marriage intensive was such an eye opener to me and challenged me to be the man my wife needs me to be. Your delivery style was excellent and very informative. What a great weekend!

I am looking forward to initiating the marriage that God intended for us to have. You are definitely gifted by God to heal and restore broken marriages.

Thank you for being obedient to the call of God on your life.

May God continue to bless you and your ministry!

"I was broken - we were broken. I felt that I had no hope left. I was living in an abusive marriage for 6 years and was on the edge of total destruction. I became depressed, my emotions were gutted and then I found Joel and Kathy's website.

This intensive weekend has changed my (our) world. I feel validated, I'm no longer alone. Kathy was a voice FOR me and Joel was a VOICE TO Mark. We received a huge breakthrough this week. There IS hope, there is hope for happiness.

Thank you Joel and Kathy for being obedient to God's call on your life. We will forever be grateful to you. You gave us a life raft.

Joel and Kathy,

The Intensive is the most intense education I have ever attended. To see where our marriage is, which is bad, makes more sense now.

I see the pain and abuse I have caused and the way my actions and choices have hurt my family. I know why

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the craziness is going on, now I have to take action and take what I have learned in place to save my marriage and family.

Thank you Joel and Kathy for the eye opening life changing week. Every married couple needs to know this Intensive material.

Steve A.

Joel and Kathy,

This weekend was the most uncomfortable time in my life. That's a good thing!!! I do not want to be comfortable. I want the discomfort of what I felt to motivate me to change and become the best husband in the world..

God really tugged, yanked, hooked a bulldozer on to my heart and it hurt!

I didn't come to be coddled and hear an inspirational message. I came to change and my life will never be the same after this. This is our 4th Intensive of Various sorts. The other 3 were a waste of \$. Joel and Kathy were the most honest, open, transparent, challenging couple that I've met.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you,

Tom (husband of Tom and Anne)

Joel and Kathy,

I feel, but more importantly SEE changes that are the start of exciting, happy things to come. Thank you for teaching us what we have been looking for the last 25 years. it was so encouraging to watch my husband open his mind and then his heart to the messages even though it was painful. Finally, someone who has captured clearly on paper and in presentation what was in my heart, but I couldn't even understand myself. I know we have work ahead, but how wonderful to know we won't have to "work" the rest of our lives the way we've been told all these years. Tome is no longer "hiding" things. It is so blessed to "feel" forgiveness in my heart to go hand in hand with the forgiveness I would decide to strive for on a daily basis.

God's blessings, Anne (wife of Tom)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for this beautiful weekend in Palm Coast. Your 5 day marriage Intensive is exactly what we needed for our marriage. Before going to the intensive I did not have much hope for our marriage, now, after 5 days of teaching and counsel, I am hopeful our marriage will succeed.

My husband has even agreed to leave the city where we are living and move to another state to get away from his ungodly Adultery partners. This is something I doubted he would he would agree to, he has. This gives me a lot of hope for our future.

Thank you so much for your passion, dedication and care to help marriages in crisis like ours.

Blessings,

Rachel G

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Joel and Kathy,

I want to let you know that all the information and word that you guys share was good stuff! Some of the parts in the 5 days was very different to take in, but I will be willing to walk it out, to better and heal my family and wife. Thank you so much again and may the Lord bless your family and life as you go forth with your ministry and God's plan.

Yours Truly

Dear Joel and Kathy,

The initial feeling when discovering the truth was validation. I wasn't crazy...I knew what I was talking about...I knew in my heart and soul what I emotionally needed.

Then I went to Hope. Hope that there was a truth and a path that lead to healing.

I was actually surprised how the hopelessness and anger seem to just subside. Peace was finally here. The arguing was gone. Topics had closure. Conversations weren't heated and didn't take hours. This was just from the website and books all before the intensive.

The intensive was...well intense. Where else would you put such an investment and time in your marriage.

There was so much amazing information. Not just theory but practical skills. Healthy and Biblical guidelines and guidance. It's a journey, but at least now we are on the path.

Path to an O.H.M.

Thank you

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Intensive was life changing! Your experience in this area offers real help to real people. No fluff, no puff. Thank you! Reality not religion. The special prayer time and God moving with a fresh word was wonderful. We are so tired of orchestrated sermons and canned answers.

Thank you

Dear Joel and Kathy,

You make me feel worth something. Because of you I can forgive others. Now I can make good out of the bad memories. You teach men how to love their wives right away with love and teach them how to work with each other through problems. You showed me how to love a woman the right way and to initiate and work with it.

Thank You

Here I was: I came here expecting to be pressed and exposed. I was resentful, sad, hopeful, excited, and open minded. I was all over the place.

I knew something was wrong with me, just not how wrong. I thought some of the responsibility somehow

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partially layed on my wife's shoulders. I really believed this co-ownership mindset.

Where I am: I am empty and wanting to be filled with God's nature for how I'm supposed to treat my bride, his daughter.

I will be a student. My teacher will be the Holy Spirit through my wife.

I want to get in an emotional and intimate affair with my teacher for the rest of my life.

Not doing this is a Direct Violation of what the scriptures say. Never mind all the lame excuses that can come up in my arrested thought.. thwarting Gods plan is not a Good Plan. That is real!

Thank you
Marc H. Married to Susan H.

Dear Joel and Kathy

Helpful to me to know I was not alone.
Very freeing to be able to have my feelings validated.
I loved being able to laugh again.
Most of all we have a plan and action, which takes a butt load
of pressure off me by placing the responsibility on the husband.
Backed up by the word of God! PTL!

Thank you
Sandi B

Dear Joel and Kathy

This week taught me what a little boy I am and have been. I always really knew it, but would not face it. It also made me realize how badly it affected my wife. It took this week to show me how to really treat my wife. To die to myself and serve her. I am not important. It will be hard because I have always been selfish and self centered. I have tried to manipulate and control her. I now repent of that.

Thank you
Marvin B

Dear Joel and Kathy

The Intensive: WOW, I don't know where to start, so much happened inside of me that I had no idea was coming. There was so much inner conflict and walking with Jesus thru this, which got resolved.

I went to Hope: and was freed from hopelessness: I felt real possibilities open up right in front of me.

I feel ready: Ready to be a part of our future and present success. Grateful to God for using Joel and Kathy!

I am overcoming the feelings that would say "Do Not Do This":

This is real life, don't deprive yourself of walking out the truth in LOVE. God's our Father's Love, YEAH, WOW!

Thank you,
Susan H.

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Dear Joel and Kathy

It is hard to describe this intensive; the bible says "The truth shall make you free." If you need results in your relationship, give this ministry a chance. Read the books, live the life and let go of the old mindsets. It's exciting, scary, painful (All change is though) but worth it.

Thank you

I am very glad and grateful to have been able to come to an intensive. I knew before I came that I was desperate to get the information, and if that meant dragging my "husband" along - so be it.

I'm thrilled to have this more complete knowledge so that I can go share it with others.

I have a deeper understanding of why men, and woman, are so horribly disfunctional. This understanding is life changing.

God is using Joel and Kathy to bring healing and deliverance as well as reconciliation to so many!

I have watched the men in this room change, and seen the difference in their wives. I will be waiting to see what happens with the man I am currently married to. While I do not yet see what I need to see in him at all, I realize that growth and change takes time.

I will never regret having come, meeting the ladies I have met, and gaining all the wealth of information I needed so badly!

Thank you

There was so much revelation in this intensive for me. It has spoken so much to me, about myself and my issues - and all with scientific evidence.

I received revelation about mother/son issues and also the male/male trauma contact issues. I received revelation about how they make an arrested person behave and act out.

I have experienced myself having some of these behaviors for 40 years! I knew those behaviors bothered my wife and affected some choices in my younger life very profoundly - but I did not understand what was going on!

I didn't understand the depth of my flirting and second looks.

These revelations have helped me to face and realize why I do these things. That understanding is helping me to process the solutions so that I can eliminate the problem!

I came myself to this intensive but my wife and I are coming together in January!

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This meeting has opened my understanding about scriptures of which I previously had a wrong interpretation. I have learned what it means for a man to lay down his life for his wife. When a man lays his life down for his wife, it brings healing to the woman and it also brings healing to the husband. Praise God!

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This is a new approach to a great marriage; one that works because we see this example in Joel and Kathy.

Dr. Blanche Barley

Dr. Barley's husband had this to say: "In this weekend I learned that I was only doing 50% of what it takes to make a happy marriage and has made me want to learn the other 50%! Ben Barley (Note: Ben came to the meeting cold – he had not yet read ANY of the books! I am amazed that he survived! Joel)

Dear Joel and Kathy

I didn't know what to expect but I knew I needed a miracle in order to save my marriage. God has used you two to bring "Understanding to the craziness," I was causing in my home. I received hope and strength after listening to the information in each session and to your testimony of victory and happiness in your marriage. Now, I understand that my wife (Resealia) will love me as I love her like Christ loves the church (unconditionally without any guarantee.) My life has been changed because I am forced to grow up and mature. I will stop being the responder and start being the initiator. I know the journey to an Outrageously Happy Marriage won't be easy, but I have revelation now to stay on guard and to fight for my marriage. Now, I will be the man that God wants me to be because I am going to be the Man that my wife needs me to be.

Roderick McKinney

This Intensive was the start to a miracle in my marriage. It has taught me how God really desires marriage to be. Now, I really understand why marriage is to be symbolic of us (the Body of Christ). We were taught how to have an Outrageously Happy Marriage! My husband (Rod) and I have been married for three years. We're so blessed to have received this teaching early in our marriage and before kids! We have received information that will last for a lifetime. We are encouraged that we now have tools for my husband to be the Man of My dreams and for me to be the Woman of His Dreams! We will definitely pass this message to other couples who so desperately need to hear it. We thank you for your time and passion that enables marriages to get healed. As Kathy has said, we await to see fires blazing all over the world of healed, whole, and Outrageously Happy Marriages!
Resealia

This weekend has opened my husbands eyes to where the problems are in our marriage. It has given us the tools to take home to utilize in our marriage to identify what wounds are there and need healing. It has given me strength and encouragement to help Jeff become the man that I need.
Kristen

The weekend has showed me that emotional abuse is no different than physical abuse. I use emotional abuse to try to further control Kristen. I am beginning to understand the rising levels that lead to actual abuse. I recognize that in me. I feel stress rising and get a tightness and pressure that makes me begin shutting her out.

I am also guilty of verbal abuse against my oldest daughter. If she doesn't do something as soon as I think it should be done, I explode into yelling or snapping. Even more so when I am pressuring Kristin or using it as a replacement for Kristen.

I now realize that I want to control because I am "scared." I try to control my life because I am scared of what life I would get if I was not in control. I feel that now I can face the issues that cause me to have the stress and start the abuse.

Jeff

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I have a better understanding about what I've been doing wrong. I now know that to have the wife I want and need, I must first give her the physical and emotional needs that she requires. I also learned that we have to help each other. In the 5 seconds it takes me to be mean and hateful, I could take 2 seconds to understand and listen.

This has been a real eye opener for me. I have come to realize that I've been hearing from God all along. I do love my husband but I want to be "In love" with my husband. I see now that this can be a reality not just a dream. I'm not a mental case, my feelings are real.

My acting out has not always been the right way. The self hatred and the drugs to hide the pain are very real to me. I see now that I have swallowed so much in this relationship because I felt I had no where or anything else that I could do. I now know that this is not true. I am okay and I am a beautiful woman of God. I can do all things through Christ~ not Ed. I want him there to share it with me, not to dictate it all for me.

This marriage Intensive has truly set me free in so many ways.

From Larry....

Once upon a time, there lived a happy little couple in a cozy little house in a quaint little town. The young husband had rescued the his young bride from her first loveless marriage and carried her off into the sunset to live happily ever after. And so they did... for a month.

But as it always does, life carried on. And with their new love came two new children to go with her two children from the previous marriage. Life began to change for the happy young newlyweds. This was going to be tough but they were sure they could handle it. All they needed was each other's love. He had hers and she... well, she thought she had his.

But as time went on, the young bride's happiness days began to be clouded by a distant and dark cloud. Her hero felt burdened with the demands of his family. He spent much of their best weekend days away from her in the company of friends. And yet there was something else that troubled her cherished marriage too. Something she didn't quite realize in her conscious hours. Her happiness was slipping away.

Years sped by and so did her dream of a blessed marriage. The young man grew more apart from her and more attached to his friends, sport, and games. With each escape he made to the role-playing fantasy worlds he and his friends created he placed another brick in the wall he was building between himself and his bride. And still she felt deep in her heart that there was something else behind it all. Something dark and sinister that was the source of their deepening separation.

Finally the days became intolerable. He would no longer even put up a pretense of love for his bride. Nearly anything she wanted to do together was intolerable. He rejected her heart's cry for intimacy and oneness every time she cried for it. So she prayed... she prayed for guidance, she prayed healing, she prayed for truth.

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And God answered her prayers. He brought her a wise old couple to guide her. Themselves a story of a broken marriage, Joel and Katrina had found redemption for their marriage. They had received a secret from God that brought them out of the ashes of an adulterous and broken union to the glory of an outrageously happy marriage. It was a message they wanted to share.

God also brought some long hidden truths into the light. First, that the young couple had cursed themselves by starting their marriage in adultery. Second that the young man had been possessed by the demons. Since he was a teen the young man had indulged the seductive but vile demons of pornography, sexual fantasy, and self-gratification. They had all but consumed his ability and desire to bond with his bride, to thrive in God's perfect design for unity.

The truth nearly destroyed them. What remained of her broken heart was shattered. His fragile world of fantasy came crumbling down. But the light of God's truth kept them alive. The young man, liberated from the darkness, was now able to open his heart to the Holy Spirit. With the strength of the Spirit in him, he found the power to defeat the demons, and they fled. The young woman was finally justified. She was never the problem. The failure of her marriage was not on her shoulders.

With the help of Joel and Katrina, that burden was taken down and opened up. They helped the young couple sort through the various things inside. They explained what was good to keep and what was not. The couple cast away old habits, arrested friends, and old arrested ways of relating to each other. They found the gifts that God had given to each of them as a wedding gift buried at the bottom. Then they balanced out the load. He carried Christ-likeness, understanding, and her heart, which he carried in his hands. She carried the welfare of the children and the role of being a help-meet. The both carried love and mutual submission.

Overtime the couple found that their new packs were not only light but pleasant to carry and energizing. They still faced troubles. And some of them were very daunting. For the enemy new that the young couple would now be strong against his kingdom. His attacks were strong and one almost worked. Demons of selfishness succeeded in separating the young man from his bride and casting him in a hole of false righteousness and held her in a room of pain.

But now they had the Holy Spirit as their constant companion. At their lowest moment, they whispered their prayers to him. And the Spirit rescued them and the enemy's agents were defeated. And Joel and Katrina walked with them too, arming them for the battles and helping them when they stumbled. And the young couple were grateful and offered the same help to other young couples. Today they walk on the Way, and along that way is a place called Outrageously Happy, and the young couple, Darla and Larry, are almost there.

You've been a blessing since we met you. I have such a long road to travel to be LouAnn's blessing. I know that God gave you two to LouAnn and I so that instead of the Hell I've caused, we can achieve the OHM (Outrageously Happy Marriage...spelled Eden) that He wants for us. I needed this weekend so desperately, and that LouAnn was blessed by this counseling weekend was a HUGE bonus.

God has made you a blessing,
Lee

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This weekend has been a true blessing for us. I'm sure you will hear from us from time to time, but are looking forward to an "Outrageously Happy Marriage."
Thank you so much for all you do. LuAnn

Hi Joel and Kathy,

It's Sylvia from Houston!

It's been a week from leaving a secure beautiful environment to express what really is going on and how I feel about my marriage. (Palm Coast Intensive, Mid-January)

It was wonderful and full of information, I truly enjoyed it immensely. I wish this material was around before or a few years into the marriage. (it would have saved many headaches and heartaches)

I truly believe in your ministry and I would like to sow seed via mail.

I enjoyed meeting every couple and talking with each wife, this showed me I am not alone with marriage problems and there are solutions and you can be happy and loving it!

I have told so many people about the retreat and they are willing to have the one in Houston, Texas!

I would love to coordinate everything on my end for both of you.

Thank You!

Sylvia and Alec

I just wanted to drop a quick line to say hello and let you know how things are going. I would normally be quick to say "couldn't be better" – but I have learned to ask my wife that question first before being so quick to answer it that way!

Asking Christy this question is exactly what I did a week or so ago, and that is basically the same answer I got from her, so I guess it's safe to say....." Couldn't be better!"

I want to let you know how awesome God has been in our lives and how quick he has been to restore things. I'm still not sure how they ended up becoming so "disrupted".

It's only been two months or so since I found out how fragile a marriage can become. This made me realize how much I love my wife!

How do we become such stupid, stupid men?

How is it possible to know so much, and yet not apply it?

I'm really beginning to understand what the word means when it say to get wisdom, but with all your getting, get understanding too! Without understanding wisdom is pretty much useless.

I think this really began to come clear to me when I read in your book how the Bible says to dwell with a woman with all understanding.

I can only pray that people will get this in their spirit, as I still have a tough time actually understanding how that works, or being able to explain it from a natural standpoint. But it does work, and that's just it. We are not to understand "supernatural" things with our "natural", "finite" mind. So there you have it, straight from Dr. Jay!

Spiritual things are foolishness to the natural mind. If anybody out there doesn't understand it, get saved and

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filled with the Holy Spirit, then you'll get it.

I get it Joel!

I get the whole thing, everything you're teaching.

I just bucked it for so many years. I'm beginning to get some understanding with my wisdom.

As I explained to you on the phone last week, I was reluctant to write any type of letter because I do not want to sound like I'm tooting my own horn. To be quite honest though, God has really been making some changes in me. At least my wife keeps telling me as much.

Along with doing dishes and taking out the garbage, I now know that my wife needs help with a vast array of other household chores as well!

So, at the risk of sounding like I'm tooting my own horn here I'll let you know that I have "died" to myself in many other areas (without listing them all) and continue to do so on a regular basis.

What I thought was time consuming is now most profitable. What my flesh thought was satisfying is dead!

To be specific, doing the dishes is now a peaceful time. Nobody is going to bother me and is quite a tranquil, serene time of the day for me.

On the other hand, wasting hours on line, including looking at pornography and other totally useless junk is not even a desire anymore, mainly because what is being fulfilled in my dishes and lunch packing time. I am finding that what I was trying to get fulfilled, in playing stupid time consuming games on the internet, is being fulfilled by being a blessing to my family.

Joel, you were exactly right when you said this experience is an eye opener for me. I just continue to thank God for giving me an opportunity to both keep my wife, and have a meaningful relationship with Him once again.

He has been answering prayers right before my eyes like in times past and restoring not just our marriage, but "the years that the locusts have eaten." For that I remain ever grateful and I can't wait to see what God is going to do next. Well I guess that's enough for now. Hope all is well with you and your family, and look forward to seeing you guys soon.

Jay

Before the intensive in January, we received this letter from Mary:

Dear Kathy and Joel,

Sadly, Jack is not reading your book...or I should say that he has browsed through some of the chapters...all the sudden he is reading three books at the same time; Chasing Daylight and The Barbarian Way. He is all over the place: kind one minute and mean the next. I sense the battle within him. After twenty years he doesn't know how to be a husband nor a father and his false theology is his worst enemy.

The other problem is the trip to the upcoming seminar. Our extended family i.e. grandmas and grandpas, have their own limitations and it now seems impossible for us to go unless we hire "someone" to watch our two daughters, 11 and 14, Friday thru Sunday. I would almost make the investment; if I had a "someone" I could trust. I cry out to God everyday for us. Especially for our daughters. I cry out to God to turn everything that has been meant for evil, to something glorious for HIM!

Please pray for us.

God Bless!

Mary

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Yes ?" Jack and Mary did come to the intensive ?" and look what God did:

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I got my miracle at the intensive! The pain is gone.

God is good. Amen!

I trusted He could do it but, it seemed so impossible before the intensive.

It is as if I have received a new heart. The old battered and angry heart is gone. The tone in my voice is gone.

I don't feel like killing Jack (yes, Jack Bauer. Smile) anymore, which is a really good thing, and he is "sleeping" in our bed. PDA (Public Displays of Affection) does not come easy though. I have to take one day at a time.

Sunday night when we got home (from the intensive) to pick up the girls, the folks wanted to have dinner with us. It was sad, the scared look on my daughters' faces.

Typically, Sunday night dinner with the folks would turn into a big nasty argument. I felt our daughters watching us very carefully. This time the drive back home was different.

They both said they noticed Mommy and Daddy being nicer to each other and it made them happy. They knew we had learned something new. What a difference four days with God makes.

My Mom was overwhelmed with emotion, although angry at first, when Jack (yes, Jack Bauer. Smile) showed up at her door with flowers and for the first time, he apologized to her. That was good and she enjoyed seeing a broken man.

Tonight we will be speaking to the folks. We had not done that yet. I don't know why I put it off. I'll keep you posted.

I saw God's hands on you both, and I pray that He continues to bless your ministry.

A BIG HUG!

Marv

Some background: Mary's husband had been in an affair for twelve years with one woman. Then he had a second short affair. Then he had an affair with a streetwalker prostitute and got an STD. He gave it to Mary. The STD is one that leads to cervical cancer. She was having visions of murder.. Jack "knew" that he was going to be dead or divorced.

When Jack started reading the book, he was stumbling along, reading the book slowly... totally blinded. They came to the intensive. Why? Only for the sake of their two daughters.

