

The Alsops

serving with

FAMILYLIFE®



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Strange wake-up call

At a time in life when most people are contemplating slowing down and taking it easy, Roland & Cindy Weber are doing anything but. Not yet retired from two successful, busy careers, the Webers are eagerly saying to God “Here I am, Lord. Send me!”



Actively involved in their church throughout their 42 years of marriage, the Webers were first introduced to FamilyLife™ in 2010 when Cindy came across

FamilyLife To-

day® on the radio. The Webers were so impressed by the biblically based marriage and family teaching that they soon became Legacy Partners of the ministry, followed by Group Coordinators for FamilyLife’s *Weekend to Remember*® (WTR) – encouraging more than 200 people to attend, and then they began volunteering at various WTRs across the country and the *Love Like You Mean It*™ cruise.

Shortly after attending the premiere of FamilyLife’s *Art of Marriage*® (AOM) in July 2010, Cindy awoke one Saturday morning and declared to blurry-eyed Roland, “God wants us to take the *Art of Marriage* all over the world!” Although surprised by this unusual wake-up call, experience has taught Roland that when the Spirit moved in Cindy they best listen and take action.

They immediately pursued hosting an AOM in their local church but for various reasons they could not get it off the ground. As the months of 2011 turned into the beginning of 2012 they were becoming discouraged. They didn’t understand what had happened to that mysterious Saturday morning



call from God to take AOM around the world. Soon they just put the whole idea on the backburner. Little did they know that God was at work listening and responding to the prayers of a couple more than 1,000 miles away.

Because God calls all believers to spread the gospel throughout the world, the Weber’s church launched a missions endeavor to send at least 1,000 church members outside Northwest Arkansas on a cross-cultural missions experience in the year 2012. Roland and Cindy decided to join a team going to Tres Reyes, a village of 2,000 people in the state of Quintana Roo, Mexico on the Yucatán Peninsula. The team decided that evangelism would be a major focus of their trip as well as providing practical help of laying the foundation of a much needed church building there.



During one of the team’s planning sessions Cindy felt led to try one more time and suggested they do the Spanish language version of the *Art of Marriage* as part of the mission trip. The doors swung open! The idea of a marriage conference was fully embraced by the leadership in Mexico and immediately plans were set in motion to hold the event at the Bible Institute of Cancún.

With only six weeks to prepare, the Webers immersed themselves in the AOM training materials. Not only were they leading a marriage conference for the first time but they don’t know any Spanish! Forging ahead they kept sensing

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PRAYER REQUESTS

- Continue to pray for the Content Team as we edit and evaluate materials for radio, conferences and our bookstore. Pray for God to mold and shape our team to be what He wants.
- Pray for Lisa as she is coordinating our staff wives’ retreat next weekend. The retreat theme is prayer. Pray for the staff women to hear from God during this time.
- Pray for a an AOM that will be hosted for couples who have been through traumatic life events
- Pray for the Weekend to Remember conferences that are occurring each weekend this fall. Pray that lives will be touched and marriages saved.
- Pray for our family. We are desperately needing a car since ours is 12 years old and has almost 200k miles on it. We need one we can rely on for travel and ministry.
- Pray for our daughters, Katie & Emily who are both serving in ministries to children—including special needs children.

Under His Mercy,

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God saying, "Trust Me!" God not only provided all the financial resources needed for the trip but also Ministry Partners to cover the entire cost of the AOM books and DVDs. Originally planning for only five couples, the event quickly blossomed to 100 people, turning away 150 due to space limitations.



With a week to go before their trip, the Webers were taking inventory of the materials they needed to ship ahead when suddenly they discovered that all the AOM manuals were in English! They quickly called FamilyLife and the staff worked diligently over the weekend to exchange the manuals for the Spanish version. The mission

team divided all one hundred manuals amongst their thirteen suitcases and, glory to God, only four manuals were misplaced in route!

People flocked to the event, some coming from five hours away. The singles on the mission team provided childcare each night for forty children in a garage area while their parents attended the AOM. Other team members prayed for attendees prayer requests throughout the event.



God moved mightily! Twenty-four people gave their lives to Christ during the event. (Another 21 came to Christ in the village during their afternoon door-to-door visits.) One couple from Cancún, married just six years, decided they want to leave a legacy and cancelled plans for divorce. Another couple who traveled five hours to attend asked the Webers to come to their village because the need is so great – at least 300 people would come. Many tears were shed and marriages

given new hope in Christ.

So what is next for the Webers? God has already opened a door for them to host an *Art of Marriage* in Hawaii when they visit their son and his family next month. Just a few days ago an opportunity to host an AOM in Alaska has appeared on the horizon. Discussion has started about returning to Mexico to host AOM again. They hope to soon share the AOM Spanish version in their own community through their Hispanic church.

And they aren't even retired yet!



FAMILYLIFE® presents
 the art of **marriage**™

The *Art of Marriage* is currently available in the following versions:

- ♥ DVD Event
- ♥ Small Group Edition
- ♥ On-line Edition

Currently available languages:

- ♥ English audio
- ♥ English subtitles
- ♥ Spanish subtitles & manuals

For more information about the *Art of Marriage* please visit:
www.theartofmarriage.com



The Toolbox

The time has come for individual Christians to step-up where they live and make a difference. There are hundreds of thousands of believers right now who are ready to join the HomeBuilders movement, but many are idle because of three factors:

- ♥ They need a clear challenge that they can be used by God to see people's lives transformed
- ♥ They need some very simple, yet compelling training on how they can be effective
- ♥ They need tools and resources that work

FamilyLife has a toolbox full of new tools to equip those ready to bring hope to those in their circle of influence.

Visit FamilyLife.com for more information.