



Marriage Preparation Resources

Español

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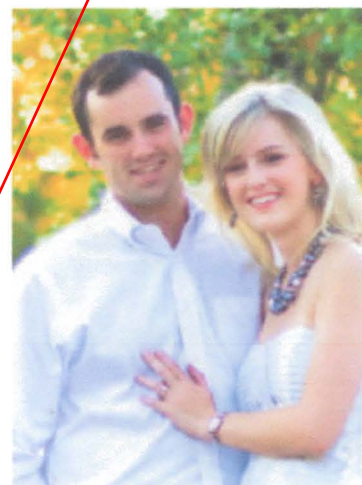
▶ **Welcome...**

Who is that couple? click photo >

▶ **Singles/Dating Couples**

▶ **Clergy/Marriage educators**

▶ **Sponsor/Mentor Couples**



For Better and for Ever helps couples investigate their Family of Origin to learn how their family background will impact their marriage.

Used with Mentor/Sponsor couples or by couples on their own.

Couples learn & practice skills for establishing & sustaining life long marriage.

CLICK here to view an introduction to For Better and For Ever

Getting married in Texas? You can get a discount on your marriage license.

A SmartMarriages© TOOB program. Welcome SmartMarriages visitors. Return to SmartMarriages web site.

▶ **Register for Training &Etc.**

▶ **Sign Into Our Newsletter**

▶ **Follow-up to Training or Workshop & Evaluation Surveys**

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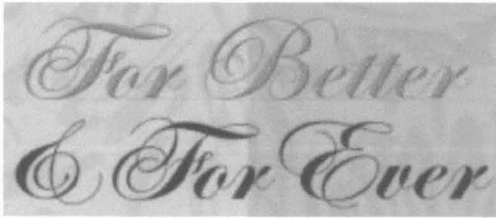
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Click Resources to get Page 2

Order Form - look for special Conference rates.

Follow-up to Workshop materials.

Sign up for our Newsletter.



Resources

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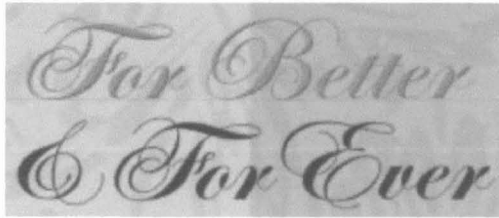
There is a lot of information on this web site and we hope this "menu" will help you find what you are looking for.....

- I am a pastor or marriage educator looking for more information about how to set up and use *For Better and For Ever* as a marriage preparation program for couples preparing for marriage.
- I am married, my spouse and I serve as a "sponsor/mentor couple." I am looking for resources to help us be even more effective when dealing with engaged couples.
- I am engaged to be married and looking for a good marriage preparation program and how to plan a wedding.
- I am single and want to learn more about marriage so I will be better prepared to live the commitment of lifelong marriage.
- I am married and looking for ideas to make my marriage better.
- I have been married before, can I be married in the Catholic Church?
- My marriage is in trouble...can you help?

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This menu is intended to help new folks find their way to what they are looking for. Pastors/marriage educators will probably want the 1st selection.

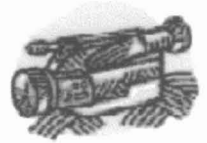


Resources for using *For Better and For Ever*

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For Better & For Ever is a TOOB ("teach out of the Box") program, i.e., the books and the resources listed here should provide the information you need to set up the program and train sponsor/mentor couples. If, however, you need additional assistance, we can assist you by phone & email...or even come to your location to Train prospective Sponsor/Mentor Couples.

Video/DVD Training Materials.



- A Picture is worth a thousand words! These video training materials may provide all the information you need to train sponsor/mentor couples.
- Narrator's text from the training videos/DVD. (free to read/copy) ←

NOTE

Resources for Sponsor/Mentor Couples.

- Explanation of Key Concepts of *For Better & For Ever*. <Don't miss this! ←
- Using *For Better & For Ever* and Sponsor/Mentor Couples in your church or educational setting.
- What is a Sponsor / Mentor Couple?
- The value of Sponsor/Mentor Couples by Rob Ruhnke
- Dealing with couples who are reticent, OR simply "going through the motions" (disinterested?!).
- Importance of the Homework, and how to make sure it gets done!
- Teaching engaged couples how to pray.
- For use with Training Video/DVD: "Discussion Questions" for couples.