He was surprised by God. His eyes were opened. Completely. He went back and made things right with her mom. Then he made things right with her family. They have made things right with the daughters.

It is a total miracle of change in him - and she had a heart transplant.

Here is a second installment to their miracle. After reading these letters from Mary, you will hear from Jack (ves. Jack Bauer. Smile):

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Hey there Kathy D!

We spoke to the folks last night. Jack (yes, Jack Bauer. Smile) did good.

I helped him along so he wouldn't miss the things that mattered the most to me.

They were shocked and in disbelief at the realization of what Jack was saying and so that there was no doubt in their mind that this was who Jack had been and done. He confessed about the abortion that one of his adulteries had resulted in. (His parents were good friends with her parents!) He confessed about the attack on my sister. We all cried.

They could not believe the years of deceit and betrayal.

In his efforts at cover-up Jack (yes, Jack Bauer. Smile) once thought it was better to keep them at a distance so he had asked them to "give us space." The girls and I became even more isolated and it was sad for them as the girls are their only grandchildren.

I got another miracle; because I wouldn't subscribe to his doctrine, my father-in-law doubted my salvation. We fought for years over it until we stopped talking altogether about anything.

For the first time, my father-in-law showed respect and sincere affection towards me. He said, "You really are saved! You are a woman of God"! It hadn't mattered to me whether he had believed I was saved or not, but what did matter was that regardless of our doctrine, that he would believe that I was a woman of God.

We explained to them that after several attempts locally, God had led us to you, to our miracle. We asked them to read your book.

Jack has so much work to do. The 3 year old is still around, but wants to do better. I gave him this (see the note following) today after no water for coffee!

God Bless!

Jack,

I don't know what you are thinking but, you are failing to meet your wife's needs and it is Saturday after the intensive. I need fresh water in my home to be able to drink, cook and take enjoyable showers I.e.: I need water that does not smell like rotten eggs. I know the girls and I deserve better. You know what to do, just do it. You have to understand that when you act in the same old way, I see the same old Jack. Should you call Joel and Kathy?

Note from Joel and Kathy: Ladies, this was a PERFECT note from Mary. Short, to the point, direct. This is how to communicate to your husband. No "hints." No suffering in silence. No "praying that God will speak to him." You

More from Mary:

Hi there Kathy,

Something you said at the intensive really stuck with me. At first I didn't get it, but when I did, it hit me good; Jesus did it all to gain His family back.

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I wanted my family back; the family God meant for me to have.

I 'm so glad I crawled my way to the intensive.

God reminded me this morning of the miracle He had just done in my life. I had not even been able to bring myself to imagining what it would be like. Having the deliverance, for me and my family was like the IMPOSSIBLE dream.

It wasn't that I didn't trust God; I had seen other miracles before, it just seemed impossible this time!

The girls are doing great. They have their eyes on Mom and Dad. I can see them wanting to trust that it will be OK and that there will be no more "melt downs" to worry about.

I feel their hearts softening and their guard coming down, each day, a little at a time. God is good. I did not want all those years to be waster for them nor I. I know that God will use it for something really good. He will give me back those years!

Somehow, He'll teach me how to love Jack (yes, Jack Bauer. Smile) again as he becomes the man I know he wants to be?" and that God wants him to be.

It just occurred to me that others are waiting for that day also, the attorney, my parents, his parents, Pastor Kelton, the counselor, and the church elder. I think I need to order a couple of more books, seriously.

In the last week, there have been a few times where the old Jack (yes, Jack Bauer. Smile) appeared, but compared to twenty years, we are making progress.

Saturday Jack got busy with the stuff around the house that needed done. Praise God.

How does one say Thank You? I'm so thankful for you! (tears and hugs)

Mary

The following letter is from Jack, the husband. (yes, Jack Bauer. Smile)

Joel & Kathy,

It was truly a miracle what occurred during the four day intensive. I can't imagine living today the way I was carrying on. I don't know how we were able to cope with the strife and the disharmony that our family was trapped in because of my actions.

God is always so good. I am very busy now as my thoughts and actions have been rightly focused on the healing of my Wife and my Daughters.

Last week was a tough week for me as I began to fully embrace my new role as healer and initiator of meeting my family's needs.

I have spent all of my spare time alone reflecting on how I was going to apologize to my In-Laws, and then reveal to my own parents the secret life of shame I have lived for most of my adult life.

The Holy Spirit has been allowing me to feel the pain and shame of my past life.

As I prepared myself for these conversations my emotions were stretched and my heart became heavy. It has been a true time of brokenness. I am able to see the horrible man who was hiding behind the lies, deceit, and betrayal for my entire life.

I can't remember ever feeling so low. The old adage, "hate the sin not the sinner" did not speak to me.

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I knew there was a part of me in all that I had done. I was wrenched in condemnation.

I spoke to Mary's mom and dad on Thursday afternoon. (In addition to Sunday night on the way home from the intensive that Mary spoke of.)

I was truly sorrowful and assured them of my plans to restore my marriage and heal their daughter and grandchildren.

Friday evening I sat down with Mary and my parents and began a conversation. This conversation lead my parents through all of the 20+ years of hidden secrets of my adulterous life and the manipulation I had over Mary.

I explained how my many manipulations had caused her to react in confusion and anger over what our marriage had become.

It was a solid indictment of myself. I had built my life upon a foundation of lies and deceit.

It only took 30 minutes of conversation to destroy that imaginary foundation I had built up for more that 20 years. My legacy was gone washed away with my tearful confession.

This is our rock bottom story. Thank you Jesus for being that rock that I will build my life on from that day forward.

I am encouraged daily by Mary's strength and loving heart. I want to become a Christlike man, the one she hoped for on that lovely day November 18, 1989 ?" the day that we were married.

I will send you guys some more notes from our progress, and I have ordered a gross of foot lotion. (Mary's healing has progressed to the point where I am able to give her foot rubs!)

There is also a Band with an amazing CD that has really ministered to me as I make my afternoon drives great lyrics that sync up to where my life is going today. Seventh Day Slumber CD is Once Upon A Shattered Life. Check out the song Brand New Man Seventhdayslumber.com

Thanks for all your prayers. God is making a difference in our lives through your ministry.

Sincerely,

Jack (yes, Jack Bauer. smile)

Truly a miracle happened at the intensive!!! I only tell you all of this to give credibilty to the word, to encourage you, and to stand amazed at the favor God has given.. My heart's desire and the Lord's will is to see you (Kathy) and Joel walk through doors of favor that God opens.

Another short testimony clip from another couple: Thank you, again, for all you put into it. (the intensive) There have been two "baby step" tests that we've experienced since then and I'm happy to say that Mark passed with flying colors. Some people might think these are small things, but to me they're huge.

- 1) On our way home, as we were approaching the exit in Orlando where my sister lives, I mentioned (still somewhat reluctantly) that it would be great to stop by and surprise her. In the old days, Mark would have made an excuse that we don't have time or that he just wants to get home, beat the traffic, etc. This time, however, after only a split second of hesitation, he asked me if I wanted to stop. When I said yes, he quickly got off at the next exit. As it turned out, my sister wasn't even home, but it didn't matter! Next time I'll feel more confident and just say that I'd like to stop instead of beating around the bush about my desire. (Baby steps)

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2) Yesterday, Mark and I were playing catch-up with our businesses. One of the things I needed to do was get some packages and bills to the P.O. I left my cell phone at home. When I got home, there was a message from Mark that said he wanted to catch me before I mailed the letters because he hadn't put postage on a very important bill that I had with me. Well, I never checked before dropping them in the box and I was worried that I had really messed up. When I told him, he was not upset at all (he would have been in the old days and I would have been made to feel guilty) Anyway, afterwards he found the bill on his desk! It never made it to the outgoing mail pile! Another test.

Dear Joel & Kathy,

Mark took me to dinner for my birthday this week to a very lovely and romantic restaurant. Suddenly, he was down on his knees asking me to marry him again while presenting me with a "knock your socks off" gorgeous ring! It was a very special moment and I was completely oblivious to anything else that was going on in the room. God is so good. I have my husband back.

God Bless,

Patty

Hi Joel and Kathy,

David and I had been doing GREAT for about three weeks and then suddenly we had bad couple days. For the following week, each morning when I awoke the first words I heard from Dave were a sincere, "I'm sorry." We would start the day out "ok" but somehow, things would go sour and at times I felt SO incredibly frustrated and angry.

At one bad stage I even thought that when Dave apologizes tomorrow morning I am going to tell him where to go....!! (It is VERY frustrating for a wife to hear her husband say, "I'm sorry" and then do the same type of things again, later in the day, that he just apologized for! J and K)

However, such is the power of a sincere apology from a husband - that I immediately forgave him the next morning when he apologized. I was able to tell him how I felt - that I had become so frustrated that I was going to swear at him!

Since that last apology things have improved. Dave is becoming more consistent in his IMMEDIATE apologies. I HATED it when he needed to apologize but he would 'wait' a frustrating (for me) couple of minutes.

Yesterday David said he felt like the 'luckiest man on earth'.

It is so nice to have a happy husband.

DYING TO HIMSELF IS MAKING HIM HAPPY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! (After the pain of dying. :)

There are some heavy and very painful things that I have told Dave about my past. When he has "understood me" and verbally 'took' my pain, there was an immediate release of the sting of the past....The pain of those issues was relieved straight away. Some of these painful issues were with me for over 40 years. Now that I am healed, I have trouble even recalling some of the issues.

I feel like we had come to the top of a mountain. We have done the hard climb. I see that my hurts from the past are like a volcano. I am sure that there are lots of issues still inside and waiting to come to the surface. I thank God that the hard climb is over. There is probably more healing to come, even though right now, we feel so great that it does not seem like we will have any more issues.

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BY DYING TO HIMSELF DAVE IS FALLING BACK IN LOVE WITH ME.

As I have been typing Dave came over and said how much in love with me he is.

Blessings,

Tamara

PS We planted some sorghum seed for our horses on our land yesterday and today there is the most beautiful rain. Lovely and gentle. Thank You Lord.....

Hi there Tamara,

This is a great letter. It's amazing when a husband will sincerely apologize. The sting is gone and the subject is closed.

When a husband does not sincerely apologize, the subject keeps being brought up because there is no closure. If there is no closure, a woman cannot move on where that subject is concerned. Joel will tell you this is definitely 'TRUE.'

A husband says "I have apologized at least 10 times, what am I suppose to do?" The answer is to have your heart connect with your apology.

Blessings to you. You and Dave are doing great!

Kathy

Joel and Kathy,

It has taken just about all week to recover from the weekend intensive. Man, what a load of information, self discovery and realizations about our selves and each other. So many things fit, make sense now with, of course, hindsight is 20/20. Tom is doing well.

Over the years one of my arguments and hurts has been I work more hours a week than he does and yet on his Fridays (he has every Friday off and then the weekend) off he gets to play and do "his" thing instead of working for US so we can all play on our time off together. Now he is helping with everything the cooking, the cleaning, kids homework. So now we have time for bigger, needs two adults projects or just playing.

He asks every night, "is there anything you need to talk about?" I've said some hard things for him to hear when asked that but he just apologizes and says I love you usually while hugging me. I so missed my best friend and am over JOYED he is BACK.

The fight that we had just three weeks ago and prompted the phone call to Christy which lead to a call from Kathy which lead to a call between Joel, Kathy, Tom and I, could have very easily happened again this week. There is a new bike night on Wednesday nights and Tom wanted to go to it, in addition to the ones we normally go to on Thursday nights and Friday nights and Saturday nights. Yes four in a row.

I can't handle that and I calmly said with love I can't do all four we normally do two or three please pick the three you want and that's what we will do. He agreed and we HAPPILY skipped Wednesday night bike night and watched 30 minutes of your DVD and then watched baseball together till we went to bed. Just three weeks ago almost this exact situation was a huge fight with him threatening to leave and me threatening suicide. Sounds like two little kids in there arrested development.

I bought the book Broken Children, Grown-Up Pain by Paul Hegstrom while at the Intensive. I bought it to hopefully start helping my 14 yr. old daughter to start the process of healing from the years of unintentional

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abuse I have inflicted upon her. Which just taught me more about what happened to me growing up and also teaching me how to start helping her.

I now know I am not crazy like I've been told by counselors, family members and of course from myself.

I can't say enough THANK YOU'S and GOD BLESS YOU, YOUR CHILDREN, and THE MINISTRY of doing MARRIAGE SURGERY.

Amy

Hi Joel and Kathy,

I just sent you a note in the mail this morning! Things here are going pretty well. We spent another 5 days in Florida, visiting friends who live over on Anna Maria Island. After we got home, I waited one week for Michael to take the initiative of reading the books, striving for the "20-20-20", etc. I finally reminded him that we needed to be following your suggestions. I said that it was very scary to just "go it alone." I reminded him of how many times we have tried and failed, and that in order for this to be a life change, we need to keep what we have learned and discovered in front of us every day. He is now reading aloud to me every evening, without me reminding him. We have had no real problems so far, but we have far to go to become "outrageously happy." I pray that we get a little closer to that goal each day.....

With Love and Thanks, Susie and Mike

Dear Joel and Kathy,

First off, I'd like to say that I have so much respect for the two of you. You have been blessed and your spirit is so highly contagious.

By the 3rd day of the Weekend Marriage Intensive that was held on August 30 - September, 2, I found myself smiling for the first time in years.

Just seeing your happiness with each other has given me the incentive I needed to put my bitterness, and anger aside and open up my heart to the belief of being able to forgive him for all the hurt and pain he has caused me.

As you know, I found out some very painful truth during the weekend, but as painful as that was, I learned that there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

The knowledge of knowing that I could actually be like the two of you gave me the courage to open up my heart to him again.

Coming here, at the beginning, I was terrified.

Leaving now, I am hopeful.

Saved, yes, but as you told us, the "Truth will set you free," and it has.

Am I healed? No, but, I have faith that in time, I will get stronger.

I am finding myself smiling already. And for that alone, I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Karen (of Eric and Karen)

Dear Joel and Kathy,
Patty and I celebrate our 27th anniversary (which was yesterday) but we celebrate it as if it were today - on the final day of the weekend Intensive.

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For our 27 years we have seen numerous marriage counselors and several marriage seminars dealing major, major, major issues (Intensive issues.)

The new ideas and concepts we now have will make a change in our marriage.

Thank you for your dedication, energy and enthusiasm. I look forward to this new life Patty and I begin today.

Bill of Bill and Patty

Dear Joel and Kathy,

My husband and I have been married for 27 stormy years. My health began to fail and I was counseled to divorce my husband and live in peace.

I had been praying for a complete miracle because I had been abused physically, emotionally and mentally.

We came across Joel and Kathy's book and decided to come down to their Intensive class. It was very Intense!

Joel and Kathy are so dedicated in helping couples heal their marriages that a miracles truly happened.

Our Anniversary was the day before the class ended and here is what my husband wrote in his card to me:

"I am committed to you for life and will do what it takes to meet your needs and heal your wounds. This is our new beginning. I will change and swallow my pride.
Love Bill."

This is the BEST anniversary gift I could've ever received!!!

Thank you dear Jesus and thank you for bringing us to this class and for using Joel and Kathy so mightily!!!

God bless you, Love Patty (of Bill and Patty)

Dear Kathy and Joel,

The Lord gave me an angel to care for and I failed to see and do that. (My wife!) With your help and guidance I now see and am only beginning to understand how much damage I have caused my wife and family.

I do believe I am on the right track, but will need on going help and guidance, which I am sure my wife and children will help with. I want you both to know I do see how quickly she was willing to take me back and work on things together, although I feel your advice for her could have been to kick me out of the home and not listen to me until I fully understood what I was doing.

You, however, let us come to your Intensive, after reading both books before getting there. Joel told me you have had a 100% success rate if done so!

I was shocked at the message given in book one. It was me with a few things missing. Then, after reading Book 2, the missing items surfaced. It was almost like you were put in this ministry for this moment in time to guide me to save my marriage, family and life. I know I would have no life, without Karen and our kids.

I want you to know, not for one second did I have my usual feelings of: "Oh, this is not me, no about us", or say it was her fault. I know every point made was right on point. I felt strong enough to face these things in myself and start down the path of correcting myself, my way and thinking, my actions and to lay down my life for Karen. I will need help but with Karen, you, the Lord and my kids, I will make it! I love my kids, whom the

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Lord has given me to guide me through life. I will find the courage and direction to save our marriage.

I am working hard at trying to not push the blame on others and say it was not so bad and just seeing, believing and living the fact that it is me and me alone who needs to accept this and change and see the light in finding true happiness only through the happiness and joy of life through being the Man God wants me to be.

You have been given a perfect ministry for you both! You work together and your lives together create an amazing, leadership ministry. Your home schooling "test" was a test which you passed Joel! A test of Love!

Eric of Eric and Karen

Dear Joel and Kathy,

The last four days has changed our marriage! This weekend fulfilled its potential to change our family. The books were great - but the impartation of knowledge that takes place face to face with Joel and Kathy on this weekend is so healing and can't be duplicated through the books, email or phone.

The Intensive came highly recommended from friends who have been here. Christy knew one of my fears would be condemnation which I have lived with all my life. They convinced me there would be no condemnation and as they promised, there wasn't.

Blessing,

Amy of Ann and Troy

Update from Karen of Karen and Eric (see above):

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Eric has done a complete turn-around. He has been patient, understanding, and is trying very hard to change his controlling ways.

Occasionally, he'll raise his voice over mine, but lowers it as soon as he sees my look, and apologizes!

He is being loving and affectionate to me when in private. He still hesitates to do this around the kids and other people, but at least he's trying. I know it will take some time.

I have to say that I am surprised that he is doing as well as he is. This is totally new for him.

As for me: I am doing what you expected. I am going through a healing time. . The harsh reality of his adulterous affair has hit me hard, and I'm suffering. I am crying all the time and having a lot of anxiety issues. I try to hide it from everyone as best as I can, and so far, the kids have not seen any of it, which is a good thing.

I am not bitter or angry, nor am I worried about this happening again. I do believe him when he says it was a huge mistake, that she meant nothing, and that it is completely over.

I think the problem is that I keep beating myself up that I am part the blame. I believe that I put too much pressure on him to love me, and that I caused him to run. I also don't feel that he is attracted to me, and that is really hard to deal with, but you both made us realize that it really isn't his fault, so -

(Notes from Joel and Kathy: Eric, you have wonderful opportunity now to minister to Karen and bring healing to her heart. As you learned, Karen, you are not to blame at ALL for Eric's affair. It was his immaturity as a man that made him want to avoid your legitimate emotional needs: to be loved, valued and honored as a much loved wife. Eric's failure to be attracted to you sexually is also his issue. As he matures, you will start to become very attractive to him! His issues started in his childhood, and that is what you learned. It is a man's "pass" -

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however, now Eric has the opportunity to "own" those issues and mature into a man of God. As he grows, you will begin to enjoy those wonderful feelings of falling in love all over again!)

I am very grateful that Eric cared enough to talk me into going to your Intensive. I do believe that we were meant to be there and that God will give us that miracle and make our Marriage into one like yours, where we can both be happy and free. I am waiting for the day that I can relax and enjoy this new man that Eric seems to be becoming: One that puts me right next to him and treats me as an equal.

I love him with all my heart and I know that we will pull through this. And, hopefully, one day, with the help of God, he'll be able to look at me like his lover and not just like his wife. (if that makes sense)

I thank you both for caring so much. You two are very special people and will always be remembered as our Saviors. I don't know how I would have survived this without you.

I'll keep in touch and we both hope that you'll bring the kids to Disney to visit us in November. (Note from Joel and Kathy, "Yes, you will see us in November! Eric, you have to work real hard for the next couple months so that she is RAVING about how WONDERFUL you are treating her!")

God Bless,
Karen

YAY! You are going to an Intensive!

We just returned from the July Intensive and your husband is going to learn so much, and believe me, JOEL was waaaaay worse than almost any husband that turns up at the Intensive.

At the Intensive, there is LOTS of laughter (at one point yesterday morning, Joel almost fell off a chair laughing at himself at some ridiculous thing he did during his affair - and it WAS hilarious), and lots of awesome information.

Your husband WILL learn why he can't stand to hear correction, and he will NOT want to continue in that behavior when he hears the reasons behind it.

Joel and Kathy are truly anointed with tremendous love of the Word, love of people, and a great sense of humor, which is SO NEEDED when discussing such tough issues with men AND women in arrested development.

Yes, you can push your husband to read the 2nd book. Joel will push him to read it at the Intensive if he doesn't finish it before then, so he does not want to sit in the Intensive and then have to read during breaks! He wants to enjoy time with YOU! As the week/weekend goes on, he will be appreciating you more and more and feeling so glad to be with you.

Avoid confrontations or serious conversations with your husband now that you are scheduled for an Intensive. View this as a "free month" -- free from conversations about your future as a couple, your issues, his issues, anything heavier than the news and weather. If an issue starts to arise, write it down on a list and you can discuss it with J&K at the Intensive, or after the Intensive when you have the tools.

Blessings!

Gracey

Dear Joel and Kathy,

this was our second intensive due to my unwillingness to apply your teaching the first time. Shame on me! Your marriage help is ever better now. I plan to put it into full practice this time.

Thanks for the great help.....again. Jim G

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Joel and Kathy,

I have read EVERY self help book on relationships and marriage.
I have spent millions of hours explaining to my husband how I needed to be treated.
Joel and Kathy's intensive gave truth, hope and accountability!
Thank you, Joel and Kathy for handing over the keys to restoration.
I have noticed immediate results. I am recommending others to
do whatever they need to do to get to your intensive!

