

Nick & Lisa Alsop serving with FamilyLife

January 2015

Hundreds of couples in many cities throughout China have been patiently waiting for the day the FamilyLife Art Of Marriage would be published in Mandarin.



We believe that 'The Art of Marriage' could be a most strategic tool to help launch movements of family reformation in the Chinese family and to help them to lead others to Christ.

On December 9th, The Art of Marriage (Mandarin) finally became available as a legally published resource in China! That week in December we had 4,000 copies of the AOM distributed to hundreds of couples that had been waiting in several cities in China.

We are excited to report that over HALF A MILLION Art of Marriage kits have been distributed in both English and Spanish around the world. Last year alone over 132,000 people attended one of these life changing two-day conferences on marriage and family.

**happier, healthier
marriages start
with God's
flawless design**



Understanding the rigors that marriages of full time ministers undergo, FamilyLife has planned an Art of Marriage Event specifically for Athletes in Action staff, employees and their spouses. We are pleased to be able to share this great resource to help those who spend their lives sharing the gospel with others. Please pray for our team as they lead this event over Valentine's Day weekend.

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In the spring of last year, Jim Reece, the CEO of The Atlanta Mission, became convicted that he was spiritually shepherding the lives of hundreds and thousands of homeless men and women, but was not doing a good job with two men who married his daughters. So he challenged them to go through **Stepping Up** with him. The impact was so strong that he began talking to his staff about taking some of the men from the Atlanta Mission (one of the largest homeless missions in the country) through it too.

125-135 men attended and nearly all of them completed the 10 sessions. Jim told us that for some of these men, this is the first thing they've ever FINISHED in their entire lives. So they catered a meal and fed over 150 men before the graduation ceremony began.

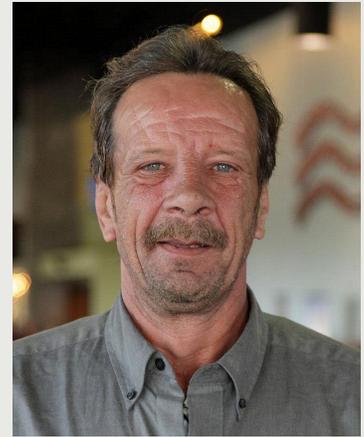
Dennis Rainey, president of FamilyLife, flew to Atlanta to be a part of this incredible event. He met men who shared incredible stories...one man

who said his dad has been in jail his whole life and that he never met him until he was 25 and that his mom would leave him for weeks at a time to binge on drugs beginning when he was six. Man after man who was separated from his wife and children by his poor choices and determined to get his wife and family back... each of these men made a "step" coming out of the series.

From Wall Street to The Atlanta Mission. Men are men. Broken. Selfish. Needing redemption that can only be found in our Savior. Regardless of their station in life, men want to discover how to be the man, husband, father, and grandfather God wants them to be.

Stepping Up is helping them to do that. We are deeply honored to work with a ministry that cares about the even weakest in our society.

If you want to make a difference in someone's life with **Stepping Up** please let us know. We would be thrilled to get it into your hands.



Leslie Dean Drake

Dean passed away two weeks ago less than a mile from our front door. It was a bitterly cold couple of days here and the police say he died of exposure. He was still homeless as he had been for almost thirty years.

It wasn't for lack of options because Nick had found low and no cost housing for him but Dean just wasn't too interested. Over the few years that we knew him Dean had accepted lots of other kinds of help from us.

The one thing Dean wasn't interested in receiving? Jesus. Oh, he heard the gospel but Dean rarely gave much thought to tomorrow much less eternity. So sometime over the weekend Dean slipped into eternity alone. We have no confidence that he was met by his loving Savior. That thought is so heart breaking. we had to write this message to you, my friend. Dean was sure he would be fine and life would go on as it had before. Please don't make the same mistake. Our days are numbered but none of us know what that number is. If you know someone who needs to know Jesus, please don't wait. Tell them today. If you need some help. Call us. We can help you.

