



## Making an impact in our world through marriage mentoring

January 20, 2019

### OPEN

Who has come to worship with us today? Mike Woodard is an associate with Family Life Canada – a ministry of Power to Change.

Cornerstone is called to impact our world by living and sharing the life of Jesus!



Today Mike has been helping us think about some ways in which Cornerstone can **impact our world through strengthening marriages**.

Marriage mentoring is a strategy that does not wait until there is a painful crisis in a marriage. Instead, the plan is to be proactively providing encouragement and mentoring along the way.

### DIG

What is marriage? Elton Trueblood has described marriage as...

*...a system by means of which persons who are sinful and contentious are so caught up by a dream and a purpose bigger than themselves that they work through the years, in spite of repeated disappointment, to make the dream come true.*

God has defined marriage in a number of passages. Consider the following passages that speak to responsibilities in marriage and the call to love in the way that Jesus loves us.

**Genesis 2:18-25**

**Ephesians 5:22-33**

**I Corinthians 13:1-13**

How can we strengthen marriage? The Marriage Mentoring Initiative from Family Life Canada provides churches with a wonderful resource for encouraging married couples. Mentoring in its most basic form has a biblical foundation. In Proverbs 27:17 we read, *“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.”* In marriage mentoring two couples have fourteen caring, confidential conversations about those things that impact marriage.

Gratitude

Showing Love

Family History

Communication

Conflict

Rituals & Habits

Money

Pace and Priorities

Household Partnership

Spirituality

Fun and Recreation

Emotional & Physical Intimacy

Parenting

Holidays & Celebrations

### REFLECT

On the Marriage Mentoring Initiative website we read, “Most marriages don’t need an overhaul, just regular tune-ups.” If you are married, in what areas of your relationship do you need a “tune-up”?

John Ortberg has written, “If churches would become marriage mentor centers, it would create a revolution in our society.” Can you think of ways in which our society would be impacted by couples who are in a healthy mentoring relationship?

### RESOURCES

You can contact Mike Woodard at [mike@familylifecanada.com](mailto:mike@familylifecanada.com)



To get more information about Marriage Mentoring or the next Family Life conference go to [www.familylifecanada.com](http://www.familylifecanada.com)

Here are a few helpful books on marriage – click on the image for more info