We are blessed to have God lead us into this chain breaking ministry!
In Jesus love and peace,
Melissa A

Joel and Kathy,

I really enjoyed the section on the memory. Hopefully this weekend will help us draw us closer together.
Teaching on the working of the Brain was interesting.

Thank you, Walt (husband of Carolyn)

Joel and Kathy,

I am very very thankful God opened up this path for (us) me. I have lived a life of guilt as I tried so hard to be
submissive to a husband who is not taking his responsibility. I am also thankful Walt has somebody that will
hold him accountable. No one else has been able to do that. I'm looking forward in hope that our marriage will
become Outrageously Happy because it would help a whole lot of Religious people.

God bless, Carolyn

Pray for Walt – he received the Lord when he was at the intensive but was pulled back into his religious mindset
when he returned home. He is out of the house now and needs lots of prayer for him to find a place of
restoration to a real relationship with Jesus and to his wife.

Joel and Kathy,

A very powerful 5 days. Presented in a real comprehensive way. No matter if you have major issues or just a
glitch - I don't know any couples who wouldn't benefit from this. I can't imagine any guy who loves his wife not
embracing this.

Ernie (husband of Donna)

The weekend was so informative and enlightening. My hopes for the future are to be as happy, whole and one
flesh as Joel and Kathy. Thank you for your very obvious love and commitment.

God bless you both, Donna

I believe that God has ordained me and my husband to be here at this time. This message has given me
renewed hope for my marriage and for our future. The tools that we have been given over the weekend are
scriptural lessons that will be life changing to our family. We will gladly pass this teaching on to others that
desire a godly marriage.

Sandy (wife of Steve V.)

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Eye and Mind opening weekend. This will definitely benefit our marriage and life together. You take a serious subject and make it easier to handle. Your energy and sincere caring are deeply appreciated. You and your ministry will be in our prayers.

Blessings, Steve V. (husband of Sandy)

Kathy and Joel,

I've often questioned why God placed the USA in our life's route. Only today, 8 years after our arrival in this country, have I realized that there is no place on earth where we could have learned what you teach in your Intensive Marriage Seminar. Words cannot express the depth of our appreciation.

I thank you very much for laying your life experiences, mistakes and marriage problems as an open book for the benefit of other couples. My heart is full of hope. With God's help and your support our relationship will bloom to incredible happiness. I'm looking forward to it.

Thank you, Eulatia (forum name) (wife of Michael)

The Intensive has opened my eyes towards what I have done wrong. We managed to work through our issues and got to the point where we will give it another (this time successfully) attempt. We were heading down an unhealthy path.

Joel and Kathy, thank you from the bottom of my heart for what you are doing.

Thank you, Michael (husband of Eulatia)

This weekend has been a life changing time. By reading the two books before hand it showed or opened the door to a happy marriage. The teaching expanded and also showed us new ideas and reason for how we operate in our life. It was a wonderful time and well presented. It is a real personal feeling and not just a book information seminar. I really appreciate and thank God that you guys are doing what you're doing.

Thank you!
Alexander Santiago (husband of Jessica Santiago)

This weekend has been great. After reading the books I thought. WOW!
This weekend has been such a great insight for my husband and I as a couple but also an insight on who I am. I highly recommend this weekend and books to every couple. This all helped save our marriage!

Thank you, Joel and Kathy,
Jessica Santiago (wife of Alexander Santiago)

I got a tremendous amount of understanding and growth as a person and a wife. I also learned that raising my standards was a okay and what a good marriage should look like and how to get one.

I realized that if "my husband" was willing to live the program, (he was the one who brought us here), then he was serious about changing. He/we still need to follow advice and continue to grow as a couple. I have decided to make it work with "my husband." Healing took place this weekend.

Thank you forever!

Kim (wife of Nick)

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I learned to be a good husband from this program. I would recommend it to anyone. What you teach is a blessing. Joel and Kathy are real and that helps make the learning process easier from someone that's been thru it..

Thank you, Nick P. (husband of Kim)

I learned my wife needs my love poured into her unconditionally as Christ loves the Church.

As I pour into my wife love, it will heal her and at the same time the arrested development that I have will be healed. Many other things were great but most likely these are the major bullet points that have stuck out to me.

Thank you, T.P.(husband of J.P., Jacksonville, Florida)

The Intensive has been so eye-opening. The scripturally-based concepts on marriage that you guys discovered bears total witness with me.

I am so excited to go home from the intensive and start our new and restored life! I know there will be some bumps and bruises along the way, but I am looking forward to the support that you guys proved that goes above and beyond what any other ministry offers. Also, thank you so much for offering highly competent, loving child care (for hire). You made it logistically easy to come and be at peace about the children, thus removing what could have been a major hurdle for us to come and get our miracle!

|
Thank you, J.P., Jacksonville, Florida (wife of T.P, Jacksonville, Florida)

To see the love that J& K have for each other written all over their faces was all the convincing I needed that their message is from God. This is the hardest thing I will ever do in my life but at the end of this road the reward of having my beautiful wife glow with God's love will be well worth the effort.

I got here in gradual increments by paying more attention to myself over my wife. This message is amazing and different than what main stream society has taught men. I am looking forward to coming out the other side as the loving husband that God has called me to be. Thank you for your time and energy,

Flyboy (husband of Pink)

This intensive ministered to me. It was awesome to see you two up close and personal. It was apparent that you guys truly love each other. It made everything so real. I learned more of how a wife is suppose to respond to her husband. I learned that my husband was not trying to use me in our intimate life but was really trying to get close to me. I learned that I have just as much responsibility as my husband does to our happiness. I learned that I need to not be bitter and stay mad and that I need to give my husband some wiggle room when he's really trying. I also realized that I need to listen whole-heartedly to the couples who truly have the OHM.

Pink (wife of Flyboy)

By Kathy: What does a 'Hero" look like?

How can you spot a real man? How can you spot a hero? Have you ever seen the bumper sticker that says "Real men pray.' Let me tell you something else that 'REAL MEN' do. They love their children's mother. They treat her with respect and honor, valuing her. They put a high value upon her. A REAL MAN can show emotions. He can say "I love you" to his wife.

A REAL MAN can care how his wife feels and the hurts that she may have.

A REAL MAN cares about how he has treated his wife, owns up to his issues and apologizes.

A REAL MAN does not hide behind his work, his sports, his hobbies, his buddies, to avoid intimacy.

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A REAL MAN loves to see his bride smile and wants to find more ways of making her smile, knowing the seeds he is sowing will come back to him.

Ultimately, a REAL MAN wins in the long run.

When he makes "it" all about her "first" then she in return, WILL make it all about him.

Here are a few 'rare' examples of what a 'Hero' looks like.

A 'hero' looks like "Jack" (yes, Jack Bauer. Smile) who came to our last "Intensive." The testimony letters that you read above were from Jack and his wife, Mary.

Jack, who had been in adultery for 12 years and used drugs and alcohol, began to realize that either he was going to lose his family or be dead - one of the two.

By the time the "Intensive" was over, not only did he see himself, but saw what his lifestyle had done to his family. He saw the hurt, the pain, the mistrust and the insecurity it brought to his two beautiful daughters.

Jack and Mary didn't know if they were going to be able to make it to the intensive, but both the girls told them that they needed to go.

A lot was riding on this weekend for those two girls, and they got their "miracle." They got a father who was willing to stand up and be their 'hero.'

A man who was willing to own up to his issues.

A man who was willing to take a stand and do what he needed to do to make things right.

He had to fix things with his family. He had made his wife look like the wicked witch in their eyes.

He had to apologize to his mother-in-law, and own up to the damage he had caused her daughter.

Here was a man, who had just become a man. He was willing to go home and tell his daughters, "everything is gonna be alright."

That is a man, we can all be proud of and call a 'hero.' Thus the testimonies of his wife that you read above.

What does a 'hero' look like? A hero looks like 'Tom' of Tom and Kristin (see "Livin' it and Lovin'" it for their testimonies - at the end of chapter 1 and Chapter 2)

What does a 'hero' look like? A 'hero' looks like 'Randy' of Randy and Susan. See their story in chapter 21 of 'living it and loving it.' You read their testimony in our last newsletter. They came to an intensive. A week later, he was down on his knees, diamond ring in hand, asking her to marry him all over again!

What does a 'hero' look like? It looks like the man that "William" is becoming. William is 79. Janet is 73. He had never seen his parents show any affection at all. So when he married his first wife (she passed away after 40 years of marriage) he didn't show her affection.

When he marries Janet, who LOVES hugs and kisses, it took him totally by surprise. She wanted this kind of attention all the time!

When they came to our seminar, it was great. He really had the easiest job out of all the men there. Just give her lots of hugs and kisses, and adjust your evening schedule just a little and you will have a very happy wife. This he has done. He even lets her sit on his lap!

Wow~ you are never too old to have a new beginning in your life. Our prayer is that these next 20 years of their life will be the 'BEST' years.

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

What does a 'hero' look like? Well, I can't talk about 'what does a hero look like' without mentioning my own 'hero.' (Read both books and you will see why.)

He continues to be my hero. In our last newsletter, I wrote "What does a great marriage look like?" You can read that to see why Joel is my 'hero.'

This is the life that we live, every day. These aren't "Hey, we need some good material for our newsletters?" so I think I will do something nice." Then Kathy will write about it. No, this is our daily life and this can be YOUR daily life.

There are so many more 'heroes' I could mention.

Welcome to the 'Hero's ' club. That is, welcome to all those husbands whose wives are happy and bragging about you.

Welcome to the "heroes' club?" the club that is filled with those husbands who choose to lay down their lives for their wives as Christ did for his 'bride."

Welcome to those fathers who have decided that their children matter and want to "pass on a better inheritance" to their children's children. An inheritance is more than just money. It is more than just things. It is more than just a roof over their head and food on the table.

A real man leaves an "inheritance" that is everlasting: A happy home. A home where their father loved their mother and was an example of Christ to them. You say, "I have not been that kind of man." "You can be!"

To those husbands whose wives have given up (See Joel's article on "God Hates Divorce" to follow in this newsletter) and decided that divorce was her only other option: You still have a chance to be a 'hero.'

You still have a chance to be a hero before God and a hero before your children.

The "Word of God" says, "if it is in your power to do right, do right."

Men, it IS within your power to do right, so do right. Become the man that God has called you to be.

If you do this, you can be proud of yourself and stand before God with clean hands.

If you do this, your children will begin to see a Christ like example.

If you do this, you might just win your wife's heart back, even after the divorce is final.

This happened for Paul and Judy Hegstrom and it can happen for you and your wife. It happened for Randy and Susan. It has happened to many others who have read our books and put the words into ACTION.

What God does for one, he can do for another. So, be that "hero' that your wife and family needs. Be that 'hero' that you can look at in the mirror everyday and say, "With God's help and Grace, I can live this life, I can grow up and become the man that God wants me to be. I WILL BECOME THAT HERO!"

Another powerful, powerful letter of abiding, deep fruit in the lives of a couple from an Intensive Weekend. This letter will change lives all over the world:

Dear Melanie,

This letter is long overdue. I have been thinking about what to say to each member of my extended family for the past two years. I'm relieved that this letter was not written sooner because I have really clarified in my heart and soul what to say in just the last two weeks.

Mandy and I spent four days over Labor Day weekend at a marriage seminar in Florida with two other couples. It was just the six of us and the facilitators, Joel and Kathy Davisson (authors of two books that Mandy and I read prior to the seminar- "The Man of Her Dreams, The Woman of His" and "Livin' It and Lovin' It").

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

I discovered the first book last winter when searching online for the best books written for strengthening marriages. My reaction after reading the first chapter of the first book was to put it on the shelf and not even discuss it with Mandy. The basic concept is that God has placed the blueprint for a happy marriage in the wife's heart. The husband's task is to listen to the wife's heart and die to self; realizing that a man does not have the blueprint in his heart for a great marriage - and needs to "learn" this from his wife. The husband is the initiator and the wife is the responder.

My first reaction was that this was exactly what the wife has always wanted to hear- what a bunch of baloney! Two months later our relationship issues were getting worse and I took the book off the shelf and started reading it with Mandy. We read the second book this past summer and I started to believe that the concept could work.

My major paradigm shift occurred in Florida (new insights, light bulbs going on, connecting the dots, etc.) I have always had a real problem admitting that I am wrong. I have also had a serious problem with thinking only of self. I have the emotional maturity of an eight year old. I am a control freak who has pointed the finger at Mandy since day one. I have mistakenly blamed Mandy for our marriage problems rather than accepting any responsibility. I have abused Mandy emotionally, mentally, and physically. I have been selfish, insensitive and unkind.

I now have seen evidence that I have been the instigator when Mandy is unhappy. When I change positively, she responds positively. It's not easy, but it does work.

It has been extremely difficult for me to admit that I have been wrong. When she is upset with something I say or do, I still sometimes fall into the trap of explaining and defending which then only turns into an argument. It's like a knee jerk reaction because I've done it for 27 years.

The good news is that the good days now far outnumber the bad. It's a new beginning for both of us. With neuro-linguistic programming a new path in the brain can form (a paradigm shift) but it may take up to three years. I still have a long way to go.

I always thought she was the instigator (she would get angry) and I was the responder when I made excuses and defended myself.

Early on in the first few months of our marriage I was abusing Mandy in sometimes very subtle ways (sarcasm, put downs, negative looks). I in essence gave permission to each member of our extended family to do the same. Her anger and insecurities are the direct result of my actions. I was wrong when I somehow implied to Jacqueline or someone else in our family that Mandy wanted to get married but that I really did not.

I was as flaky as they come concerning our marriage. One day I thought it was ordained in heaven and the next day I did not want to give up my freedom. It's a total miracle that we are still together. It was me, me, me, I want, I want, I want, self, self, self.

In the last 27 years I have said and done hundreds and maybe thousands of abusive things to Mandy. I can never apologize enough for it all. But I can begin the reconciliation process with Mandy by dying to self every opportunity I have.

I am making a new commitment to treat my wife as a gift from God. I will love her and honor her from this day forward till death do us part. Both Mandy and I feel as if God has given us a second chance as a miracle from heaven. It's definitely a new beginning.

I have come to realize that my extended family has never really accepted Mandy. Everyone was very concerned that the marriage wouldn't work out because Mandy was older than myself, had two children and there seemed to be a general dislike for Mandy.

This began early in our marriage, and as you know, this reached its pinnacle when Angie attacked Mandy. Angie felt she had the right to come over to our home without bothering to knock on the front door. She just walked

in and proceeded to start beating on Mandy. She thought she had the right to do that because the general attitude towards Mandy was that of disrespect.

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

The story that Mandy struck the first blow is untrue and Lisa, who was only five, witnessed the whole tragedy. She saw Angie strike my wife first and then proceeded to strike her over and over again. When I came home and saw Mandy, she was bleeding from the mouth and ear. Her eardrum was punctured and when the police saw Mandy, they suggested she file charges.

The way our family responded to Mandy after this battle was the beginning of a major wound that has not healed to this day. Rather than holding Angie accountable for her actions I received phone calls from family members who thought Mandy was making a huge mistake by filing charges and insisting on an apology. To Mandy this once again gave the impression that what happens in our family stays in our family and we don't need outsiders telling us how to solve our differences. I went along with the basic attitude of the family and wasn't man enough to stand up against all of you.

After several years, I convinced Mandy & Lisa that I would really appreciate it if they would make an attempt to attend family events. Without any admission of guilt or an apology from Angie, Mandy & Lisa have never felt comfortable or accepted at our family gatherings. Lisa eventually decided to ignore all invitations family events. When we discussed these issues at length with Joel and Kathy Davisson in Florida, they were shocked at the abuse and disrespect of the family towards Mandy and Lisa.

Because of this past history, I will not be attending any more functions with the family. Mandy is my first and only priority.

My actions in the past, of putting my family above Mandy, have shown that I have loved my family more than my wife, at times. Sadly, my error in this has brought me to this place. It is my fault.

If there is no response from this letter, then it is an admonition that you know what has been happening all of these years and you really don't care.

Love,

Your brother,

Alan

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This weekend was very needed to support the information in the books and eight hour DVD seminar. There is nothing like hearing from Joel and Kathy in person to make these things come alive. I have been to many conferences and even marriage retreat weekends. This weekend was the most impactful for me. I really appreciated how much Joel and Kathy poured out of themselves for us.

Cheryl (and Allen)

The Intensive Weekend helped me understand the arrested development I suffered through and the reasons why. This hindered my response to my wife, which robbed her of the person that I can be; the husband she dreamed of; the husband that loves her and will meet her needs.

The weekend helped me see things that the book didn't really explain to the depth that was needed for me personally. The books laid the foundation, the weekend built the house.

In whole, with the books and the intensive, my eyes have been opened for the first time to the truth of how a man becomes Christlike, how a man needs to love his wife and how to have a respect and honor for you wife, whose heart is for you, her husband.

Allen (and Cheryl)

Allen, this was a real nice letter from you. We did not even read it until now, in preparing this newsletter. I am so glad to see how the weekend "jelled" for you.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for a very eye opening, soul opening four days for Wendy and me. Overwhelming! A new door has been opened for me. All the tools are in the room for me to use; some of them I am familiar with - others I will have to learn to use. Everything is there for me to rebuild my marriage. It is now up to me to pick those tools up and put them to use. I can't wait to try them all out. Thank you for sharing your knowledge!

Jim (and Wendy)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I entered this Weekend Marriage Intensive as a "final effort" to save this marriage - our marriage! What I learned is that unforgiveness/bitterness will destroy the best efforts to realize a healing in this situation.

An attempt toward tenderness is beginning and I will need to use it to re-build trust. I have felt like a disconnected observer in this marriage. Now I look forward to being a partner.

Even after 33 years, I believe Dick can become the man God has called him to be (using the information we have learned here) and that he can be that man of God; even behind closed doors!

Suzanne of Suzanne and Dick

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This weekend provided both the Holy Spirit (and my wife) an opportunity to confront me with behavior and attitudes that have not only been destructive to my wife - but have no doubt wounded my children and others who have been in my circle of influence.

The idea of an arrested emotional development strongly resonated with me, particularly as I was the same week placing my father in hospice care. As I said "goodbye" to him before coming to the Weekend Intensive, I recognized how little of my childhood teenage years I remembered. The memories I do have are somewhat frightening (for want of a better word.)

I have had my eyes opened, and have received some clarity concerning the pain I have caused others, especially my wife. I realized that I often acted out of my fear of abuse (from my childhood experiences). I have often brought my defenses up and in doing so, abused my wife's heart.

I have never let go of my fear I had as a child when I was physically and verbally abused. I believe this weekend has started the process of freedom.

Thank you Joel and Kathy! Dick (and Suzanne)

The following short paragraph was written by Dave after the Intensive. He went home and PUT THE INTENSIVE WEEKEND into practice - resulting in the two letters you just read from Veronica above!

Joel and Kathy,

Thank you (and thank my wife!) for the intensive! It was very difficult to swallow my pride and own up to my faults, but you helped me to do it! This is the boost I needed to start to enjoy my marriage!

Dave (and Veronica)

Part two from Veronica:

Dear Joel and Kathy!

I sent you a thank you letter earlier today for the intensive. Little did I know that today (one week from the intensive) would be the GREATEST DAY in my marriage in years! (Please stop what you are doing and applaud yourselves!!!! :-))))))

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

I just have to share with you what an Angel my husband has been all day.

This morning he got up and went out and got me coffee from Starbucks and breakfast and brought them home to me. Then he willingly went swimming with me - something he usually tries to get out of if he can. We taked and had a nice time in the pool and he kissed me a bunch of times. Then he went to the store and got groceries for dinner. He asked me to go with, but when I told him I wanted time in the pool, he let me be and went by himself instead of making a fuss or being mad at me. When he came home he asked if he could take a nap, and I said well I thought we were going to have some romantic time, he said WE ARE, that's why I'd like to get a little nap in, and I said okay. When he got up from his nap we had very fun lovemaking and he was very attentive to me during and after! :-))) (That is two lovemaking sessions this week - hooray!!!)

When it was time to cook dinner he asked if he should light the grill for me. I almost fell off the bed! He rarely if ever lights the grill for me and usually just lays there while I wait on him. I asked him if he could watch football in the kitchen while I made dinner, and he did! Again amazing. Then when we were done eating he did almost all of the cleaning up himself! I have had the most wonderful day.

Thank you, thank you, thank you! Veronica

PS. When we were out at this small shop the other night, I bought him I shiny rock the shape of a heart and gave it to him. I told him "This is my heart and I want you to keep it with you at all times, I want it to remind you that I have given you my heart and that your love for me should always be shiny and new." So far he has had the rock with him most of the time since I gave it to him, (he forgot it when he went golfing, it fell out of his pocket on the couch), but other than that he has had it with him and when he's home it's on the counter in plain view. I think it is a cool idea that he has to carry my heart around with him at all times - maybe you guys could get some heart made up that say God has entrusted your wife's heart to YOU, and if Joel and Kathy can do it, so can you on the other side??? Or something like that for all the guys who have been through your intensive. I don't know, it's just a thought. (Then I secretly thought maybe you guys should make some hearts out of delicate china or paper and make the guys take good care of them so they can remember how easily they can damage a woman's heart. Like your butterfly analogy. Oh well, just thought I'd share that with you. Thank you thank you thank you!!!

