

RESTORATION Ministries



April 2015

Dear Friends and Prayer Partners,

Do you love deeply? Sadly, we live in a day where the love husbands and wives have for one another can grow cold resulting in a lot of heartache. It's refreshing to see spouses, who've been married for years, faithfully demonstrating Peter's exhortation in 1 Pet. 4:8, "Above all love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins."

Today we visited two precious friends we led to Christ 37 years ago. They grew in their love for Him and one another through the years, they also learned to love one another in spite of one another's faults. Several years ago the husband was nearly killed in a tragic car accident. He suffered a major brain injury and has gone through many months of hospitalization and therapy. He is in a nursing home. They continue to love one another deeply. The wife is a wonderful example to others of self-sacrificing Christian love for her husband. What an inspiration she is to us and so many to love well and love deeply!

It's our prayer this update will encourage you to continue to love deeply and to continue praying for those who come for help with their marriages.

Rejoicing in Our Redeemer,
Roger and Brenda Daum

Upcoming Conferences

"Essentials For Enjoying Marriage"

September 2015 at the East Auburn Baptist in Auburn, Maine.

Insights for Relationships by Pastor Roger Daum

A great need in our culture is for Christian couples with healthy marriages to come along side other couples to mentor them. A "mentor" is a "wise trusted teacher or guide". They are a life coach or discipler of others. We've already considered that having a problem and working on it is the first quality God looks for in a Biblical mentor.

The second characteristic of a Biblical mentor is that of being a learner. You may think you can't mentor other couples because you haven't had any formal training or a degree. There is certainly a place for those who seek a degree in marriage or family relationships. However, should you disqualify yourself if you haven't had some type of formal training? What about the apostles? Did they have degrees? In Acts 4:13, it was said of them "that they were uneducated and untrained men" however people "began to recognize them as having been acquainted with Jesus." They experienced the person and power of the living Christ and shared that with others.

Has the Lord been growing you in your marriage relationship? Have you been learning how to love and value one another and develop a strong healthy Christ centered marriage? If so, we want to encourage you to come along side another couple who needs encouragement, prayer, friendship, and the wisdom that God has taught you as a learner.

Effective mentors dig deeply into their past experience for a wealth of insights and lessons God taught them through their past trials, hurts, failures, abuse, abandonment or losses. What God has done and is doing in your life and journey provides you a platform from which to share and mentor other couples. (2 Cor. 1:3-4)

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Isaiah 58:11-12

We've started a Restoration Ministries Facebook page. Please check it out at facebook.com/restorationministriesonline.

We hope this will help connect alumni with other alumni in order to encourage, as well as share updates and offer materials that will minister to those who visit the page.

Another online opportunity is Amazon Smile. Every time you shop online, you can help Restoration Ministries! Just visit smile.amazon.com and choose Restoration Ministries Inc as your designated organization. From then on, .5% of every purchase will be donated to us!

Testimonies

A husband and wife write: *We are very grateful for your ministry and what God can do through you. We will always remember how God guided us through our problems and how you supported us. We still hit a bump once in awhile but I think everyone does. We know how to work through that now.*

A wife writes, *Your ministry touched our hearts and marriage bringing vision, healing and hope when we were lost in confusion and hurt. Thank you for serving us and leading us to the One who brings complete and perfect healing.*

A husband and wife in ministry write, *Thank you so much for being willing to pour yourself into us.*

An intern in training writes, *Overall the training has not only been educational and the passing on of an effective way to counsel, but also the continuation of the healing of my own issues and the end of 60 years of depression. The overriding lesson I've learned is God does the counseling! Each session was a consistent demonstration of how God uses a person as the conduit to interface with the person in need of God's Supernatural Counseling. The counselor becomes the Shepherd in the flesh that God uses to bring the counselee into His mighty presence where the deep issues of the heart are dealt with in a demonstration of divine power."*

Note: *This brother is now beginning to counsel those who are being referred to him.*

Praise & Prayer Items

1. For the Lord's goodness and faithfulness as He continues His work in and through the growing Restoration Ministries family. We are encouraged to hear of how God is working through those whose hearts and relationships have been healed by the Lord, to bring hope and healing to others.
2. For God's faithful provision for Restoration Ministries so we can continue to minister to the broken hearted and equip others to do the same.
3. For the Lord's strengthening in our personal lives so we stay fresh and energized by the Lord to have a maximum impact for the glory of God.
4. For Ed and Norma Gaston, our co-workers in the Philippines who are coming for additional training in May. (See Philippine update)
5. For God's spiritual and physical protection over our family.
6. Roger has recovered nicely from hip replacement surgery and the pain is gone.
7. For interns who are using what God is teaching them in training to help others.

Report From The Philippines:

We are thankful to partner with the Gastons. In recent months they ministered to Christians in a closed country where they taught pastors and their wives from 18 different tribal groups on acceptance, respect, communication, and forgiveness. In another location Norma taught women, who are experiencing suffering and persecution, about the worth of women to be empowered by God for ministry. Many women lined up for individual counseling.

In a recent trip to India they conducted trainings for Christian leaders and their wives. They reported, "Because of culture, the first day was a bit difficult because the couples would not even hold hands. As we proceeded with the sessions on intimacy, they slowly responded positively and actively participated in the discussions. The culminating event was the renewing of vows. However, for most of the couples it was their wedding day. The culture allowed eloping and some of them never had the blessing of being married by a pastor. Many younger couples were grateful they learned how to relate and communicate with each other. In a culture where women are not given much respect and attention, the wives were the most happy. After the couples left (now holding hands as they walked away), another group of 36 pastors and church leaders came to attend the Counseling Skills Seminars and the Conflict Management Seminar. Many of them heard of the Biblical counseling ministry for the first time and were so glad to learn practical skills. The Conflict Management was welcomed learning as they are experiencing a lot of issues in the churches."

Our Restoration Ministries board has approved paying for travel expenses to bring Ed and Norma to Cozad for further training with Roger May 2-16. Anyone desiring to give a gift to help cover these expenses can do so by designating it for "Gaston Training". We believe this is a great investment in a quality couple to facilitate Biblical pastoral counseling in Asia. God is opening amazing doors for them and given them favor with the Filipino government.