NOTE

Resources for Pastors / Church staff / Marriage educators

- Practical Steps for using *For Better & For Ever* and Sponsor/Mentor Couples in your church or educational setting.
- Evaluation of *For Better and For Ever*... < Please help with this very important project!
- Informational Session. Outline for a meeting at your church.
- A Plan for Recruiting Sponsor/Mentor Couples from your church.

NOTE

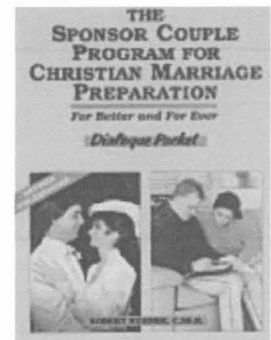
- [Sample letter to clergy from diocesan Family Life Office](#) (for clergy bulletin)
- [Pulpit announcements.](#) (Recruiting. Information Evening about marriage.)
- [Bulletin inserts.](#)
- [Sample recruiting letter..from pastor.](#)
- ["Recommitment" ceremony for Sponsor/Mentor Couples](#) (including form to be signed)
- [History & Analysis of Marriage Preparation Programs by Rob Ruhnke.](#)
- [How to evaluate our personal attitudes about dating/engaged couples.](#)
- [The Value of using Sponsor/Mentor couples](#) by Bill Lohmann

Additional Services to assist you.

- [Assistance On-Line & by Phone.](#) Marriage Preparation Resources also provides free on-line assistance to Pastors / Marriage Educators / Engaged Couples who send email questions about "getting married" or about the use of *For Better & For Ever*.
- [Local support folks](#) < Click to find someone who lives near you. NOTE
- [Training Sessions.](#) You can attend a Training Session or ask us to direct a Training Session where you are.
- [Certification to be a Trainer.](#)

A Guide for those familiar with the 1989 edition.

click photo >>



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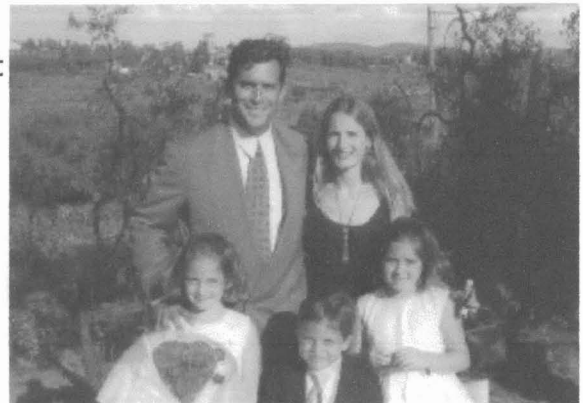
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Helpful Links to WWW

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We offer these "helpful links" to help you find what you may be looking for quicker. Marriage Preparation Resources is not responsible for the content of these sites nor can we guarantee the links are always current. We appreciate your help in giving us feedback that will help us update these link and/or provide even better ones.



Couples who want to see the Faith/Religion content removed from the COVENANT edition can find it at > [Spirituality in Marriage](#).

- [Alcohol/Drug 24 Hour Help Line](#) - Links to national resources.
- [Couple's Pre Marital Covenant & Blessing for Engaged Couple.](#)
- [Couples of different faith traditions: *Interfaith & Interchurch*](#)
- [Catholic Couples: Please make love more often](#) by Mitch Finley.
- [Covenant Marriage: What is it? Does it work? How to prepare for it?](#)
- [Dialogue / Communication](#)
- [Engaged Encounter](#) - information.
- [Family of Origin / Imago Theory / Harville Hendrix.](#)
- [Family Table Time](#)
- [Financial Planning Information](#) \$\$\$ and Marriage!
- [Family VIOLENCE, Sexual Abuse & Relationship Skills.](#)
- [Harville Hendrix & Imago Theory.](#)
- [Hope after Abortion](#) - Project Rachel.
- [Imago Theory / Harville Hendrix](#)
- [Institute for American Values](#) - Scholarly research for the renewal of family life.
- [Intimate Loving Relationship](#) - 5 Points for developing by Rick&Wanda Workman
- [Living Together](#)

NOTE when using COVENANT edition.

NOTE this link for much more information to share with couples who do not share the same faith tradition.

NOTE the list of links is much longer on the web site.