

FAMILY LIFE® LINE

One Chinese family's transformation: "Like a kiss from Jesus"

"There was a war going on in each of their hearts, a battle about whether they would divorce or not."

As they walked into a Beijing apartment for a FamilyLife® Bible study, no one would have guessed at this battle raging between the prominent Chinese cardiologist and his wife. They simply radiated success.

But underneath the façade, their marriage was crumbling.

FamilyLife staff dove into the study with them both, and they felt some progress was being made: *"We would talk about applying what we were learning to their lives. What was God saying and were they willing to make the effort to apply the truth of what they were learning to their marriage?"*

But then the study ended, and the FamilyLife staff couple had to leave the area. They kept praying for the Chinese

READ ON to see how the Lord is working in extraordinary ways in many other challenging places! >

You're taking biblical hope to challenging places. And God is working in extraordinary ways!

They've never before heard ... UNTIL

“Like a kiss from Jesus”

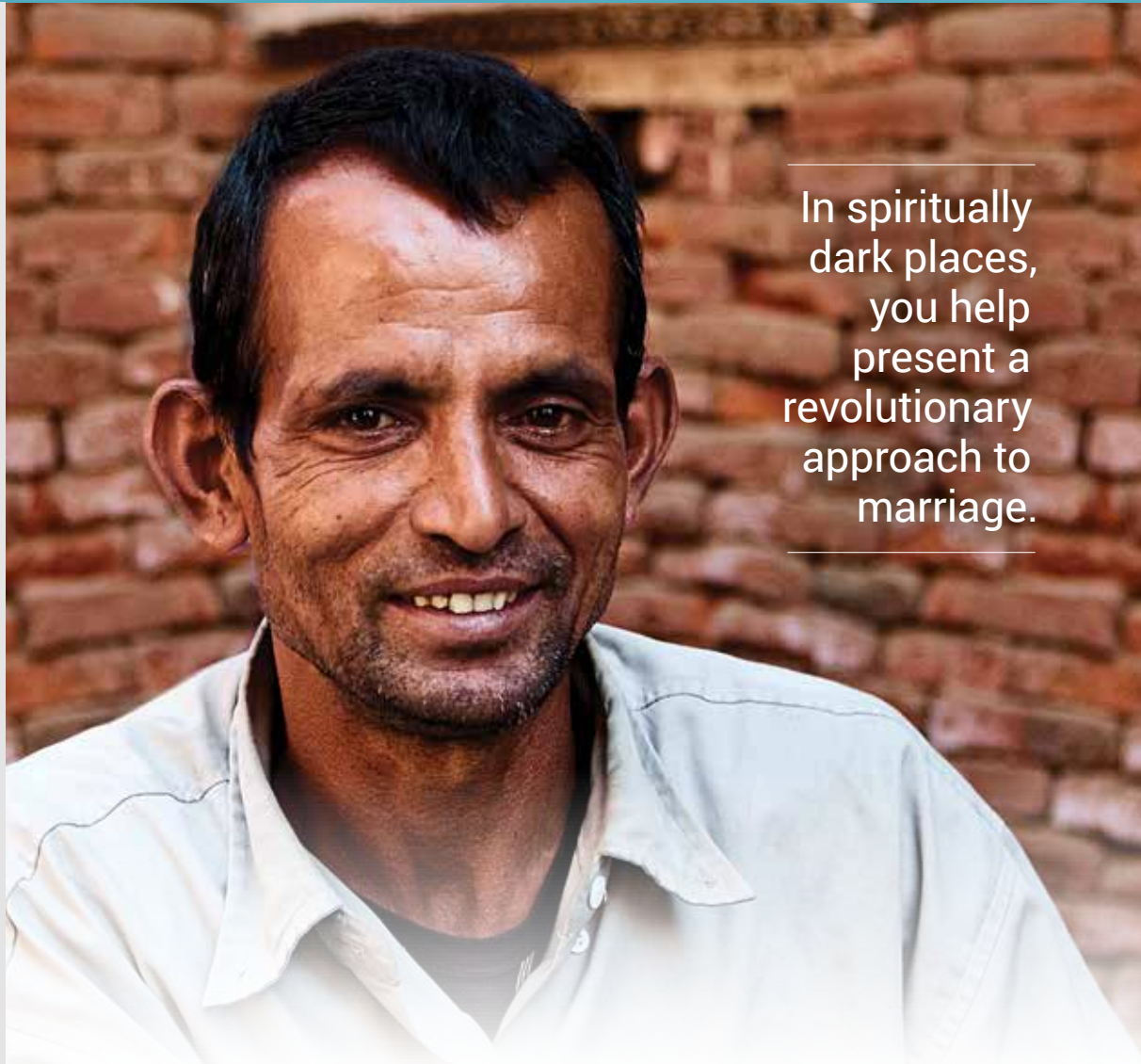
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couple they'd worked with, and they asked about them on a trip to China years later.

