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**Alsops serving with FamilyLife**

Help for today. Hope for tomorrow.

### 25 Years & Counting!

On July 8, 1989 we were married in a congregation in Dallas, TX. We had met five years earlier on a ministry campus in south Dallas where Lisa was assigned to work and I was studying to be a Bible translator. In the years between meeting and marrying we had become good friends, supporting each other as we served God and even ministered in foreign countries. When we both found ourselves back in the Dallas area in early 1989 we realized God had a plan for our lives together. I asked Lisa to marry me at the Dallas Arboretum on our first official date! After a few moments of shocked silence Lisa said, "Yes!" Our marriage began in ministry and friendship and continues to be anchored there.



## A MARRIAGE CHANGING EVENT FOR COUPLES

FamilyLife® announces "I Still Do™", a powerful, practical, one-day marriage event where couples can invest in and strengthen their marriage. Couples will join thousands of others to affirm the fundamental importance of strong, healthy, committed marriages in every culture. By exploring God's design for marriage, couples will have a chance to reaffirm that their marriage matters – to their children and to the rest of society.

### Save the Date!

**August 2, 2014**

**Chicago, Illinois**  
Allstate Arena  
6920 N. Mannheim  
Rosemont, IL 60018

**August 23, 2014**

**Portland, Oregon**  
Moda Center  
One Center Court  
Portland, OR 97227

**October 4, 2014**

**Washington, DC**  
Verizon Center  
601 F St. NW  
Washington, DC  
20004

# ITALY – SUMMER 2014

Our family was able to go to Italy for three weeks during June and July. It was a tremendous opportunity to bring encouragement and supplies to a group of American church planters and evangelists living in Italy. The country that once was the seat of

Christianity is now a spiritually dark and economically distressed area. The people seem to be moderately depressed and rarely laugh or smile in public. Seeing this group of American missionaries

bringing hope and displaying God’s grace was a tremendous encouragement to our family as well. We were able to take part in their Incanto church services and were able to witness the baptism of two new believers on the beach of the Mediterranean Sea.

Lisa’s knee limited her participation in services because she could not climb the stairs to the fourth floor room where the services are held. She was thrilled when we could meet with new Italian brothers and sisters in Christ for coffee, meals and fellowship at outdoor venues.



**L to R:** Incanto service, Bible study materials for the staff women, services on the beach, baptism celebration



Our family was able to stay with missionary friends for a week in an 18<sup>th</sup> century villa in the small town of Galliera outside of the medieval city of Bologna in north central Italy. From there we took day trips to Verona, Florence and Venice. This beautiful area of Italy is known as the breadbasket of Europe. The history, art and beauty of this region kept us amazed and thanking God for His creation and the gift of micro creation that He has given to His children.

At the end of the week our girls headed back to the coast and we headed to Bellagio on Lake Como for three days to celebrate our anniversary. It was a delightful, quiet time to reflect on the love and life that we share. Our greatest gift from God is our marriage and we thank Him for it.



Out of the north comes golden splendor; Around God is awesome majesty.

Blessings,  & Lisa