Veronica (and Dave) Names changed because of love making detail Also written one week after the Intensive.

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I must admit, I came not really wanting to expect much even though I'd read both books. Joel and Kathy are genuine and anointed. After just one evening, I felt like a different person, among family with lots of hope for my marriage, my life ! They don't beat around the bush but get right to the heart and deal with the roots. I know what they teach works as I see it in them. Praise God Joel and Kathy chose to serve the Lord by sharing their life and love to help all of us have restoration. Father God's heart comes through all they do. They truly care and are a valuable, much desperately needed Ministry in the Body of Christ. I will definitely recommend them to all my family, friends or anyone who needs a miracle in their marriage. Don't hesitate- do it- it's intense- it's worth it !

Thank you, Joel and Kathy,
Blessings, Paula (and Dave)
PS. It's Fun Too !

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Prior to attending Joel and Kathy's Victory Intensive I had no clue (clueless) that I was hurting, wounding and physically making her sick by simply ignoring her and putting other things first before her. I attend to give her hope and let her know that I care enough to heal what would be said. I read The Man of Her Dreams, The Woman of His books, 1 & 2 and didn't get it. During the weekend I not only realized there severity of the abuse I was inflicting on her, I got the tools to stop, turnaround and walk away from my behavior while initiating healing. Joel and Kathy dropped the veil that was blinding me from seeing my selfishness. I have a long way to

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

go to br thr Man of Her Dreams and it may not be easy yet I have the opportunity to fix what I totally (unknowingly) messed up. I am so grateful somebody pounded this material into my head and showed me by example how to be the Man of Her Dreams.

Thank you Joel and Kathy !!
Dave M. (and Paula)

Our first Intensive was in May of 2007 and even though we DID receive a Miracle in our marriage, it was before I found out I was ADD. I recently found a SAFE place as you have spoken of many times and let the principles of the dying/growing process diminish to the point of opening Wounds in CHERish that were huge!

One of the eye-opening things I learned about wounds is that when they are opened back up it doesn't matter how much they were healed before, you have to start all over again...WOW!!! That is a VERY IMPORTANT LESSON we clueless husbands should all take your word for and NOT learn that one on our own. J

I HIGHLY ENCOURAGE all couples to go to a second intensive if you are not at the level of OHM that you want to be. There is simply too much information to understand fully the first time; especially considering the infancy level of our mental and emotional development. The information this time around was so much more relevant because we had rubber meets the road experience that helped us comprehend the lessons.

Finally, we were blessed to stay in Joel & Kathy's home over the weekend and see how REAL and GENUINE they are. They truly walk their talk with openness and vulnerability. They are a Man & Woman that you can TRUST and they deserve our honor, prayers and most importantly our financial support to allow them to heal more marriages and affect the legacies of generations to come.

DEAD Dog (and CHERish-ed Rose)

This Re-DO trip to Joel and Kathy's Marriage Intensive cost us money that we did NOT have laying around anywhere. It cost us dearly and it WAS WORTH ALL THE SACRIFICES! We needed this SO much!

DEAD Guy, who had been demoted to DEAD Dog because of his recent LACK of enough progress to keep me from slipping back into insanity had better of "gotten it" this time around, ya know? HA! CHERish me or else, Dude! :-)

Thank you for planting this wisdom into our marriage. (As well as others!) We truly believe that as our marriage continues on this path to OUR OHM, that all of the rest of our lives will come in line. PLEASE keep on fighting the good fight of FAITH... you do it VERY well!!

In HIS Grip, CHERish-ed Rose (and Dead Dog)

Joel and Kathy's Marriage intensive is something y'all gotta do. Just listen to your wife and git'er done. It will HELP. Stay tuned for further development.

Thank you, D.B.

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Amazing! You actually got my husband to apologize! Now that's a miracle! The intensive is awesome - there's just nothing else to say. We love you guys.

C.B.

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I am fully convinced that applying these principles and being fully committed to walking them out will completely transform any marriage.,

C.K

Dear Joel and Kathy,

My husband and I came to this intensive at a time when we needed a miracle in our marriage. After 18 years of marriage, after trying to get help every place possible, after feeling like I was going to go insane.....I was at my wit's end. I had come to the end of myself and the end of my marriage.

We came here because we knew that there were real answers finally available to us. We both came here ready to learn and ready to change. We finally have the tools that we need in order to become the husband and wife that God called us to be! This weekend has allowed us to start fresh and move forward.

Thanks Joel and Kathy!

"Eeyore"

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Before coming to the intensive, I knew I was a dope and did not understand how to truly be a man in a marriage. I am proud to say that I am now a dope with a chance of growing and changing into a good husband in a happy marriage. I now have the keys to understanding why I am selfish, self-focused and have not lived with my wife's heart as my primary focus.

The intensive has shown me the areas within me that will have to change in order to bless my wife and bring healing to her heart. Another major insight was the temperament profile - it has revealed to both of us how we tend to think and behave within the marriage and we have already seen change in our relationship based on the assessment.

"Her Destiny" (married to Eeyore.)

Thank you Joel and Kathy!!!!

Your marriage Intensive has taken the scales off the eyes of my husband of 38 years. He started changing after reading your books (thank you that you required the readings) and continued throughout the Intensive!!

I'm praying and thanking God for a miracle!!

G.W.

My only regret about this Intensive is that I couldn't have done it 25 years ago, so that I could have had 25 years of Happy Marriage.

If I had listened to my wife's heart in the beginning, I could have saved her from a huge amount of pain.

J.W.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This weekend has helped us unlearn some bad teaching from the usual church line. There has also been some key things that I have not heard anywhere else. If it was just one-on-one counseling I would be worried that I left something out, was misunderstood, etc, but the recovering process is up to us and very customized but the guidelines are universal.

Thank you,
L.B.

How can someone follow the truth when it is still hidden or even turned upside down, by the "established" message givers. You can't. Thank God for the day light, the Truth, that I, the husband am responsible for a great marriage. The upside down message has certainly failed & disappointed & destroyed (typical fruit of lies, so why was the "tree" known by it's fruit, never questioned until recently?) Now, I must grow up. I know I can because TRUTH is on my side.

Dear Joel and Kathy,

After traditional Christian teachings all of my life & trying "everything" that I had been taught as doctrine...nothing really worked. As a woman, I felt like I was losing my mind and couldn't take the pain anymore. My husband couldn't seem to take responsibility and change. God led me to the Joel and Kathy website.

We attended the very next intensive....Wow!!! My husband is changing before my eyes and my hope is restored. With Joel and Kathy's resources as continual support, I know we are on our way to an Outrageously Happy Marriage! There's nothing like this. Truth is revealed! Men are challenged to be the men God wants them to be & women are finally able to have hope and feel safe/secure and heal. Become a part of this unbelievable intensive before Joel and Kathy's revelations from God hit critical mass across the World.

What Joel and Kathy teach just plain makes sense! There were so many times throughout the weekend that I either said or thought "I'm not crazy! I've known this was true." They teach what the bible ACTUALLY says marriage is supposed to be like.

It was empowering for women and it is empowering for men. If you have looked and wondered "where is the help I need for a happy marriage?"

Look no further!

Thank you!!

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thanks for sharing your hearts, your hurts, your struggles and your very lives with us. You removed the stigma of isolation that occurs when we struggle in our marriages.

The truth you teach offer us real hope and a path towards a positive future as married people. You laid before us things that we secretly really desire in our marriages, but were unable to achieve for various reasons. We learned how and why we were failing and how and why we should change and heal.

May God richly bless you in your labors for him,

Thank you, Charlie N. (and Mary)

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for willingly exposing your hearts and lives. Your humility and brokenness is bringing life to others. I'm trusting God for a miracle, and I believe your marriage Intensive is God's ordained way of producing miracles in the lives of wounded couples.

Thank you, Mary N. (and Charlie)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This weekend was hard; pulling teeth may be easier, but I have been taught a lot about myself and the way things should be. I look forward to being a better husband and father.

Thank you, Kevin (and Vanessa)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I am looking forward to love, peace and joy in our marriage and home!

I also want to express my gratitude for what you too do. I have learned so much this weekend and feel free to be me & have a happy life. After all, Happy Wife, Happy Life !

Thank you, Vanessa (and Kevin)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I enjoyed the Intensive. It reassured me that I was NOT crazy, I am not demanding and to expect nothing, but the best is the norm. There is hope to have an Outrageously Happy Marriage, not just one that is making it.

I look forward to applying these principles and begin our journey to becoming happy and eventually get married - hopefully sooner than later ! This Intensive should be tweaked to apply towards premarital couples, an idea that Rene and I might do once we get ourselves fixed.

Thank you, Amy G. (and Renee)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I have learned a lot at the Intensive. I am working on dying to my Pride. Before that, I struggled with agreeing with everything that Joel and Kathy said. But one thing I told myself is my way didn't work before so I don't have a say so now. Now I feel hope in my relationship.

Thank you, Rene. (and Amy)

Testimony from Sue of Sue and Eric – One Year after Their Intensive Weekend!

For twenty years, before I found The Man of Her Dreams, the Woman of His, I spent nights in bed with my back turned toward my husband, crying to God, begging that I would learn to love my husband, that I would be released from bitterness and that I could be a normal loving wife. I thought that I had married for wrong and selfish reasons and believed that I was getting what I deserved; all I wanted was to be pleasing to God by being a good Christian wife. I prayed that I would become stronger with a softer more loving and patient heart.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

After all, my husband, I thought, was a Christian man. He went to church every week, taught Sunday School and served as an elder. Most of the time, he worked to support the family. I thought then that those things meant he must be a good husband. I had low expectations. Society and our culture helped nurture the concept that I couldn't expect much from a guy. Christian culture further encouraged me to forgive and persevere. I made excuses for his lack of communication, his isolation, neglect, helplessness, narcissism, jealousy, stinginess, ugliness, resentment and self gratification. I thought it was all normal guy behavior.

When Eric and I had been married nearly fifteen years, my outlook began to change. Unexpected tragedies happened in my family and I had to face God in ways that I never had before. My vulnerability sent me on a deeper journey toward knowing Christ. As I began to know Christ more deeply, I came to the surprising realization that Eric, although verbal in church about his strong faith in God, was not actually a believer. He told me so. Then I had to wrap my head around the fact that my husband was a liar and a pretender. Hard to believe I had been married to him that long before I realized his depravity.

It was still four years after that before I discovered Joel and Kathy and their ministry. I still didn't comprehend the full extent of Eric's sinfulness. All I knew for sure was that I was miserable and that I felt trapped. Divorce was out of the question for me. I felt strongly that it was my burden to bear. I thought divorce would be a sin of selfishness and I didn't want to hurt my family by bringing our problems into the open.

I also didn't understand the depths of God's love for us and how grieved God himself was about Eric's sin and my sorrow. I continued to pray for my own strength to endure. Little did I know that first I had to become weak and helpless and that God's plan was to bring my husband to his knees in repentance and grow him to be Christ-like in his love for me. I had no idea that God would miraculously answer my prayer by transforming Eric into someone I can love, instead of transforming me into someone who could love Eric.

The first jolt of the answer to my prayer came one evening when I was researching on the internet about how to deal with passive-aggressive guys. A homeschool forum friend posted a link to "God Save my Marriage" with the question, "What about mutual submission?" It's hard to believe now, but on that evening "mutual submission" was a totally new idea to me, although it's been there in Scripture all along. I clicked on the link and out poured blessing.

I read the free excerpt hungrily and ordered the book. I was excited and yet still naive thinking Eric would be excited too. I actually believed that he longed, like I did, for a healthy marriage. Ha! Eric was angered by Joel and Kathy's book in the beginning and tells me that he wanted to rip the book and throw it into the flames of the fireplace.

Though Eric rejected Joel and Kathy's teaching at the beginning, I was strengthened by what I read. As soon as the second book was published, I lived by both books. I learned that my feelings are neither right nor wrong, that they are simply my feelings. I learned that I have a right to my feelings and I learned not to dismiss hurts as being "just my imagination". I learned that my frustrations were legitimate and explainable.

I learned that I wasn't alone and that I wasn't crazy. Joel and Kathy, along with the helpers on the "God Save My Marriage" forum gave me a safe place to vent and analyze and become more secure in Christ. Although I had a detailed plan for departure from my dead prison of marriage, I never carried out the plan. I believe that Eric could have awakened from his sinful stupor sooner if I had left him.

Instead he became a master of pretending to "get it" long enough to get me to stay a little bit longer prolonging the grueling ups and downs and my agony of "hope deferred makes the heart sick" spoken of in Proverbs 13:12. However, Eric had evidence of real changes along the way that kept me from bailing out completely too.

On January 8th, 2008, I confronted him about the pornography and self-gratification, which I later found out, had been consuming him daily since he was a young adolescent. How could I not have known the extent and the resulting damage to both of us and to our kids? By God's grace, Eric overcame the addiction.

It wasn't easy for us, because while he expected to be appreciated for his successes, I was overcome by the severity and darkness of his compulsion and we were left to deal with the long term effects of his twisted self-love: lying, greed, pride, self-centeredness, etcetera resulting from a man arrested in his emotional development.

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

Nevertheless, the change resulting from the confrontation about the porn had a recognizable and immediate positive effect on our marriage.

The next landmark in our growth came the first weekend in October, 2009 when we went to Joel and Kathy's Marriage Intensive in Palm Coast, Florida. Until then, Eric had been depending on his own efforts and his own ideas about how to make his marriage succeed. The amount of information and help and counseling and genuine love given at the Intensive was astounding and overwhelming.

I came to terms with learning that I also have arrested development or I never would have been attracted to Eric in the first place. I came to terms with my own anger which actually intensified at the Intensive and continued until Eric's serious breakthrough many months later. The Intensive was priceless. We could never have reached the point we are if we had continued to depend on our selves.

The Intensive was hard too and I had the most real thoughts of ending my life during the Intensive, part of Satan's attack, I know, but nevertheless real and agonizing. Since the Intensive we have both wrestled with deep, difficult and painful things. Eric has struggled with deep seated mother-son issues and passivity while I deal with hurts that are bigger than life from being concealed for a lifetime. God Save My Marriage forum and conference calls have been invaluable in our week to week crises since the Intensive.

Now we see the results. We now stand beside each other. We can look into each other's eyes with love. We can be honest with each other, honest with others and honest before our Lord. Eric is compassionate, warm and tender.

Though he continues to make mistakes, because he is still human, he is diligent and daily surrenders his life to Christ and to me. He knows that passivity is a choice and that passive aggression is a sin and that overcoming both is a daily decision. He also knows that his most worthy ministry is to be a Christ-like husband and dad.

Eric and I renewed our marriage vows on a Marriage Renewal Cruise with Joel and Kathy in September, 2010.

Eric speaks those same vows to me several times a week to remind him where his focus should be and to reassure me that he is serious. He allows me to question him and to express doubts about his sincerity as long as I feel a need to. Until we die, we will continue to make mistakes, but we will also continue to grow in Christ's love.

While we learn to relate to each other, we are learning how to relate to other people in love and ultimately this is our purpose in life, to love and to grow the kingdom of God in love and unity!

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This book has changed my life! Before reading it I felt like my 12 year marriage to Amy was at a dead end; there was no place to turn for help.

I believed that Amy was to blame for all of our marital problems. I would often remind her of her faults. She seemed almost lifeless. I felt that that Amy was always nagging and complaining. No matter how many times I tried to correct her of this, it only made the situation worse. Amy would mention divorce on a regular basis saying that she wished she had never married me. She would often lose her temper and would sometimes throw things at me in disgust. Our situation appeared hopeless.

I had done everything I knew to change Amy! I would pray for hours at a time and wonder why God would never change her! Nothing that I said or did made a difference. I could argue for hours as to why I was such a good husband and was not to blame for any of our problems. I left the marriage for another woman. Amy and I each had an attorney in whom we trusted to take care of the details. That would be the end of it.

Praise God! Divorce was not God's plan for our lives! I thank God for "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!" Without it I would have missed out on the best years of my life and caused much harm to Amy and our children. How could I ever have been so deceived?

Amy read "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!" first. When she told me how much the book meant to

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

her I insisted that it must be one sided. If Amy agreed with it then it must be wrong! Amy told me that it spoke to both men and women and I wanted to find the things that spoke to the women! I began to read the book!

After reading the first few chapters I was irate. I looked forward to calling the authors in the morning to tell them how wrong they were about marriage relationships! I was not to blame! Amy was the problem! As I continued reading, the Holy Spirit moved in my heart and the scales fell from my eyes. I began to see that Amy was the woman of my dreams! Ninety pages later I fully realized that Joel and Kathy Davisson couldn't have been more correct regarding husbands and wives.

"The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!" began to change my life. I could hardly believe that I had been blind to so many things that were now crystal clear concerning the problems in our marriage. I confessed to Amy that it was I who had been wrong all along. Before those scales were removed I truly had no idea that it was I who had the problems! I had been sincere but wrong!

As I applied the principles in Joel and Kathy's book our relationship immediately changed for the better. I have gotten my act together; Amy's problems have magically disappeared! I never would have believed this to be possible until I experienced it myself.

Amy and I feel like young teenagers in love again!

Every aspect of our life is full of hope and excitement! I praise God for the forgiveness and patience that Amy has extended to me and for the life that we now have together.

Thank you Joel and Kathy from the bottom of my heart for showing me how to be "The Man of Her Dreams". Amy surely is "The Woman of Mine!"

If not for your book I would have missed out on all of the beautiful years that God has in store for my future as a husband to Amy. My three precious children would have missed out on having me as resident "daddy" and I would have missed out on being resident "daddy" to them. How blessed we as a family are.

May God bless you both,
Terry and Amy (Called Kenneth and Christine Robinson) Tulsa Oklahoma

Thanks so much Joel!!!! We know how much shipping books and tapes as we send them all over the country to wherever Bob is ministering, so we appreciate you doing that for us!!! I will send you a check to cover the books!!! I can't wait to sit down and read it myself!!! fyi....my Bob is a 'CHANGED MAN' because of this book!!!! Bless you!!!! Jayne

Dear Joel and Kathy,

"The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!" should be mandatory reading for every married couple in ministry. There are a lot of couples in ministry that never would have experienced the heart break of divorce if they could have got hold of the wisdom this book shares.

Thank you so much for your continued help and encouragement at such a difficult time in my life.

Margarita
Church Co-Founder, Florida

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I have been counseling with a couple for over a month now. There has been some change. The progress has been slowed by years of disappointment. It has been further complicated by controlling, stubborn temperaments and the husband has only done some of his homework. He has shown some signs of change, but

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for only a couple days each week; the rest of the time he reverts to his old behavior.

I did not think that I would have any success in getting him to read a whole book on marriage. When they arrived for their last session, I first met with the husband. After this, he relaxed in the waiting room as I worked

with his wife. Imagine my surprise when his wife and I emerged from our session and found him reading "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!" He said, "I am taking this home, well, can I take this home? I actually am almost done with it." Joel and Kathy, I could hardly believe it! He was 2/3 the way through and couldn't put it down. I was so excited to see him fully interested in his marriage in that way. I am very pleased at the approach Joel and Kathy take in this book. It's real people with real answers. I have ordered additional copies for use with clients and I highly recommend its use to other professional marriage counselors. Praise God!

Lisa Winchell
Licensed Pastoral Counselor

Hi Joel,

I finally gave Pastor Colby your book that you sent. We had a Pizza Dinner Tuesday night and she said that it is the most wonderful book on marriage she has ever laid her hands on. You should have heard her. She went on and on about how wonderful the book is. She said that so many marriages would be changed if the husband would read your book from the beginning to the end. She wants the couples that she counsels to read this book.

Thank you again for sending this book for Pastor Sherry Colby, from Victory Worship Center, Lake Worth, Florida.

Betty Ann Adams

Note from Joel and Kathy: When Betty Ann called to order a copy of "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!", we felt impressed to send a free second copy for her Pastor. As of this date, March 20, 2005, this was the only time we have felt led to do this. The testimony you just read is a result of this seed sown.

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Greetings in the mighty name of our lord and master Jesus Christ.

It is also my greatest pleasure to receive this wonderful and life transforming book through Mr. Sam Glover. I have known Mr. Sam for many years and have received gifts from him but I must say that this book is the greatest gift I have ever received.

I am Pastor Felix Henry Dorwu and my wife is wonderful lady called Abigail. I am the founder and leader of Abundant Grace Apostolic Church a small but very vibrant church in Tema Ghana.

I bless the name of the Lord who thinks about His own and gives them what the need to make it in life when need be. Glory to the lord again and again because He will always remain faithful to His children giving them what they need to solve their problems. AMEN!!

My wife sends her love and greetings.

Love you and bye for now,

Pastor Felix and Abigail

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Dear Joel and Kathy

I took a trip to Mexico on Friday and brought your book along. I read every word on every page during my layovers and on the ride to Monterrey. It is a fabulous book. I want to encourage you always in your efforts to share what you've lived and learned. I can see you have escaped the false "submission/headship" teachings that de-value women and keep men in a state of ignorance. Jo and I are married for 29 years and have had a marriage epiphany for the last ten since God started dealing with me on how to truly love and appreciate her as the gift from God she is and always has been.

As God's people, we are virtually clueless about God's plan for couples. For me, it was like God grabbed me by the back of the neck and said, "Hey, there! Wake up!" Jo and I worked at a Teen Challenge center for a couple years, 2000-02, and did a lot of marriage counseling there, and it was the same old, "She doesn't care about my needs" attitude we dealt with consistently, but our approach is very much like yours. We emphasize the need of the husband to love his wife the bible way, putting her needs ahead of his own. We are so in love every day and it spills over into every area of life.