The update was extraordinary. Not only was this couple still together ... *but he had actually quit his job as a cardiologist to pastor a house church!*

The wife shared that the FamilyLife Bible study they had done together had saved their marriage. And our staff member shared, *“Not having seen either of them since the study, this news was like a kiss from Jesus.”*

This couple went from the edge of divorce to a new life and totally different success in kingdom work. Thank you for helping to reach many like them with hope and truth.



In spiritually dark places, you help present a revolutionary approach to marriage.

“Men who are typically very stoic were in tears”

From Nigeria, China, Nepal, and beyond, the comments about FamilyLife training keep coming:

- *“No one ever taught us this.”*
- *“Last night was the first time in 7 years of marriage that my wife asked me to forgive her.”*
- *“This is the first time they have heard, let alone recited the marriage vows.”*

Though it's hard for many in the West to grasp, literally millions of couples have never before heard about God's design

for families. So when a team recently brought the message of biblical marriage to the nation of Nepal, it was truly revolutionary:

“Some of the audience, including men who are typically very stoic, were in tears as they began to hear and understand God's plan for their marriages.”

These men (and women) had never been taught what it takes to make a marriage truly work. When they finally received the message, they were deeply touched. Thank you for helping to take God's plan for families to the hard places!



YOU REACH OUT

Battle in Nigeria: *“Their lives and marriage were radically transformed”*

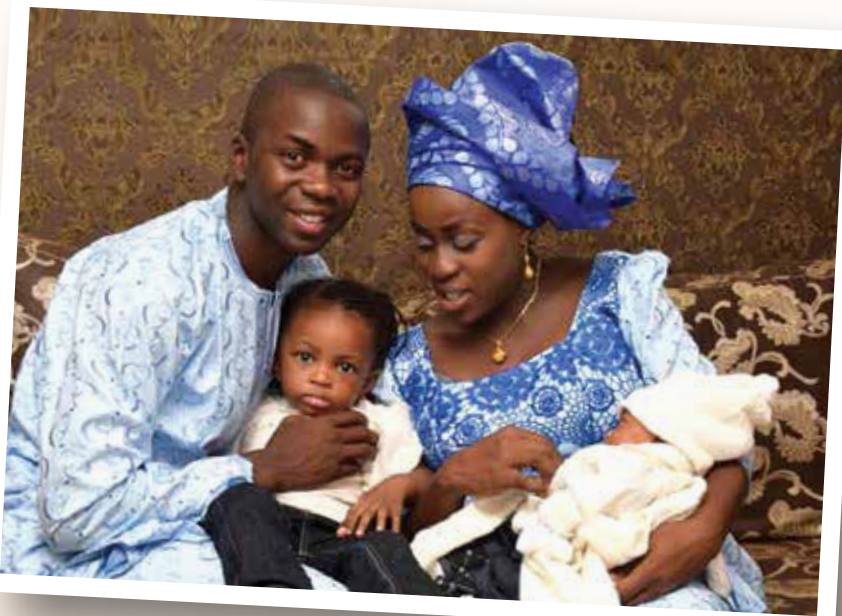
Some areas of Nigeria are dangerous to Christians. Extremist groups have been targeting and murdering believers for several years now. And the spiritual battle also plays out on a smaller scale ... in the minds and hearts of individual families.