Jo and I celebrated our 29 year anniversary on Tuesday. We went away for the day and stayed at a nice motel with a whirlpool hot tub. Inspired I think by your book, I took Jo shopping and spent every penny I earned on my trip to Mexico on her wardrobe. She was blown away. For years she has been outfitting me for business and ministry, and this reciprocation was way past due. It really is more blessed to give than receive, and I sure enjoyed seeing her shop.

I wrote a song on a pizza box when she was out of town back in '98 at a women's conference, and recorded it a couple of years later. I'm sure you'll see God's heart in it. I too was inspired by Proverbs 18:22, and also the preceding verse about the power of the tongue.

Here's a link to take you to the song which can be played in a variety of formats. The name of the song is 'Married'

I am married to a daughter of God/ He has given a great treasure to me/ I will love her for the rest of my life/
My wife is a daughter of God

She is beautiful/ She makes me laugh/ She's my closest friend/ She shows me the Father's love (chorus)
She believes in me/ When I feel afraid/ She knows what to say/ To keep me in the race (chorus)

She tells me the truth/ Though sometimes it hurts/ And she touches me as only a woman can (chorus)

By the way, I used to work for a Christian publisher and met Charles and Frances Hunter on several occasions. I pray you will always be guided by God's wisdom. Your children are beautiful. The boys look like Dad and the girls look like Mom. Cool!!!! Hope to be an encouragement to you. You can count Jo and me as friends who see the wisdom of your message.

Love,

David and Jo Benrexi
www.MyDaddyLovesMe.org

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I want to thank you for bringing your life experiences out in the open for the world to see. You guys are the most real people I have ever met.

The first day I saw a change in him even though he claimed he had not read it! A week later, Brian confessed that he had indeed read it in one sitting!

He is really doing great and yes; it changes me without any effort! It is amazing how far kindness and respect goes. It is still early, but I already feel happier and he looks and acts happier too. After 19 years of marriage, 11 which have been unhappy, we are finally on the road to recovery.

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Thank you both for all the advice and for keeping our marriage in your prayers!

Bianca James
Houston, Texas

Joel and Kathy,

Your tremendous book is totally a work of the Holy Spirit... totally inspired by God.

I plan on devoting several pages to very worthwhile publications in "A Place Called Heaven: Volume 2". Your book will be in this chapter, with your permission.

I am in touch with the top level military chaplains in Iraq. Your publication is sorely needed in the re-establishing of normal family life after Iraq with the stress related D.T.S.D. as well as other vital personal problems.

I am recommending your book to Major Ken Sorenson; Brigade Chaplain in Iraq.

Dr. Richard Sigmund D.D. Ph.D. D.O.

Author: "A Place Called Heaven"

Dr. Richard is widely known as "Little Richard" from his days as a child preacher who preached in the tent meetings of the 50's with Oral Roberts, A.A. Allen, William Branham etc.

Hello Joel and Kathy,

I shared your book with my pastor and you called her when she emailed you. Thank you so much for being so personal and reachable. I was in a marriage with a Bishop for 31 yrs. and he decided to divorce me and marry a women in the church we pastored. Well today I am free and trying to complete the process of restoration.

Continue to do a good work, and I will continue to share your book with other couples.

In His Grip,
Sarah Adams

Dear Joel and Kathy,

This is Pastor Linda from WOFFC. I have been giving your books away to so many couples that I lost track of how many I had left. So I need to get an order in. I tried ordering via the website but I am in need of about 40 books and I can only order up to 20 then it jumps to 100. If you can let me know how to go forward with the order I would appreciate it.

I know that you received a phone call from a woman in our church by the name of Tara. She and her husband are just soaking it up.

My husband has read it as well and has given his copy away as well as my copy.

We have a couple in a marriage crisis at the present time and the wife has just finished the book and has left it for her husband to read. We are believing for him to come to our encounter as well as read the book and are expecting restoration in their lives.

Thank you for sharing your ministry with us.

Serving him
Pastor Linda

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Hi, Joel and Kathy!

Tina and I are doing great! It is amazing how much progress we've made in our marriage in the past few months after 15 years of dysfunction. I gave the book to my father (my dad and I are much alike). He is now working the program and attending our men's support group with Tom and Jim. Your book is really changing lives! Tina and I look forward to seeing you again in April. Keep up the good work!

Adam & Tina Smith

Joel and Kathy,

I got your Four CD audio book of "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!" and I am already listening to it. I have a couple I am counseling and it confirms everything I have shared with them (same Holy Spirit). God is so awesome and I know that when they listen to the whole thing, then they too will defeat the enemy who is trying to divide their home.

Thank you so much. Your teaching removes that backward way that most Christians try to make a marriage work. It has to start with the husband and so many write books on how women can manipulate their husbands into loving them and it just does not work. Thanks for the wisdom you share.

God Bless
Dianne Messer

What a book!

Joel and Kathy Davisson bare all in "The Man of Her Dreams, The Woman of His." This easy to read book is transparent in its discussion of true marital woes prominent in Christian households. Joel's fresh look at biblical texts that have long been contorted to define marriage as a hierarchy as opposed to the partnership God intended sets this book apart from others.

Men have traditionally been ignored as being equal party to the health and success of a relationship. Kathy's narratives are instructive and reflect heroism under-acknowledged, as she and so many other women have be victims of men's self-serving theology.

The freedom that is the Gospel should exist in our marriages. This book directs men to free themselves and, most importantly, their mates as Christ has freed us. I challenge Christian men, Black and White, to resist living out the stereotype assigned by popular culture of being clueless schmucks regarding relationships. It is time to buck up and lead our marriages to the blissful state Joel and Kathy now enjoy.

Roderick Burton
Author; The Moral State of Black America

Good Evening,

I am reading your book and it gives me hope. My Wife and I are separated and I have chosen to stand in faith for our marriage. I do not know what is going to happen, which is of course what makes it ten times harder... I am in the Navy out at sea for about a month or so and wondering what I am facing when I get back....

My wife asked me to give her time and space, which I have been only moderately successful at... I have determined not to call and limit my E-mails to safe topics... She asked me to E-mail her, but said she would answer if she felt like answering... Not a lot to go on. We have a 7 year old who keeps telling me to not give up. The other night I had him for the weekend, and we were lying in bed and he said, "Don't give up Daddy. The devil wants you to give up. Stay with God Daddy." It blew me away.

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I have no real idea why I am telling you all of this, except that I have to tell someone. Our relationship break is my fault. I have been abusive, verbally for years. I never truly realized how it was impacting my Wife. Now I fully realize that her attitude is a direct reflection of my bad behavior.

One thing I wanted to mention. UI recently quit caffeine. I say this because I had been drinking a lot, years in the service and all, and I stumbled across some info on caffeine borderline toxic syndrome. Some of the websites call it caffeinism, and I suffered most of the negative symptoms associated with it. I quit caffeine 9 days ago and the stress and anger and inability to stop myself from doing and saying things has almost completely gone.

It has been amazing and I feel like I have shaved about ten years off. I mention it, because I think there could be more than a couple of folks out there like me who have been grossly impacted by the amount of coffee they drink. We are not talking 50 cups a day here... Some people can be impacted by 2-4. I was drinking the equivalent of around 10-12 and that is literally poisonous. Anyway, I am rambling a bit. Just thought it might be something to consider.

Carl

Joel & Kathy

Our marriage was in a heap of trouble. (Leading up to our receiving a copy of "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!" which was given to us by our Pastor)

My husband had become involved with a woman on the Internet that led to an affair in 2001. He also was viewing porn on the Internet.

I thought it had all ended and found in 2004 that the woman he had the affair with was still writing to him and was planning to move to our State.

Needless to say I was devastated. However, because I took my marriage vows seriously, having made a commitment before God, and believing we marry for BETTER or for WORSE, I refused to get a divorce.

Instead I began praying that God would restore my marriage and that he would give me a marriage made in heaven.

I went to my Pastor and told her about it. She, and other members of the church began to pray in agreement that God would restore our marriage.

When I found he was in porn again, I confronted him and told him that God and Satan could not live in the same house. I would not divorce him, but I could not let him live under the same roof, if I wanted to receive blessings from God.

He said he wanted our marriage and needed my help to keep him accountable.

It was then that our Pastor gave us your book. (As she had just discovered it.)

I read it in a day and the next day my husband read it.

Today, God has definitely answered my prayer.

I truly have a wonderful husband.

Our communication is so much more than ever before, and for the first time in the 20 years we have been married, I feel my husband truly loves me.

I shared my book with so many and had so many more that wanted to read it, that I ordered 2 more. At the moment they are all out being read and I have more people wanting to read it.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

My husband and I are truly blessed and pray that God will use our marriage as an example of what a commitment to a marriage really means.

Mary in Minnesota

Hi Joel and Kathy,

Good things are happening around here! My husband and I were both surprised at how difficult it has been for him to hear my heart.

There was much more hurt in there than my husband had anticipated. He kind of thought, " Oh, this will be a piece of cake".

My husband shares that he feels as though he has been born again. Everything in his Christianity is becoming new. Someday I hope he tells you about it. I want him to share with you. (Note from Joel: We often tell men that they have to "really" get born again.. that their born-again experience stopped at the outside of their front door! I felt like Becky's husband.. that I had gotten totally born again - but it was not until 18 years after I asked Jesus into my heart!)

As for me, I keep asking him, "Is this real, do you mean it?"

Just last night as he was giving me a back massage I began to tear up. I told him that his touch was bringing healing to my heart.

Also, it is a little difficult for me to realize that I was not wrong all these years. My desires for our marriage and for how to serve the Lord were not wrong. This brings so much hope to me and to my husband.

Someday, we will have a ministry. Praise God! Joel and Kathy, you are bearing good fruit with this ministry and message that the Lord has given to you to give.

God bless and love in Christ,

Becky (and Nathan)

P.S. That Pastor's wives" web site was so sad. <http://www.rockdove.com/pwsupprt.html>

I can't even read it. My husband has been reading to see just how much damage that Christian men are doing to their wives and to learn the hurts that are in Christian women. He wants to understand to never hurt me again. (Note from Joel and Kathy: What a smart husband!)

Hi Kathy,

This was a great message and very nice to hear from you.
(Referring to the newsletter: "It is my turn now" from Kathy)

I am so hoping that I too will get past the pain of remembering and truly move on.

My husband and I are both very hopeful. Things are looking good.

Every time I start to get all weepy or angry etc. we hang tight and go for the ride until it passes. This is something new for both my husband and myself.

In the past whenever I would go through emotional struggles my husband would take charge and talk me out of it, etc. He was thinking that was what he was supposed to do.

It is a new thing for the both of us to just allow me to vent and for my husband to simply validate my feelings

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and continue to love me through it.

Praise God, we are both learning and growing in this new teaching and understanding.

In Christ,

Becky (and Nathan)

Dear Joel and Kathy,

You guys are an answer to our prayers.

MY husband is very loving and kind. In many, many ways he has been a great husband. |

The main problem we were having and could not figure out the solution was that I would go into fits and sometimes rages over sexual issues.

The Lord has helped us understand (through your teaching) that my husband needs to bring emotional healing to me. I needed to be able to expose my whole heart to him, without his getting defensive or offended at what I had to say.

He needed to own the deep hurts that he put into me for many years. It was painful and scary for me to open up and trust that my husband could take it.

Well Joel, your words to men to stop being immature babies affected my husband.

Now he says, "I'm not a baby, don't treat me like one, tell me what you have to, I can take it". Praise God!

I have been able to tell my husband the ways he had hurt me in the past, things that I had felt he didn't understand how deeply I had been hurt.

Also, I have been able to express to him that I need his total devotion. I need to know that I am enough for him. (We have 12 children, I am 45 yrs. old, he is 40 yrs. old, we celebrated our 20th anniversary on May 31st.)

I am hoping that this will give me the healing and closure like you say it will. My husband says that of course it will. He truly wants to be this Godly man of God to me. I am blessed beyond measure. God is faithful.

We have added you both to our prayer list for protection and that the Lord will bless and multiply your ministry.

Much love in Christ,

Lori

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Here is my testimony:

A little more than six months ago, I started receiving messages from Joel and Kathy Davisson, about their books and marriage ministry... For a long time, I paid no mind to the messages at all. But God had those messages there for a reason.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

I have been married for eight years, and struggled through about seven and a half of those years in my marriage. I finally got to the point where I didn't know what to do anymore -- I really felt like my marriage was about to end, no matter what I did.

I saw another of Joel and Kathy's messages, and decided to "check it out..."

Their website is entitled simply www.godsavemymarriage.com And I had no other options. We have been to counseling, we have "communicated" and fought and I have submitted.

I have tried everything I knew to do, and anything my pastor's wife or my pastor would advise me to do... NOTHING was working. I decided that I didn't have

much to lose; I might as well go to their seminar. If this didn't work either...

I can say that in the last two or three months, I FINALLY have hope for my marriage. I finally can see that God really did plan my marriage, and that HE will keep us together. My husband is -- for the FIRST time, truly participating in the healing and growth of our marriage, and in changing the way we have been living for the years we have been married.

Joel and Kathy's book, and marriage seminars, were my last ditch effort to find SOMETHING that would save my marriage - and it is working!

Because we live near the Davisson's and have been attending their ongoing seminar for ten weeks in Ormond Beach, Florida, we have spent many hours with Joel and Kathy and their children. We have spent whole days with them.

We have counseled on the phone and through the email with them.

We have sat at their house, simply to observe their behavior... they are very real people.

They share their problems from the past, so that others may get healing from similar problems. Joel is not sharing without Kathy's consent, and Kathy is not sharing without Joel's. They are great people.

We are so glad we met them. Things are not perfect yet in our marriage but they are better than they have ever been before!

Linda (and Dan)

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Hi Kathy and Joel,

Just wanted to pass along a "good" piece of news for a change!

He finally did it last night -- WITHOUT MY REMINDER!!!

For about the last three weeks, I have been talking to Dan about having that "talk" with at least the oldest of our children -- the one where he "takes ownership" of all this junk, and apologizes for being such a poor example, and tells him it's NOT all my fault that we keep having so many problems and fights....

Monday, it became a little more pressing to me, after a conversation I had with John -- and realizing he sees it just that way -- mommy yells at daddy so much... Like I was "the big bad mean wifey"..... Hurts coming from your eleven year old-- who was there BEFORE the husband!!

But last night, DAN told John to stay up after the little ones were going to bed, and talked to him, letting him know that it was DAN'S fault that we have been living the way that we have. That he was slacking in HIS responsibilities and that is why I was always upset with him... That it's not my fault... And even told him, "the next time you see mommy yelling at me, look at me and think about what I have done (or not done!) to make her feel that way AGAIN."

I was amazed!!! AND THEN, after John went to bed, Dan asked me what I needed him to do -- and then HE DID IT!... and then... we did our bible study together, like we were supposed to.....

I am like, ready to fall over and die!!

FINALLY smiling,
:)

Linda

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Since my last communication, things have been great. A few bumps here and there but we were able to get through it without dragging it out or causing more damage. It makes a world of difference now that my husband hears my heart and acknowledges the cause of my frustration and anger due to his past actions. Sometimes that old man tries to arise and I have to remind him to hear my heart and not defend himself or give me an excuse and he'll back down. Well we had a major breakthrough today after a lot of attack back and forth. It seems that when he triggers something very hurtful and deep I get ugly, he feels the urge to correct me and tell me to calm down .

I've never been like this before because I manage to shove it all in. Anyway when I do my husband puts his guard up and tries to defend himself. It's not often he won't back down but today was one of those days. Throughout our marriage I was always the one managing our finances and like a wife usually does I always made sure everyone had what they needed and wanted before I would even consider myself which never gave me the opportunity to think of myself and when I did it was out of guilt because we always had needs.

Whenever my husband wanted something he would either just get it or ask me and no matter what I say "we have no money or there is a specific need we need to take care so we can't do it" he always managed to pressure me into agreeing to letting him get whatever he was wanting without any say so.

I didn't believe I had the power to say no anyway so I didn't. Well back to today. We got ourselves in a bind financially and I tell him he keeps spending no matter what I say and I refuse to be his mommy and continue to control his spending. I need him to think for himself in regards to our finances he can't have what he wants all the time. We went back and forth, if I stop telling him about his spending that I was hurting the family I couldn't believe he threw it back on me.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

It continued and finally he admits that he couldn't understand where we were at financially because it wasn't clicking. I know he has a problem with math but he never was honest with me and told me he needed me to

break it down, help him understand. He truly cares about the family and making sure we stay debt free and have what we need. Now that I understand why he couldn't get it,

I was able to come up with a visual plan so he can see where we are financially every day and if he still continued then he is in trouble but I believe with his sincerity that this plan will really help him and he will make serious changes and help me carry less of the burden of being the one over the finances. Having him by my side takes a huge load off my shoulders. We made it through this. It might not seem like a big deal to others but trust me it was rough for us.

If our husbands would kill their pride and communicate with their wives a lot of pain and frustration would be avoided. It took him hearing my heart and enduring the ugliness that had to come out for my healing for us to get over this bump but thank God we did it, in one day

I can't imagine having to go thru this without the understanding and freedom I have now to be the help-meet God designed me to be for the rest of our marriage and endure more pain and frustration. No more, who the Son sets free is free indeed.

Celia of Celia and Tito

Read both books/ Intensive Alumni Jan 08
Moving towards recovery
Husband applying teachings
Being the husband I dreamed of!

I'm going to be very transparent and share a breakthrough we had today. Lately there has been so much going on that ML seem to be few and far between and when we did ML my husband's needs always seemed to be met and not mine. Well for some that's no big deal and if I wanted to I could be satisfied with that for a while. Well lately it's been bothering me, I guess because my husband would start out making it about me and then turn it about him.

For those that have husbands working the program it's hard to bring up stuff, I personally don't want to discourage my husband. Well my courage took over and I had to share my heart with my husband concerning this area.

At first he was thinking and defending that as long as we ML then I would be happy. I had to explain to him that I have needs as well, if he wanted me to enjoy these times which I wasn't then he had to learn to meet my needs and in turn I will respond and his needs will be met in return.

Well today he purposely set out to do just that and praise God we are both satisfied and feel so refreshed. It's amazing the tension that flies off when my husband hears my heart and meets my needs. I was scared to complain as it seemed but he can't read my mind and I can't stuff it down.

I'm speechless of how awesome God is, to give us the answers to have an OHM and see the fruits of His word in our marriage.

J&K are awesome, I couldn't imagine my life the way it is now with a husband that is truly committed to having an OHM if it wasn't for this ministry.

Psalms 34:8 (New International Version) 8 Taste and see that the LORD is good;

Celia of Celia and Tito

Read both books/ Intensive Alumni Jan 08
Moving towards recovery Husband applying teachings
Being the husband I dreamed of!

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

I have to say things have been good and challenging at the same time here.

I see a lot of genuine change. Yet when there are those times that my wounds are triggered, I can still feel the deepness of the pain and anger that still spills over. I can't believe I had so much in me. I praise God, He step in before I got to the point of no return.

It's almost been a year now since my husband has not done any form of porn except one time a while back, yet I am still in awe and feel like I am dreaming.

Sometimes my heart can't believe it and goes haywire thinking my husband is playing me. But I can't go there. I have to pull myself out of it unless of course I have a legit reason to believe otherwise. I also know if he did try to go there, it would suck him in he wouldn't be able to hide it.

On another note, as I see the change in my kids I cannot deny the fruit of his changes in my kids. My son who is six used to close himself off and not care about anything going on around him but now he seeks to be in our presence and constantly invites us to play with him.

My husband is finding it hard to say no because of all the damaged he's caused, of course as his help-meet I am having to help him balance. Which is all good. But tiring. And my daughter now 8 is so sweet and freely talks about everything with no reserve, because she feels safe.

all in all there is so much good. But we have our moments, and I have to keep myself from running and throwing in the towel because I know and see my husband is changing and committed and that is worth it all.

Celia of Celia and Tito

Read both books/ Intensive Alumni Jan 08

Moving towards recovery

Husband applying teachings

Being the husband I dreamed of!

Eye opening! I had no idea how upside down my thought process as. I looked at life and my marriage like the church has/had preached for years: "Wife submit to your husband. Do as he says." Boy, that was WRONG!

Joel and Kathy present a biblical based, eye opening, life changing course of truth to produce Outrageously Happy Marriages!!!

Men - grab hold of the truth! Meet your wife's needs. Heal your wife, heal yourself in the process and live life in an Outrageously Happy Marriage!

Husbands, die to yourself. Lay down your life. Rise to life!

Happy Wife, Happy Life!

Ron (of Ron and Paula)

The intensive was a last resort to me and a final hope to wake up my husband on how he was destroying our marriage. My husband had left and was living out of our home for some time, (5 years) fully abusing with no intentions of stopping. This weekend was for him a complete turnaround for him and gave me back some power and tools to turn my marriage around. Thank you Joel and Kathy! Without this past week, I know I would be divorced.. that is what I wanted. I'm getting a glimmering hope of wanting to stay and make my marriage outrageously happy with the changes I've seen in my husband.

Paula, of Paula and Ron

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Not too long ago I had no hope for our marriage. I can honestly say that Ken and I had both come to the point of calling it quits. There were so many times that loneliness seemed to be the only way of life. I felt like everything I said was wrong.

We would argue sometimes for hours. Our fights always ended with bitterness and frustration. I would at times throw things in anger at him. I always felt like the fight was my fault. I could never understand why we just didn't seem to like each other. Many times during our fights I would tell Terry that I wanted a divorce. That made things more hopeless.

It was after 12 years of marriage that Terry left our three beautiful children and me. I honestly thought that our relationship had ended.

Well I can say that miracles do take place! I never thought this miracle would happen this side of heaven.

I really do not know why it took us so long to finally find our place in this marriage. Instead of having a husband who hates me, I have a husband who is starting to understand me. Instead of having a husband who gets offended at nearly everything I say, I have a husband who actually listens and reassures me when I am upset.

Your book told Ken that if he actually listened to me and stopped getting offended that I would not react the way I have in the past and a lot of my problems would go away. This could not have been a more truthful insight.

It was just today that I was feeling insecure about something. Ken came to me and told me that everything was going to be ok and he held me until I felt better. There was a day when he would have told me how wrong I was for feeling that way. Things would have elevated to a fight.

Terry now understands that it is my heartfelt need to be heard and understood. It is not a need for him to fix me. In the past Terry would have felt threatened and taken it personally; now it is not that way.

It is this kind of love coming from him that makes me feel like I can handle life. It is this kind of love that helps me to be the kind of person that my husband needs me to be.

Joel and Kathy, I just want to thank you for what your book has done for our marriage. It is like I have a new husband who really cares for me and says nice things to me. Terry has taken his place as the head of our household. He is truly becoming the man of my dreams!

Now I have the love that I always needed, to be the woman I always knew that I could be..."The Woman of His Dreams!" We're walking in a miracle!

Forever grateful,
Christine Robinson
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Joel and Kathy,

We met at the NCCA meeting in Orlando.
I want you to know your book is changing lives!

My husband has changed his attitude and is treating me like I'm his bride. We've been married 15 years. I hooked him on the book by reading him chapter 20 first! hee hee hee!

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

One of my brothers is reading it and can't put it down; (20 years of marriage) his wife says he is making changes and is even getting up in the middle of the night to read it. He is going to buy one of your books and give it to my other brother for his birthday.

Get this, my mother has left my father after 46 years of marriage! She said that after reading your book a couple of times that she realized she was not to blame for the problems in the marriage. She really grasped every word that was written. It helped her toughen up and take a stand against the emotional and Spiritual abuse of my father; he is an assistant Pastor of a non-denominational church. He says one thing in the pulpit and another thing at home. I am so proud of my mother for taking a stand. Right now she is staying in a motel and her and my father are talking things through.

This is all good! Praise God for your story.

I will be in touch to buy more books! God is good!

Allyssa Monroe

Here is part two of this testimony!

Joel and Kathy,

You are not going to believe this! My mom stayed in the motel for one week. Dad read the book during that week and God took the scales off his eyes; he is a changed man and is willing to testify to this fact in front of the whole church and also his children.

They are going to renew their vows Feb. 13th, reception and all. Dad went out and bought mom a whole set of rings and a wedding dress! This is too awesome!

Their church has requested to buy some of the books from me. I am encouraging them to order their own because I've had no problem getting rid of them!

What an awesome God we serve!
Allyssa Monroe

Here is part three of this testimony!

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I work for a secular organization and one of the therapists has ordered four from me! He says he is going to give them to his daughters. I am so excited!

What I plan to do is make the books available to our church near Valentine's Day. I know I will get a great response from our congregation.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Allyssa Monroe

Here is part four of this testimony!

ONE MONTH LATER...

My folks are doing great! Mom said dad is like a little kid in a candy store...

God Bless,
Allyssa Monroe,
Alabama

Here is part five of this testimony!

ONE WEEK AFTER THE CEREMONY...

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Mom and dad had a beautiful ceremony, Unity candle and all. They also took communion, just the two of them! All five of us children were in it, too; we lit our candles to represent our birth order, and our family unit. There were a couple of songs sung, and then the pastor told the congregation that in all 30 years of preaching, he had never seen a transformation like my father has made!

Dad told the congregation that he will never raise his voice in anger to mom ever again. He said he had the knowledge of the Bride of Christ in his head all these years but didn't have it in his heart. Once it made it to his heart, he understood how he was supposed to treat my mom. There were two wedding cakes, bride and groom's cake, gifts and a honeymoon, too. Because my husband works at a resort, we were able to get them a two-bedroom condo for one night (with a fireplace). All of us kids pitched in and gave them money to pay for their room and going out to eat.

After they had checked into their room and went out to eat, my husband and I drove to the resort and had the front desk take to their room a food basket with all kinds of goodies that I had put together: chocolates, cheese, grapes, sausages, and a candle.

They are on cloud nine! Praise God! I went ahead and gave my other two brothers each a book for Valentine's Day. Now my sister and all my brothers have your book. I can't keep them! My mom cleans my house and was here yesterday and took two, one to give to a woman at her church and one to give to her biological sister. They are going like hot cakes around here! I'll be ordering more when their testimony is in your next edition. You guys have no idea how many lives you have touched.

God Bless,
Allyssa Monroe
(Received the week following the February 13th ceremony)

This entire miracle began at the beginning of January, with the simple discovery of this life changing book.

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thanks for your very supportive comments on the TCW message board! It's great to "meet" you, especially since our ministry goals are so similar. I like the clarity of the statement about marriage being taught "upside down", it's easy (for wives) to grasp, and see in their own lives. I agree with all your comments, and also counsel women to begin speaking clearly and directly. They are filled with shame, and it is so sad.

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

The Myth targets Christian women and challenges them about "myths" they have fallen into about submission and dying to self. I'm very glad to learn of your book and I know it will be a very valuable resource to me and to others I'll share it with. I've not known of a book clearly stating the "backwardness" of marriage teachings in the church, and your testimony is so powerful and courageous. I can whole heartedly stand behind it.

I am grateful for any opportunities to promote one another's books, and will start spreading the word in my counseling network. I looked on your web site, and it was great fun to find a testimonial from Gary Lange -- he was my internship supervisor about twelve years ago, and a super guy.

Many blessings,
Brenda Waggoner
Author: The Myth of The Submissive Christian Woman, Tyndale House

Dear Joel and Kathy,

We were blessed to meet you in Houston Texas at the Charles & Frances Hunter's Healing Explosion.

I was given a wonderful opportunity to sing in the Friday morning session. My husband and I had CD's on Joan Hunters Table not far from where your table was.

Yes, my husband and I have read the book. We bought several and sowed them into others' lives in and out of our ministry here in Shreveport. It truly is the secret to having the most successful marriage anyone ever imagined. Most powerful!

When I read the book I was amazed at how it seemed to reach inside of me and began to change me as I read. I read certain chapters twice and will read all of it again.

My husband, Pastor Alexander, promoted the book by lighting a flame into the hearts and minds of couples simply by telling everyone the TRUTH about the book. He said, "This book will ultimately change the way you see yourself first, then each other and your marriage will never be the same after you read it"

We came back excited and ready to start passing them out. My marriage, my life will never be the same. God bless you for obeying the voice of the Lord and sowing much time and effort into writing such a life-changing book.

Vernell Alexander

Dear Joel and Kathy,

As I read your book, I couldn't believe how your gut-level honest descriptions of yourself as a husband so matched my husband's; who by the way was also a minister and left his wife and kids after 30 years of marriage. And yes, he is still operating in ministry behind the veil of many lies to hold on to his reputation. Sadly he is not the only minister who has done this with the blessing of the church.

After being confronted with very destructive and worsening behaviors, I became the angry, rebellious wife and he had his no-choice-in-the-matter excuses to leave. I spent those 30 years praying more and trying harder to "be the submissive wife my husband needed".

I "kept quiet" believing the success of our marriage was up to me. If my husband was not a "good man", then behind him must not be a "good woman". Thinking I was "dying to self", I abandoned myself to everything I was taught a Christian wife should be, and everything he wanted. Sounds like a "Stepford Wife" to me.

No one knows he was threatening me with money and setting me up to say and do certain things in front of our kids so he could point a finger saying, "see". Being abandoned after thirty years with no education or work experience, I was forced to file for divorce to protect myself and kids financially, which set me up for scorn and basically proved him right; I was the angry, bitter woman filing without "grounds", as he had not had an affair.

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

The truth is, I as most divorced women would have done anything to save my marriage.

You are the first to break the chains off women in this whole submission issue. In reality, submission is only the church's way of keeping women in a place of having no recourse to hold their husbands accountable except to pray.

You lay out through scripture how the church has taken a very few, lone scriptures and turned them into doctrine; and how Paul's intent when he spoke of marriage was quite the opposite of what has been taught. Marriage has been painted by the church by a very convenient-for-men brush. Thank you for being a forerunner in the quest for turning marriage right side up. I am already telling everyone I know about it because telling couples "divorce is not an option" and "God hates divorce" is doing nothing; in fact, divorce rates are now higher for Christians than the world. Turning marriage right side up is the only thing that will save marriages.

Thanks you and bless you!!

Lucille Richards

Hi Joel and Kathy,

I contacted you a while back after reading an excerpt from your book and ordered one. I am telling everyone about it and am sure I will be ordering more.

I just finished your book, which I would have finished in a couple of days if not for my job, writing schedule and "required" reading. You are the only ones bold enough to reveal how "upside down" the body is with understanding marriage and God's intention for husbands to reflect Jesus in the same sacrificial way. That is the part I'm going to mention in my article on divorce in the church.

The other part that blew me away was where Kathy described the controller and how they demand instant forgiveness and refuse closure for the offended party. People think the words "I'm sorry" are enough.

But as Kathy states, sometimes it takes a long time to prove intentions are pure and to rebuild trust. I love the way she described the faith believer claiming to be the righteousness of God to avoid facing guilt.

That is the ultimate of spiritual abuse. How do you combat that without looking like the bad guy standing in judgment? I also think it was so brilliant showing how this is all such a trespass against the blood that Jesus shed for His bride. That pretty much says it all.

It all so confirms everything the Lord showed me after my husband left. When I tried to share these revelations, it mostly produced blank stares and that, "jezebel" cautioned look. He took me to Hosea where God told him to take Gomer back but with conditions, you will have to "prove yourself", not going after other gods; which in marriage is putting anything before your mate; "then we can resume marital relations". That's from the amplified. He also showed me in Mal. 2 where it says, "I hate divorce" that the entire chapter is chastising men for how they treat their wives.

Anyway, there's another book I think would be very interesting for you. It's very scholarly but so well explains all issues concerning women in the church. It is "Men and Women in the Church" by Sarah Sumner, phd. You may have already read it but "10 Lies the Church Tells Women" by Lee Grady is another fabulous book on the subject.

You all are a GIFT to the body. Thank you for writing your book.

Blessings,

Lucille Richards

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I pray that your ministry is doing excellent and that your book sells millions and millions over.

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

I wanted to personally take the time to say, that I think that you and your wife are two of the most awesome people in Christ that I have ever met.

Just by watching you at the conference I learned so much from you, thank you so much!

When I got home and went over the video that was shot the night that I ministered, I saw you assisting me as I prayed for the people, you are incredible.

To watch you on camera and see the grace of God in you as you moved in and around the altar was just glorious.

You and your wife are a true blessing to the body of Christ from our Father in heaven.

Please, be encouraged. You are as a pair of roses which the Master has placed in the midst of His people.

May God continually bless you in every way,

Apostle/Pastor Vince and Vanessa Johnson

Pastor Bill,

Here is Joel and Kathy's website: [The Man Of Her Dreams The Woman Of His!](#) by Joel And Kathy Davisson.

I FULLY support and endorse their ministry ... There are too many marriages ... YES even "Christian" Marriage going "down the tubes"! For the past Forty Five years whatever "marriage counseling" was offered DID NOT WORK!! (I am living proof!) Joel and Kathy have a new "oblique" on the dilemma! They are saving hundreds ... maybe even thousands of marriages across the country!

Whatever was "tried" in the past did not work. It's time for unity the churches to come together and tackle this problem "head on". Joel and Kathy are "just" a couple that is living the perfect marriage ... and is sharing their success they were on the verge of Divorce after an adulterous affair! Today, they act like two teenagers in love!

The "Church" NEEDS to hear their message! I wish I heard it 13 years ago! It could have averted my first divorce. I wish I heard it 6 years ago ... it could have averted my second divorce!

Blessings,
John

Dear Kathy,

Thank you so much for taking my call. You spoke directly to my heart within the first several minutes. Although I still have a long way to go in my marriage, I already feel a great hope and a great relief. If I hadn't been crying for so long, I could have finished reading the book before I called you! I thank God for answering my 10 year long prayer in such a way that is so true and so powerful.

How can I thank you enough Kathy for putting this wonderful book together. I always trusted God that our pain and suffering would not go in vain. Yours didn't go in vain. In the darkest hours, Kathy you never knew who was out there awaiting your help.

You had no idea that there were so many like me who were out here, desperately awaiting for a message to be delivered. This message to me is as important as the one God gave to Moses. Who knows.. the man God gave you might be one who leads millions out of Egypt! Dare to dream big for God

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Kathy and Joel. You are my super heroes. God has given you that power through suffering and tears. Now it is my time to accept abundant blessings from God through you.

I look forward to talking to you. Since you are coming to Ohio in June, I'll pray that we will have a chance to meet you.

Frances T

Hi Joel and Kathy,

God is showing me how to make the office more professional and work together as a team so we present ourselves as such. It is unfolding.....Praise God.Much growth and happiness occurring.

Intimacy is sacred and must be protected as a ring of fire, by the blood of Jesus. No one should be there but husband and wife (not even mom) Intimacy is also intimacy of speech, touch, looks, etc.....not just sex.

We all need to relearn new dialog to relate loving as many of us had bad role models...us coming from Latin families who fought every night. R's dad dropped dead at 62 after a fight with Mum.

Gave your book to Joyce Meyer as I had the honor to meet her personally here in Phoenix. I'll send you a copy of the letter we got back. Thanks for all your help

Love ,

Theresa Z

Dear Joel & Kathy

This is just a quick note of sincere thanks and gratitude for allowing Susan & I to be a part of your marriage intensive weekend. What a wonderful way to bring in the New Year.

We both felt the hand of God was in the entire weekend.

As you know, I have read your books and feel that you are "right on the money" about the common misconceptions most men have (especially in the Christian Church) regarding what the Bible says about the marriage relationship.

The weekend with you and Kathy and the other couples brought me to an even further understanding of the importance men play as the "source of life" (or death) for a marriage.

It's a major responsibility we men have to make sure that our wives and families are able to draw positive and nurturing love and kindness from us.

The only way for me to truly be the husband that my wife needs me to be is to die to myself, and my innate selfishness as Christ died for all of mankind. What an awesome truth from the word of God.

I'm excited to see Susan blossom once again as the beautiful self-confident woman she once was, the woman that I fell in love with and married 28 years ago. Already the change in her is obvious.

We will continue to work through our past issues that I have caused, and continue to see God's hands work to bring full restoration to our marriage.

Blessings to both of you... Randy

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

Here is another letter from the intensive.. from Susan!

"Thank-You Joel and Kathy for a life changing weekend.

When I first read your book last year, it was like nothing I had ever read before. It was what I knew all my life was truth. That truth was in my heart, planted by my savior.

Thank you for presenting the truth in a way that couples in crisis can understand and apply in a very real way. I know we will make it, correct past mistakes - and have opportunity to share this message.

Most of all, thank you for your love and obedience to God."

Susan

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Through your books, I have learned a different way of living! I have not been in control of my life.

Instead, I was trying to control my wife and family because I had been taught that I, the man, was supposed to be in CHARGE! I was supposed to be the BOSS!

This is going to be difficult, dying to myself and laying my life down for my wife but I am going to do it - and I know that my life is going to change dramatically.

I am so thankful that God has brought these two incredible people who are so very happy with each other, into my life. They were brought into my life to inform me about the correct way of living.. that is, how to live for my wife so that she can live for me!

Thank you, Joel and Kathy, for everything.

Jim

This letter is from Jim's wife, Jeanine:

"This intensive marriage weekend has been a ray of hope for me. I have been crying out to the Lord for almost two years.

This is my third marriage. I love Jim and I did not want to give up - but I couldn't handle the daily abuse. Jim had been out of the house for two months and was rejecting reading your book.

I was at the end of my rope when I heard about the Intensive. We needed a miracle NOW! Not in six months or a year. This weekend has confirmed everything that I have felt for years since my first marriage.

I am full of hope that Jim will be able to embrace and live all of this so that we can experience the healing that this teaching offers.

I want him to be successful, not only so that he can become the man, husband and father that God created him to be, but also so that I can become the woman, wife and mother that I have always known God created me to be. I love you both dearly and hope to bring life, health and healing to other couples in the future.

Jeanine

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

The change in my husband is so profound I can hardly take it all in.

Never in my life would I have believed this would happen.

No fighting, no division, no arguing and no strife. Never has reconciliation been so peaceful. It feels like falling in love all over again.

I yell and vent, tell him how he hurt me and not ONE sound. He listens to my heart and continues to take full responsibility.

I say some very truthful insights about him in conversations and his demeanor and attitude are consistently one of humility and acknowledgment of his character flaws and how un-Christlike he has been.

If he even thinks he may have done the smallest infraction he is quick to back track and start over to correct himself. He catches himself BEFORE I even need to mention anything.

This is a miracle. I can see and feel with my spirit God pouring grace and humility all over him. He has never been so kind and affectionate all our married lives. It is something to behold. I feel more connected to my husband in 6 weeks than in 22 years.

He took my oldest son out and talked with him. He told him he took full blame for leaving and that he understood that it would take him time to trust him or love him. He would be there for him if he needed to pour out his rage or anger and that he knew he failed as a husband and father.

He told him he deserved everything and anything our son threw at him. He told him he was sorry for abandoning him and actually wept in front of him. He told him he would not speak into his life until our son felt safe with him and that he earned back a ton of respect.

He owned all of it. He admitted every detail of his wrong and hoped one day they could have a relationship again after he proved and made up to his wife and children the damage he did and the ruin he brought his family to.

My other son would not converse with him at all. He did start to be a bit more at ease with him by Thanksgiving evening. This child will take more time. On top of that he has already sent one woman to me whose husband left her and he is wanting to reconcile and invited another one of his friends to talk to me about getting his wife back.

He is ministering to this guy about how to lay his life down for his wife and taking responsibility for wounding her which pushed her to find another man. Can you believe this??? He is actually in the process of moving back in with me this weekend. The circumstances and burden I am under was becoming too much for me.

We talked to the counselor and he agreed it is my H's responsibility to lift off of me the burden I have carried alone far too long. This move for him is very hard and in some ways demeaning but he laughed and said he would rather live at his mother-in-laws with me than anywhere else without me.

He told me, "Baby I'm a prisoner of your love." For him to do this for me is a true, authentic sign of change. That is the one thing he said he would never do and here he is stepping up with my family. This is no easy choice for either one of us. The demands of care giving are exhausting.

I do not even recognize the man he is becoming. Like Paul on the road to Damascus he has turned around and it is real. His growth in understanding and applying these principles is amazing. I stand here and watch God just throw so many things at him like rapid fire and he is still not looking for the exit. I am in awe of God and my husband. He is the man I dreamed he could be in the loving hands of God. I am blessed and grateful beyond expression for God's kindness toward me. An OHM is in progress and is possible.

Kaneka

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

I just wanted to update with a praise. It's been almost 10 months since we started on our journey with J&K. Mike used to be severely emotionally and verbally abusive to me. He would blow up disproportionately to what the situation called for on a regular basis. He would hurl insults at me. He would blame me for his anger, insecurity, and feelings of inadequacy. His view of life was miserable and he was bound and determined that it couldn't be changed. I got debilitating headaches constantly because of it. My sinuses were constantly blocked up because I would cry nearly every day.

But I have a man who is changing. Through your ministry, and Life Skills, he really is becoming a new man. We've had ups and downs along the way for sure. He had a major backslide about 6 weeks after the Intensive, but Joel and everyone else brought him back around.

He still has a few "old man" days here and there every 2-3 weeks. This really is a miracle since a year ago he lived life every day with a foul attitude and yell at us tongue. He wasn't safe at all. I could make the most seemingly insignificant remark and it would send him into a tailspin, resulting in my being abused.

Now he's able to pull himself together during an argument and apologize immediately. He knows he needs to get to the point where he doesn't escalate in the first place, but he said he's not going to stop renewing his mind until he's 100% changed.

I'm finally feeling free to just be me around him- to make jokes, quirky observations, but also to speak my mind without worrying about whether he's going to flip out. I was so guarded before. I'm on the path to "rest" as Annalisa would put it.

I know now that God chose me to be the perfect helpmeet for him. I am emboldened to stick to my guns when something doesn't feel right or when I'm disappointed, angry, or upset with him. Before I was a doormat, always forgiving with no specific terms or expectations, thinking that was unconditional love.

Thank you again Joel and Kathy for your message. I pray God takes it to the hearts and minds of the whole body of Christ.

Marie

Quote:

Overall, this is a miracle. There is not one shred of doubt in my mind. I have seen God in one moment turn him around so dramatically I can hardly grasp it. He was not even like this while we courted. God has me in complete awe. It is a wonder to me why God would be so good to me. I certainly think He will definitely in this case get all the glory.

I have a new man! and I, too, am at awe.

I remember Kathy telling us at the Intensive, a year ago, that I will have the pleasure of falling in love all over again. I thought about that alot, over the past few months, and would say, "HA, it AINT happenin" and then I'd cry to God and ask him why..... when all along, all I really needed to do is to trust him. HE knew what he was doing. HE was not only working on Rick/Bob/Bruce. He was working on Me. He was building my faith up, all for his Glory. He needed me to be stronger. He needed me to trust in him, and to grow in my faith.