In fact, Joel Tunwagun was actively making plans to leave and divorce his wife, Juliana. But then Juliana told him she thought she might be pregnant.

While at the local clinic to confirm the pregnancy, Joel “happened” to overhear the technician talking about a new FamilyLife Bible study group. Joel immediately asked if they could join. Staff later reported:

“Over the course of the study, their lives and marriage were radically transformed. Because of this, Joel made a commitment to stay in his marriage. They soon welcomed a healthy baby boy into their family together.”

The change in their marriage was so drastic that even their neighbors noticed. Wanting the same intimacy in their relationship, they too joined the Bible study group!



Thank YOU for helping to save this struggling family and touching their entire neighborhood with help for today and hope for tomorrow.

A WORD FROM DAVID

Speaking the language every culture understands

When my wife, Meg, and I served overseas, we saw firsthand:



David Robbins
President & CEO

The deep desire for whole families knows no boundaries.

From the Middle East to Asia to Africa and beyond, people are willing to listen to total strangers speak on marriage, child-rearing, purity, and more ... because they are so, so desperate for help to get it right.

Many of them live in places where spiritually oppressive regimes and anti-Christian philosophies rule. They have never heard of the idea of mutual respect in marriage ... of equal partnership and commitment.

But deep down, they know *something is wrong, something is missing*. As their families fall apart, they hunger for help ... *for the hope that Jesus brings*.

I think of one Art of Marriage® event in Shanghai. FamilyLife staff report, *“One of the unbelieving spouses who attended after the first night wanted to be baptized. So that night in their hotel room they baptized the husband in the bathtub.”*

People are eager for truth! Many seem to have been beautifully prepared by the Holy Spirit ... just *waiting* for someone to tell them the gospel. Thank you for helping to reach them with the language we ALL speak.

To impact families to the ends of the earth,

David Robbins



You can reach families who've never heard!

"We're here to help strengthen your family!"

Again and again, this introduction to FamilyLife is a powerful key. It opens the doors to "closed" nations, cities, and homes that normally stay locked up tight when outsiders approach.

But to seize the tremendous opportunities unfolding before us in places like China, Africa, the Middle East, and beyond, we must raise \$120,000 over the next the next 60 days.

Will you help?

Anything you can give in October and November will go toward reaching families all around the world with biblical help for families in resources like:

- Weekend to Remember® events
- Homebuilders® Bible studies
- Training manuals for pastors and couples
- More strategies to reach into challenging nations

Your generosity will help build godly families in challenging places. You'll also impact generations with the good news that can transform entire nations!

Give Now

To help seize the tremendous opportunities just ahead, please click on the Give Now button to send your special gifts. You'll be helping to reach families to the ends of the earth ... who've never before heard!

Amidst threats, you proclaim the Prince of Peace!

"Extremists entered [the church] at around 10am, shouting abuse at the pastor and church members and overturning chairs. ... The Christians ... were threatened with 'dire consequences' if they continued to meet."¹

This past Palm Sunday, this was the scene in the Indian city of Hyderabad, where only 2.5% of the population is Christian² and where anti-Christian persecution is growing.

But thanks to you, the gospel is still touching hearts in this place!

In this city, FamilyLife recently held our very first Weekend to Remember marriage getaway in the language of Telugu. Many couples were impacted. But one husband and wife, who were trying to rebuild their marriage after infidelity, made an especially public statement of reconciliation:

"At the end of the conference, they each had new hope and the husband now saw his wife as a gift and equal value in the marriage. As an action step of this new attitude, the husband during the sharing time at the end of the conference made his wife a part owner in his company by physically handing her stock certificates."

Such an action, so publicly displayed, is revolutionary in India! In places where persecution is growing, thank you for reaching out with the message of the Prince of Peace who restores broken relationships!

FAMILYLIFE[®]
Help for today. Hope for tomorrow.

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| A Cru Ministry |

¹Worldwatchmonitor.org

²worldpopulationreview.com