God knew that I was finally ready, and so he brought the two of us back together again. We are both renewed, rewired, reborn again..... We are two different people. I am happier than I have been in such a long time, and that in itself is pleasing to Bruce, too. He loves to see me happy. He loves to do things for me.

And, even our earlier, frustrating, issues (in the bedroom) are getting better. I am feeling loved. He is meeting my emotional needs. He is loving me like I have always wanted to be loved. I feel so blessed. God is so awesome! Joel and Kathy are saving Marriages all around the World, and we are an example of what can be done! Praise the Lord!

God Bless,
Kay

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Dear Joel and Kathy,

We'll be married 30 years on December 18. Unfortunately 27 of those years were spent in endurance mode with a constant evil-for-evil relationship. Our daughter - Unreasonably Happy Wife - shares how it was so difficult that she was eager to leave home.

Three years ago we were introduced to Caring for the Heart Ministries by John Regier, we attended a seminar, received counseling in prayer giving Jesus all the bitterness, pain, moral failure, spiritual and emotional issues etc. and started the journey of marriage God's way. Things changed overnight, our children, our parents and our church noticed right away.

A year ago we found J&K's books and they contained the last of the puzzle pieces - the next step in how to be exceptionally happy - they put the icing on the cake so to speak.

Along with our daughter and son-in-law we started the ministry of Connecting Relationships giving workshops to share with couples that they can be connected and God has a plan, it's found in connecting with Him and confessing any sin in your life, caring for your spouse's heart and applying Eph 5:25 every day.

J&K have been incredibly supportive of us and our ministry always willing to answer questions, Joel talked to our son when we were "too close" to help, and they even let us host their conference call on November 1.

This message has changed three marriages that are very important to us - ours, our daughter and son-in-law (Unreasonably Happy Testimony) and our son and daughter-in-law (their testimony is in a past J&K newsletter). J&K's books and resources change lives when you apply the Biblical teachings of Eph 5!

~Judy~ Happy wife to Tom who lives Eph 5:25 daily! Blessed mom of 4 grandma of 2
Married 30 years-exceptionally happy since 2004
We offer Marriage Mentoring & workshops (100% J&K's way)

Hello,

I just wanted to say that I am doing a lot better! Am on your second book, called in more to the calls lately and even tonight my wife listened in on the call for her second time.

God is doing such a work in my heart through the Truth that He is speaking to me throughout the books you have written. I am really growing up! Your books are such a miracle from the Lord! They have spoken to me like nothing else ever has, and have gotten to the root of things and helped me to see the need to grow up and stop getting defensive when she shares her feelings.

I have stopped dumping my feelings on her or talking about my feelings when she starts to share hers. I have stopped being so much all about ME and shifted my focus to her.

I have truly been able to see my wife as my marriage manual-this has changed everything! Whoever was running the couples call tonight we heard was who took a call from me a few weeks ago super late and he and his wife really poured into me a lot and helped me see that I needed to see her as a gift from the Lord to help me grow up and she will tell me how to change for the better.

Anyways, got to get off here as my wife could give labor this weekend with our first! I am so thankful for you guys and your ministry. Our friends Don and Cheryl Perez are at your intensive in California right now-it was a miracle they made it there and we are praying Don really Gets it!
Blessings!

Palmer

P.s. Some friends from Eugene Oregon told me about you guys. God is so good!

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

The Lord is working in our marriage daily. The principles are being applied and we are seeing a difference in our son as well.

I know I have not attained to the fullness God has intended, but it is a wonderful experience getting there. I am finding I have to die daily to the old man, and stop trying to resurrect him. But God is faithful.

Just a brief testimony.

Several days ago I was trying to "lovingly instruct" our son Caleb about forgiving and asking for forgiveness. I kept hounding him about it, he got angry and said he was not going to apologize. Well he stormed out of the room. Shortly thereafter, Mary said that I should apologize to Caleb.

I IMMEDIATELY took offense and said "I will not apologize, and you cannot make me." Talk about juvenile. She said "You are acting just like our 8yr old son." Hit the nail on the head. I then started to walk out of the room, but the Holy Spirit convicted me and said "You WILL apologize to Caleb AND Mary." So, I walked in obedience, died to self and reconciled. What a difference that made.

You know, I so want to be dead to myself. I really and truly desire to meet my wife's needs and be the man she desires. And you know what? That is happening. God is so awesome, our marriage is on the right track and I am so very much in love with my wife.

I thank the Lord for you both and pray that His blessings will be poured out in full measure upon you and your household.

In Christ.
Jim.

PS: I have read the book and loved it. Chapter #20. GREAT!! Another brother in Christ is where I have been and his marriage needs rescuing. I loaned him the book and am getting him the CD's as well. Pray for Mark and Kelly Crigler.

James A. Stillwagon II
Battalion Chief/Department Chaplain
Charlotte County Fire/EMS

Dear Joel and Kathy,

There are still those times I get frustrated, angry and upset. And it's over little, nothing things. I LET things bother me, I LET myself get this way, and yet my wife and son suffer. What a jerk I can be. Recently, Mary was going to leave me and take Caleb. I was stunned, and devastated but NOT SURPRISED. I knew it was me and nobody else. Well, she came back later that morning and we reconciled. Then just two days ago I was in one of my "POOR ME MOODS" where I clam up, pace around, making everyone miserable and all over a stupid, insignificant matter.

The ending to all of this is that I know I am in need of a life transformation. I know, beyond any doubt that I am blessed with such a wonderful wife as Mary. I KNOW that we need to pray together, everyday (But I have not taken the lead in this). I KNOW WHAT I SHOULD DO, BUT I DO NOT DO IT. I KNOW it is the OLD MAN, and I KNOW HE NEEDS TO DIE, DAILY. I begin to make progress and then I fall back again.

It truly needs to be a matter of being dead. So, RIGHT-NOW, THIS MOMENT I CHOOSE to die to myself, and LIVE. You know something, I could probably be a poster boy for a book. Actually, I already am. The one you've written. Gods Grace IS SUFFICIENT.

Like I already said, Mary is the best wife in the world. My marriage is not where it needs to be, but I truly

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

believe it can be.

In Christ.

James A. Stillwagon II

Dear Joel and Kathy.

Mary and I both are divorced. Her first husband was a Firefighter that had an affair, and my wife had boyfriends. I have a daughter from my first wife but Mary had no children from her first husband. We have been married for 13 years and have had more troubles than I imagined. I know that I have been the problem. I do

not want to manipulate this and sound like "poor little me", because I know that is far from the truth. I have been so involved with my job for the last 21 years, being in control/command, having to make instantaneous decisions, giving orders and so on, that I have neglected my family. Oh we go to fun places together, take vacations up north, do activities around the house etc.. But I can change quicker than the Florida weather. That is not right. I know what needs to happen, and I have a hard time waiting for it.

Also, I am the Chaplain for the Fire Department, and have been for the last 7+ years. I THOUGHT the Lord had called me to this ministry, but I have been struggling with that for the last 5 years. I also would like to finish out my career as the full time Chaplain of the FD, but that would mean going from a 24 hr on & 48hr off schedule to Mon-Fri 8-5. I just want to do what the Lord wants. That's all. There are things that I see could be done as an outreach to the Firefighters and their families, but it seems as though Mary and I cannot come to agreement on this. You know what it is? She has been asking me to pray with her on a consistent basis about the areas of concern and I have not been meeting that need. I KNOW that WHEN I DO THIS then the questions WILL BE answered.

Instead of talking, I need to put it into practice. I know HE has called me to be the Chaplain of our department and I also KNOW that Mary and I are to minister together. God IS GOING TO use us, TOGETHER!!

God bless. Love in Christ.
James A. Stillwagon II

Dear Joel and Kathy.

The last two days at home have been much better than in the past.

Mary and I prayed together, talked, held hands laughed and loved. Chapter 20 is great.

I spent Thursday with Caleb at an Environmental Camp (8AM to Noon), and it was great. We three went to see the movie Madagascar and we had a great time. Last night, Friday, Caleb, Joey (his best friend) and I had a "Light Sabre" fight in the dark in our house. It was great fun. I was hiding in the closet waiting for the boys to find me and Mary walked by. I thought it was one of the boys, turned on my "Jedi Sword" and jumped out at Mary.

I truly am blessed to have such a wonderful wife, and I am truly beginning to die to myself daily, permitting God to make me into the man He has called me to be, so that I can be the man Mary needs me to be.

I have listened to the 6 CD's on 6/5/05 and have had my eyes opened. I could/would not hear much of what was being said before. But the Holy Spirit has brought me to the point to where my ears were opened and the scales have fallen off of my eyes. I know I have not "arrived" and that there is still work to be done.

However, I am now looking forward to the journey, making it WITH Mary, the love of my life.

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

I cannot say enough how much I Love Jesus and my wife Mary Rose. She is the most loving, caring, compassionate and tenderhearted woman in the world. She is the best. I thank the Lord for Caleb and that he is seeing a Dad that loves, honors and respects his mother, meeting her needs in the love of Christ.

I am also very thankful for you both. This ministry is needed so very much. I see it every shift at the FD and am seeing how it has changed my marriage. Please let me know if you have anymore CD's so that we can give them out to friends.

May the Lord richly bless you, and place His warring and ministering angels around your marriage hedging you in from the devices and attacks from the enemy.
In Christ.

James A. Stillwagon II

Dear Joel and Kathy,

We listened to the Focus on the Family radio program from 6/8/05.

The guest was a Todd Wilson giving wives advice on what their husbands want. It basically sounded like a new and humorous twist on the old submission message. He ended by saying: "Just let him, the lead dog lead, even if he goes the wrong direction, follow him." "If the house is falling apart around you, and he is passive, just let it fall apart, the Lord will bring him around."

Earlier in his message he said: "Your husband just wants you to tell him how big his muscles are."

I am a husband and I can assure you that I do not need my ego stroked, as I am no longer an insecure child. Praise God!

Just thought you might want to check out the Family.org web site and go to their archived radio broadcasts from 06/08/05. Mary and I were very surprised and offended as well.

In Christ.

James A. Stillwagon II

Dear Jim,

Thanks for the heads up on the Focus broadcast. Focus on the Family puts out a lot of good material, however, we have noticed in the monthly magazine they send out, that the 'wife only submit' message is still firmly entrenched. You are really on the right track, being able to pick up on that out of the radio broadcast... especially the ego stroke for the insecure child. That is great.

Tell Mary that she can still compliment you, but, not because you will be an angry and hurt child if she does not do so... but, just because it is fun! When you are maturing, that stuff goes into the realm of 'just added fun' in the marriage, and not a necessity as a recipe for success.

It floors us also when we hear messages like that. Focus has not adopted the mutual submission message with enough clarity yet to be able to weed out the 'wife only submit' messages that their guests and column writers contribute.... but, they do so many good things, and have so many good guests, that they are still worth listening to if you get the broadcast regularly.

Just chuckle at the comments made by guests that are like those made by Todd Wilson! In the meantime though, continue to be a 'missionary' in getting the truth into the hands of the couples who are still suffering under that type of teaching.

Joel and Kathy

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Dear Joel and Kathy

Mary and I agree. Focus has been a regular program for us. And the day after that message from Todd Wilson, I leaned over to Mary, flexed my biceps and said (In a boyish, teasing way) "So, tell how big my muscles are." She did, and we both had a good laugh. I love to laugh with my wife.

Joel, I can sense a deepening in my relationship with Christ and my wife Mary. We are making decisions "together", "in prayer" and "waiting upon the Lord."

Also, the decision we were making about my being closer to home has been made. We truly believe the Lord wants me where I have been. The Lord has shown us that even though I would be closer to home, the effects of working in that atmosphere would be more stressful than what I had been experiencing. The lieutenants I have been supervising for the last two years are all Christians. We have a great working relationship and are concerned for the welfare of families.

Also, as Chaplain of the FD, Mary has recently said she never fully realized just how important Chaplains are. We are now desiring to work together in the ministry to Firefighters and their families, with much prayer and seeking the will of the Lord. We also know that before the structure of ministry can be built, the foundation has to be laid and firm. Our marriage is first and foremost in this process. We both have an equal partnership and joint interest in the successful example of our marriage to others, PRIOR TO any ministry involvement.

Joel and Kathy, in the past 13 years of marriage I have never sensed a more abiding one-ness with my wife as I do right now. It's not emotion or feelings.

It is a knowing, in my spirit, that is only explained and understood in Christ. I am now beginning to see the relationship of the bride to the Bridegroom, and just what it means to "love my wife as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it."

Today, I expressed to Mary just how much I need her. I depend on her for so much. She is the best.

In Christ.
James A. Stillwagon II

Dear Joel and Kathy

We are doing great. Our relationship is deepening and we are seeing God moving in our marriage.

We have been on vacation since June 24th in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, and our time together has been fantastic.

Mary's mother is ill so Mary and Caleb, our son, stayed in Michigan and I flew back yesterday July 22nd. I am by myself for awhile as Mary needs to help take care of her mother. We both prayed about it and believe the Lord lead us to this decision, due to how things were orchestrated. The decision was difficult as we really want to be together. However, Gods word does say for children to honor their father and mother, so this is what we are doing TOGETHER. This is also an opportunity for our son Caleb to see our profession of Christ put into action. I am so blessed to have such a wonderful wife and son.

Mary is my BEST FRIEND! I truly am in love with her and want to meet her needs.

Now, when Mary asks me to do something, it is not done grudgingly, with a look of "How dare you interrupt me when I am so busy (Doing absolutely nothing is more like it)," and a heavy sigh. It is "automatic". It is done "because I want to meet the needs of my wife." Being married is becoming easy, dying to myself is much sweeter, as I increase in desire to please the one God gave me to love, cherish and honor to His Glory. I guess we have always been like minded, but it seems that there is a deepening, a clearer direction in this. I believe this is happening because of what the Lord has done in me, Mary and our marriage.

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There is now the FREEDOM for our marriage to be all that God has intended it to be, in every aspect. Joel and Kathy, I cannot say it any more plainly than this. May the blessing of the Lord our God be poured upon you in full measure, overflowing to the blessing of others for His honor and Glory.

In Christ.
James A. Stillwagon II

Mary and I have been watching the dvd series from Bradenton and I am seeing myself in much of what you have been sharing.

The Holy Spirit has been convicting me of the areas that are in need of dying and the death has not been an easy one I must admit. However, God's grace is greater than ALL MY SIN and I am certain that our marriage will be heaven on earth when I finally grow up out of my adolescence. At least I'm not a toddler anymore. Well, at least not as often as I was.

Seriously, the thought patterns are beginning to change and they will continue to be replaced with the new thoughts. Thoughts on how I can give life to my wife and not death.

The Lord bless and keep you both.

In Christ.
James A. Stillwagon II
Battalion Chief/Department Chaplain

Good Morning Joel and Kathy,

I have received the book and so far it has been a tremendous help. Thankyou for all your insight. I truly thank God for you both and your perspective and all that you've been through to help others.

Thank you again
God Bless!!
Wanda
Romeo

Dear Joel and Kathy,

Thank you for the excerpt of your book: The man of her dreams, the woman of his. I enjoyed reading it. I was surprised to hear Joel admit to his faults, which men rarely do. It's always the woman who does. You both touched on many points that minister to the marriage. Well done! I wish you great success.

Mary Greene

Thanks for that dynamite email. It is a classic!

We love you guys so much! Thanks for all your immeasurable help and care.

Jim has been very sweet the last 2 days and doesn't know why! I told him to try to remember why so he can keep it up!

I got roses today. YES! And we have a DATE planned for later...

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Thank, You Jesus!

Love and Blessings to you,

Tina

Just writing you to update you! Clay has been reading the book and is overwhelmed with what he is reading and discovering! He sent this text message to me: "Thank you for getting this book. I feel its anointed power to negate the satanic hold and to start the process of my healing and restoration." He called me numerous times while reading the book and getting to parts that he said, "Wow...this is me."

He asked me out a couple of times to meet with him, but I didn't meet with him until yesterday afternoon. We went to the park, had a picnic, and talked extensively, and went over the questions in the book.

He was more honest than I believe he has EVER been throughout our marriage! He admitted to the intimidation tactics that he uses...and that he is fully aware when he implements them...opposed to what he has always told me previously. He stated that he knows that he is not "clinically depressed or manic-depressive"...merely manipulative...and he apologized for all. Wow, huh?!!

I am still, however, going to remain in a separate place for a while and am not yet returning home. I am praying and have not yet felt "released" by the LORD to return home. I know that I have much healing to gain as well. So, we've both agreed to take it a step at a time. He's not pressuring me to come home.

He did state, however, that he would like for us to counsel with you all...if possible. He said that he would be calling to talk with you all today. Please let him know if counseling with you all is possible (in light of your schedules).

I am excited (yet still a bit cautious) about what is happening in our lives! But, I am looking forward to complete restoration and healing of our marriage! In Jesus' Name!

Thank you, once again, for your obedience in sharing your testimony with the Body of Christ!

I love and appreciate you greatly!

In His Love,

~April~

Hi April,

I talked to Clay yesterday. He agreed that he made a mistake in thinking that God told him not to work.. so he is getting a job. That is good. We all make mistakes occasionally in hearing God's voice and it was good for him to be willing to acknowledge that this was one time that he did.

He also is going to move out as soon as he can so that you can move back into the house that he is in so that you can be back 'home' and he can be on the outside instead of vice-versa. He agreed that would be safer for you and a better living arrangement than where you are currently staying.

There is definitely a lot of hope. You really should not be back together though, living together until he gets the job and moves out for a month or so.

He may not go through the emotional swings of demanding to come back home etc. as he has read the book and owns his attitudes. If he is going to 'crash' and start demanding and yelling etc. he would do it within a month. My guess is that he will not go there.. and if he gets and holds a job for a month, and if his employer gives you a rosy report on his attitude after that month, and if he is paying yours and his rent or otherwise giving you support... then you would be pretty safe to let him come back.

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This is also assuming that he is still reading the book and owning his issues etc.

I encouraged him to get the DVD seminar to watch on TV and the Audio book to listen to in the car. The seminar in Bradenton will of course be the solidifying time.

Blessings,

Joel of Joel and Kathy

Well, Joel and Kathy...all is well! Clay and I are doing well and are definitely on our way to a "brand new marriage"!!! We have both finished our copies of your book and are implementing the principles therein...with great success! Thank you, again, so much!

Well...just wanting to update you both! We will keep in touch!

God bless!

-April

Scott and Jodi from Australia loaned the Book on Audio CD set to friends.. also in Australia. Here is there report to them:

Hi Jodi,

Those cd's are awesome! Stuart absolutely loved them.

I really was not sure how he would react to them but he has really enjoyed them.

We both think it is very revelational and is what the church needs at this moment. We also gave a copy to Mark and Marcia. They have listened to the first one and said it is very anointed. They have already passed the first cd on to a young couple.

Stuart has listened to the cd's a couple of times now, I have on ly once but plan to listen to them all again by the end of the week.

Thanks so much for passing them on, I am sure a lot of people are going to get a lot of revelation from them and see a lot of changes in their marriage.

Praise the Lord!

Bless you heaps,

Love,

Philippa

---Dear Kathy,

Hello. I wanted to tell you that when I read your email, I found it very liberating. ("It is my turn now" by Kathy.. sent a few weeks ago.)

It is so liberating not to have to feel guilty for responding badly.

After feeling like I was such a bad Christian woman and unable to overcome for many years - to hear that I have been only responding to bad behavior truly is liberating and healing.

You see, even I didn't really know what was going on. The scales have come off MY eyes and now I see

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EXACTLY what is going on!

Frank is doing well. We had a good weekend. We did have one "glitch" on Saturday returning from town. Traveling has not been a good time with us!

Now I know some of the reasons.

It really makes me feel bad whenever Frank ignores me. I am finding just how ingrained the habit is with him.

Anyway, to cut a long story short, on Saturday, I felt that he was ignoring me and we had a bad time. Later, I said to him that he could have handled the situation better if he had pulled over to a safe spot in the car and sorted things out.

The next day, we were traveling again. Same place. Only 40 minutes away. I was doing the driving this time and talking to him. Suddenly I knew that he had mentally "switched off."

I mentioned this to him and guess what?

He surprised me by saying to me, "Just pull over." Sure enough, he took off his seat belt, hugged me, and said he was sorry....

Hallelujah!

Well, then I felt fine.... we continued on our journey.

Shortly again, I had to say the same thing. "You are ignoring me...." Guess what again? Frank said, "Oh, please pull over."

Same thing. He took his belt off, leaned over and said how sorry he was, apologized etc. Hallelujah...

I think it was four times on the way in that we had to stop.

Ignored pull over...ignored, pull over....ignored, pull over....ignored, pull over....

Every one happy.....

Good day shopping....everyone happy still....

I think we had another pull over coming home...then Frank started saying jokingly "When we get to the next town, pull over."

No reason, just for a hug!

We did that. Then we started off again.

Again he said, "When we get to the next town, pull over..."

Another hug.

Oh, that was sweet. We were laughing together. It made our day.

I THINK THIS COULD BE A KEY FOR JOEL TO TELL THE MEN ON HOW TO DEAL WITH THINGS WHEN YOU ARE IN THE CAR AND A PROBLEM COMES UP. (From Joel: absolutely! this is a great solution!)

On Sunday, he put me on our daughter's horse bareback and gave me the picnic sandwiches to hold which HE had made. He walked me up to a field to graze the two horses he was leading.

We are 53 years old. Not spring chickens and not usually horse riders.

It was a beautiful spring-like day and we sat on a towel together and watched the horses and had our picnic.

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On Monday, I felt like he had treated me like the Queen of Sheba..

We are on a bush block. (From Joel: Hmm.. Australian for happy? or "on cloud nine?"

I had a day home alone which is not that usual. So I put some good Christian music on and I was whooping and hollering and dancing away. We have no near neighbors, so I REALLY let my hair down. I thank God for what He is doing.

And thank-you so much Kathy for letting Joel ""zip" in where needed so to speak (when I wrote to you) and allowing Joel to give his counsel and STAND UP FOR WOMEN....

Last night when he came home from work, I thought I'd do the right thing and go and greet him, with a smile. However, I don't know what it was. He was doing the right thing. He said the right thing. However, you know what I felt? I felt like he was repelling me. It was something I felt in my spirit.

Anyway, he did apologize and I think it should be ok when he comes home tonight.

It's just so good to KNOW exactly what's going on now.

Once I never knew WHY I wasn't feeling good. NOW I know.

Thanks again to both of you.

Have given the two books we ordered, away and look forward to hearing something from those two couples .

Leanne (and Frank)
Australia

2 Corinthians 10:12

For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

After reading these most recent letters sent to us by Joel over the last two days my husband mentioned to me this morning, " Well honey, it could be worse, you could be married to _____(fill in the blank).

I retorted back, "Well, so could you, I haven't committed adultery or left you, and besides the bible tells us not to compare ourselves to one another, only Jesus is our standard, we are to compare ourselves to Him and then we all come short".

I just wanted to remind all of us reading these letters to be careful. The goal is to see men become like Christ and then the women. We are all here to learn and grow and to pray. It is a huge mistake to compare ourselves to others for the better or worse. That is always wrong and will lead to defeat.

Jesus is Lord! IN Christ, Bess

This is a letter from Bess. Thanks Bess! This is GREAT!

I hope that it is OK for me to share an issue that had come up between me and my sweet hubby. Although my husband had been calling me gorgeous, beautiful, luscious, pretty, etc., it fell on deaf ears. He was often frustrated and puzzled at my rejection of his compliments. I shared with him that he always gave me compliments with a silent disclaimer. I was gorgeous, but not gorgeous enough, I was pretty, but not pretty enough, I was sexy, but not sexy enough. He always had this playboy standard and image in his mind that I knew he had and that I could not and would not ever measure up to.

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I told him that I needed to be good enough. I needed for him to be fully and completely devoted to me as I am right now. I can't be perfect. I am a woman in my 40's with 12 children. I want to be his special treasure. This convicted my husband. He did not deny that he had been doing that to me and placing that kind of pressure on me.

Now when he compliments me I have been accepting them because I know that he has made a commitment to give them with "no disclaimer". Praise God!

Are you willing to ask your wife when was the very first time that you ever hurt her in this area. I can remember in the very first weeks of our marriage my husband rubbed his hand across my nude belly and said, "

I want this to be flat". I never forgot those hurtful words. Thus ensued a lifetime project for me to try to achieve a flat tummy (remember I am the mother of 12, interpretation- 12 pregnancies).

Do you see a flat tummy in this picture? Has your wife ever found porn in or among your personal belongings? Do you watch t.v. shows or movies with obviously beautiful sexy women? What things might you have said to her over the years that may have implied your dissatisfaction with her physical appearance or her sexuality? (If you are truly clueless then ask her and then let her tell you).

A challenge to the men. Jesus warned his disciples that whoever sets his hand to the plow and looks back is not worthy. The apostle James reminds us that a double minded man is unstable in all of his ways and will receive nothing from the Lord. (And Norm laughingly says, "and nothing from his wife either!) If you are going to be heading toward this path that Joel and Kathy have set before you are you truly prepared to take it all the way to the cross? Your cross. Your death. Don't make this a game. Your wife will know.

Hey Joel and Kathy, here is an email that I had sent to Norm a few days ago. Thought it may help others to see what a woman may be feeling inside while she is opening up past hurts and feelings. We (me in particular) were going through a rough time.

Subject: To my sweetheart! Hi lover, please help me to heal by staying strong for me. I need you during these difficult times. I love you and I need you everyday. Forever your love, Bess

Note from Joel. Many times a wife will be afraid that if she expresses too much hurt and disappointment, that her husband will give up and backslide. This is a nice note that expresses a world of emotion. Men, you need to reassure your wives CONSTANTLY that you WANT them to unload on you emotionally. Assure her that though it is difficult for you and causes you to die inside - that you want her to feel free to say whatever she needs to say, whenever she wants to say it - so that she can get closure and you can grow up. Assure her that there is NOTHING that she could say or do that would drive you away - she is safe to express anything and you will not leave her.

For some of you guys who were more abusive, be VERY careful how you say, "There is NOTHING that you could say or do to drive me away." That might come across as a "stalker" threat instead of a loving and compassionate reassurance. So, adjust your words accordingly. This is the world you created and you have to be careful as you seek to repair it!

Joel and Kathy

Hi Joel and Kathy, I want to share with you a situation that has come up with us. Joel, in your DVD seminar you told the men that if they are loving their wife and doing what they need to be doing for her and she has a situation that she is not overcoming then she will call a girlfriend for prayer and counsel. Well, that is just what

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

happened with me. I had not even realized it until after I called the friend and got the counsel and advice. I was just stalemated and unable to get past a very bad attitude toward Norm even though he was validating my feelings and loving me.

Finally out of desperation I made contact with a woman counselor on line. She helped me to see my way through my circumstances and to come reason with my feelings. Like I said I did not even remember your words on the DVD about such a situation until after I got the counsel and talked to Norm about it.

I did received your book and I am enjoying it very much.....Your web site is very good and is helping us in our spiritual lives. I thank GOD for men and women like you who are not afraid to share the power of GOD with others. You are both in my prayers.

My husband and I are Pastors and will be using your book in our ministry.

Your sister in Christ,
Pastor Iris DeLaRosa

My Husband is on chapter 10!!!! He has changed sooooo much, not only in the way he treats me, but I can see it in his eyes.

Thank you thank you thank you for staying true to God through all of your tribulations so that God can use you guys to restore so many marriages!!!!!!
Hallelujah!!!!

(From a happy wife!)

Jayne wrote: "We are watching the DVD's (almost done) WOW....this is powerful stuff!!! Really am so blessed by your ministry!"

Jayne wrote:

"We are soooo blessed by your marriage books and DVDs! Wow, it is setting us free from the "patriarchy" (false) teaching and it is tremendous!!! Blessings to you both for all that you are doing for the body of Christ!"

He's treating me like a friend -- and lover. :) He used to treat me like an antagonist in a wrestling match, or a child, or his student, or an intruder in his home, or an irritation.
I'm still getting used to this change.

It's a good problem to have! :D

Thank you Joel for helping me get on the path to my destiny. In the beginning of this journey, I was completely lost and had nowhere else to turn. It was your words, your dedication, your kindness, your wisdom, and your love that settled me down enough to begin to focus on what life is really about, bringing Jesus to the people in our lives.

I now have a one on one relationship with the Father that seemed like a fantasy that only "good" people would receive. You believed in me when I could not. This meant the world to me. Your example of Christlikeness became my goal. I would and did work harder than most to try to achieve this goal. Although I don't think I

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

have arrived, at least I am now at the party.

In this new ministry Matt and I are leading, your hand prints are all over it. It was you willing to step out in faith and receive something from the Lord which few had heard. It was you who took a risk to go against the establishment and preach the truth that had been buried for thousands of years. It took a lot of guts and courage for which I am eternally grateful.

Sometimes we get so wrapped up in "doing" that we can forget how much we affect other's lives. You and Kathy have helped to change the world and we are eternally grateful. I hope my small part will do the same.

God Bless
David

Dear Joel and Kathy,

My husband, Shawn, and I attended your Weekend Marriage Intensive during February 29th through March 4th (2012). I wanted to give you a praise report as a result of your ministry and that of Joel's mother, Elizabeth. For three years, I have been suffering from what the doctors believe was a pinched nerve, a very painful condition in which I have been unable to sit down for more than 20 minutes at a time. Due to this, I was very concerned/worried about how I would fare at your Intensive.

The first evening was literally excruciating for me. The second lengthy day (12 hours, I believe?) was also very difficult on me. But as time wore on during the session, my leg felt better and better, to the point that by the time Sunday (the last day) rolled around, I was completely free of all pain! To this very day, I have no more pain!

Secondly, I have had a very difficult relationship with my eldest daughter for 28 years (an unclosed one). The Wednesday after I returned home from the Intensive, God opened the floodgates in both of our hearts.

My daughter and I cried, laughed, and shared so very many things with one another!!! Our relationship has taken such a turning point, we are spending more time together, and I can see Jesus at work in her and in her family!

Thirdly, although we've had a few rough spots, I can truly tell that God has changed Shawn's heart. He truly is an altogether different man. He even told me this past Saturday night (as he was holding me, no less! [something he'd had a very difficult time doing]): "If I never accomplish anything else in my life, I want to become a great husband to you, and I will be satisfied with that."

Our relationship is 90% better! (Given the fact that I was emotionally done with our marriage, I know, know, know this is a great miracle!)

When Elizabeth prayed over me, the Spirit of the Lord revealed to her that I was so bound up, and that I had many dark spots that needed to be lifted. She prayed for my healing, and I truly believe her miracle-working union with God/Jesus, along with the life-giving words you, Kathy and Joel, spoke in your Marriage Intensive are what has healed my leg, my relationship with my daughter, and my marriage with Shawn.

Praise the LORD!!! And I praise you three for following God's calling on your lives!!! I know that none of this would have been possible without Jesus or you three!

Thank you, Joel! Thank you, Kathy! Thank you, Elizabeth! Praise God, the Lord on High!!!

Hope

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I'm not sure if u remember us, but we were receiving counsel for over a year with your ministry, back in 2008 & 2009.

My name is Victoria & my husband's name is Jorge. We were actually your youngest married couple at the intensive in June 2009 & got the most bizarre news that we were expecting our first child.

Well, so much has happened since then. We are still married & are expecting our SECOND little girl now in June! Jorge & I are happier than we have ever been & are so thankful to the Joel & Kathy Ministry for all of their help. We are attending a church in Tampa called Extraordinary Life Church. We are youth leaders, I am a worship leader & Jorge is part of the deacons in the finance department.

We will never forget that YOUR MINISTRY is what began to save our marriage.

The website, the videos and books were all a major part of why we made it. We want to thank you!!!! We won't ever forget where God has taken us from and our two beautiful girls will know that we stuck together.

Victoria and Jorge

Thank you so much for allowing us to serve and share tonight!

It really ministered to me and challenged me even more to love Grace and further give up any excuses I have for resisting blessing her in the ways she wants me to bless her. That was really cool to help Solomon and Yolanda too and help him to commit to initiating the date night and playing the saxophone for her. Bless you both and Happy Thanksgiving!

Palmer and Grace

Jean wrote: "Yes, and there are parts of their book that I can point out that I actually lived it with them!

I have truly witnessed the miracle in their marriage. They moved to PA and I later moved to Florida where we all caught up with each other! I wouldn't have traded witnessing this miracle for the whole world!" (Note: Jean knew us in the bad days! Super close friend.)

Purchased several copies of your book 2 years ago and gave them to friends. Unfortunately, my second divorce was just finalized when i came across your book. However, it has revolutionized my behavior as an ex-husband. Actually, it has changed my behavior period....this love factor and the ultimate responsibility of loving one's wife and if that is done she will love you back....wow, so simple yet earth shattering. Erica is her name and we have Abigail age 6 and Obadiah age 8. Beautiful kids and a great mother to them.

I am a bi-vocational pastor in the United Church of Christ. I covet your prayers and thanks again for such a life changing book. I know everyone whose hands i have placed it in have been changed.

Pastor Neil K.

I have been reading your book in e-book format The Man of her Dreams The Woman of His, and must say that it is an excellent book. I purchased it because my wife asked me to read it. I find that you have really hit the hammer on the nail. You have effectively pinpointed what ails so many Christian marriages.

Thank You,

Pastor Gary Belhomme

More Than 500 Marriage Testimonies with Joel and Kathy!

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I wish you continued success with your book and your ministry. I do read the testimonies and have given several of the books to clients. I know that none of us have all the answers, but you seem to be touching many lives. I back you 100%. I wish you much success.

Dr. Ron Hamm

Ed and I went to our intensive 2010, it was an eye opener and saved our marriage. Ed was being deceitful with me and was into porn and prostitutes. The marriage bed wasn't a marriage bed. I thought there was something wrong with me, why didn't he talk, spend time or even act like he wanted me.

I ended up in an affair that drove me almost to suicide because of the guilt that I felt. I would of never done this and didn't know why I did.

March of 2010 we went to the intensive and on our night for one on one with Joel and Kathy the light came on. Ed was able to share with me what he had been doing. I actually felt relief that I wasn't going crazy.

We are now Living and Loving it!!!!

This marriage ministry saved our marriage!!!

We are so grateful to Joel and Kathy for being obedient to what God has told them.

Ed and Tammy

The grace of God is very evident in the lives of Joel and Kathy.

The Davisson's became part of our new church family in 1991. Only a miracle could have saved their marriage back then. God gave them that miracle through His Word and their tenacious determination to prevail.

Now, their insights shared through The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His will surely help preserve other marriages needing help.

Pastors Jim & Pam Dumont

Erie Christian Fellowship Church

Hi Joel & Kathy,

I have heard it over and over. When someone tells the truth, what we have been told for so long seems so ridiculous! Just submit and love your husbands and everything will be alright. Hogwash!

I thank God for your ministry of bringing the truth to the masses who are so misled. Keep it up in the name of Jesus.

May our God continue to pour out His richest blessings upon you and yours,

Dr. Elizabeth McCullough
National Christian Counselors Association

The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! Over 500 Testimonies

"You are holding onto dynamite!

Let The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His! transform your marriage into the joyous, fulfilling experience that God intended!"

Elizabeth Jameison
Retired American Baptist Pastor
Legendary Figure among the American Baptist Delaware/Pennsylvania Region

Dear Joel and Kathy,

I gave my Sister your book because she is going through a separation.

I asked her to preview the Book for me because I am really busy right now and she could not put it down.

Then She gave it to her husband. So with my Sisters review, I will use it in my Counseling.

Thanks and God Bless
Dr. John Brancato
Licensed Pastoral Counselor
National Christian Counselors Association

Before Billy Joe Daugherty went to heaven, one of his congregation members asked him to read "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!" This was in 2004.

Billy Joe took the book. He later emailed us a small endorsement to add to the book. He said, "I normally don't do that, but I felt like the Lord told me to help this couple out."

In 2008, when we lost Shekinah, Billy Joe called and spoke to Kathy. Kathy told him that I (Joel) was having a hard time deciding to be happy. He told her that we should have a party to celebrate Shekinah's graduation to heaven. His thoughtfulness meant so much to us in that moment.

Rodney Howard Browne called us from Mexico while on an anniversary trip with Adonica. He had also lost a daughter. His call also meant so much to us.

Here is that short note from Billy Joe Daugherty from "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!"

Dear Joel & Kathy

We rejoice for the help this book will give people wanting a better marriage.

In Jesus,

Pastor Billy Joe & Sharon Daugherty

Charles and Frances Hunter wrote the Forewords to both "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!" Volume 1 and "Volume 2: Livin' it and Lovin' it!" Charles and Frances were dear friends who impacted our life in a most wonderful way.

We feel like it is time for this ministry to make an impact on a much larger portion of the Body of Christ. What we have done so far has just scratched the surface and has prepared us to take this message to a much larger audience.

The title of our next book is

“Our Marriage is Our Happy Place!”

For a sneak peak, here is the introduction

written by our good friend, Kelley Matton:

“This is Wolfson’s Children Hospital”, the voice on the phone said. “Kathy wanted me to call you and ask for prayer for Shekinah; she isn’t doing too well.” “Of course”, I said, not asking for any more details and hanging up. “Poor Shekinah”, I thought. “She must have a stomach upset from being nervous about today’s procedure”. I never dreamed that her life was in danger until Joel called 5 minutes later telling me that all of her organs were beginning to shut down.

My husband, Doug, and I raced to the hospital. When we arrived Joel and Kathy were in the room alone with Shekinah. She had been pronounced dead a few minutes earlier. We did not see what we expected to see. Instead of two parents weeping and sobbing in grief, despair and hopelessness we saw Joel organizing a prayer team to bring her back to life. Calling every prayer warrior he knew, he held the cell phone over Shekinah while they prayed. The room itself began to fill with prayer warriors as we marched around the bed, praying for Shekinah to revive but it was not to be.

What we saw over the next few days was a different sort of miracle. We saw a husband and wife draw strength from one another instead of blaming one another. We saw a family draw closer together instead of further apart. We saw grief that Shekinah was no longer with them, but faith that they would one day see her again. We saw them going to God for help and strength instead of blaming Him. What an honor and a privilege to see these two walk through one of the worst tragedies to befall parents with faith, kindness and peace that passes all understanding.

For instance, when those around them were suffering in doubt and confusion, Joel and Kathy made it their mission to help THEM! When they hugged (which they did often) I could see the peace and comfort being received from each other. When the funeral director didn’t quite measure up to Joel’s standards, I did not witness any anger or impatience, just a polite directness to get the job done.

Did they have their moments? I am sure they did. What parent wouldn’t? But it was healthy grieving for the incredible loss they suffered, not hopeless despair and depression. They wouldn’t give in to it. Because Joel and Kathy have the marriage they do, they were able to withstand the immense pressure of a child’s death by being there for each other and drawing strength from each other. I SAW that! It was amazing.

Kelley Matton – Palm Coast, Florida

Joel and Kathy have been married since 1984. In 1985, things went downhill fast! Arguments were loud and dramatic. In 1987, they began to pastor their first church. Though they both loved the Lord and wanted a happy marriage, the dysfunctions continued to increase. Joel became skilled at mental, emotional, verbal and spiritual abuse.

In 1991, Joel's abusive treatment of Kathy culminated in his committing adultery. By this time their first son, Chris, was 2 years old and daughter Jenifer was 1 year old. Joel and Kathy left the ministry to travel on the road in full time secular work with the intention of restoring their shattered marriage and save the family. Things got worse.

Three years of struggle ensued. Finally, they attended a one week set of classes that were designed to teach couples how to minister to severely abusive marriage relationships. Joel and Kathy realized that Joel was an abuser! Joel accepted this "verdict" and began to transform into a loving and kind husband. By this time, Chris was almost 6, Jenifer was 4, Josiah was almost one year old and Shekinah was ready to be born.

Shekinah Glory, born in 1994, got to live with parents who were healed and happy for fourteen years. Kathy had been prepared to divorce Joel in the spring of 1994. Being pregnant with Shekinah was the only reason that Kathy did not follow through with the divorce.

Joel and Kathy say, "Shekinah was our angel who kept us together long enough to attend those classes. Shekinah was then with us for those first 14 wonderful years of our progressively healed and happy marriage." On September 17, 2008, Shekinah suddenly went to be with the Lord.

Joel and Kathy have been experiencing an outrageously happy marriage, starting on that journey in 1994. They have been in full time marriage ministry since 2004. Since 2004, over 15,000 copies of "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!" have been sold all over the world. The ministry has grown into a full service marriage ministry offering multiple nationwide group marriage mentoring phone calls, a 24/7 online marriage forum, DVD sets, Seminars and remarkably fruitful 5-Day Weekend Marriage Intensives. In 2006, Joel and Kathy wrote their second book, "Livin' it and Lovin' it!"

Frances Hunter introduced "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!" from the stage of the Houston Astrodome at their 172th Healing Explosion on October 2, 2004. She presented it to be "the best book on marriage that we have ever read." That Healing Explosion at the Astrodome, in 2004, was a dream come true for Joel and Kathy. The Hunters officiated the renewing of their wedding vows in celebration of their 20th wedding anniversary. In attendance were Rodney and Adonica Howard Brown, Norvel Hayes, Marilyn Hickey, Mary Ruth Swope, Doc and Norma Jean Leroy and other notables. Jaci Velasquez sang! Frances prophesied over Jaci at 3 years old that she would have a voice that would reach the world – and here she was, singing at the repeating of our vows!

From the Foreword to "The Man of Her Dreams/The Woman of His!"

Thousands of books have been written on marriage. There are all kinds describing all kinds of marriage problems but most of them leave you cold!...and with the same problems as you had before.

I have never read a book as cleverly written as *The Man of Her Dreams / The Woman of His!* This book puts into a nutshell the answer to every problem in every marriage.

It is so simple, so easy to read and yet so totally challenging. We would recommend that you read this book and give a copy of it to every married friend you have.

Charles and Frances Hunter

You can have a **MIRACLE** in **YOUR** marriage!
If Joel and Kathy can do it,
SO CAN YOU!

Our daughter, Shekinah Glory Davisson, went to be with the Lord in September 2008.
She was 13 years of age. You will meet our other 3 “young adults” if you partake of
our ministry. To meet Shekinah, go to **YouTube** and do a search for
“Shekinah Glory Davisson”



God wants to make your **MARRIAGE SUCCESSFUL!**
Just DO IT!

Joel  Kathy
Davisson

The Man of Her Dreams/
The Woman of His!

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