



"Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it" Psalm 127:1

Thankfulness

Fall is beautiful in Little Rock. The colors just showed up, and with so many hills, you can see all of them at once. It's amazing how there is nothing, then all at once, the color is just there! Or is that true? Maybe I'm too busy to notice until the trees get so vivid I can't help but notice. Have you ever felt that way about the holiday season? That suddenly it is just there...and then you have to scramble to be ready? I want to encourage you (and myself) to get an early start on focusing on the important things: God's mercy, thankfulness, family and friends. I sometimes tend to think that if I get the "stuff" done, THEN I will have time for reflection. Fortunately, I've been reading some of the articles at FamilyLife.com/articles, and they are helping me to begin preparing my heart now. There are lots of articles available for all the holidays, and practical suggestions for adding meaning and traditions to your celebrations.



Our friends from Kansas are thinking about recording the next FamilyLifeToday radio program while touring the ministry headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas!

Do you know about the *homebuilders Couples Series*? This is our small-group Bible study series that focuses on practical application and Bible Truth. There are eight studies to choose from; Your spouse is a gift from God, Fighting fair, Why kids need discipline, Bringing God into your family, making decisions together, Guiding teens in developing convictions and the power of prayer in marriage. Thousands have taken these studies from newlyweds, engaged and those who have been married many years with solid marriages and others that need immediate help. See www.familylife.com/homebuilders and let us know what questions you have about ministering to your family and friends.

Weekend to Remember Marriage Getaway life change; *I had no interest in going. I could care less to attend a Weekend to Remember. Wow! This was the best decision my wife has ever made for us. To all men, if you want a true marriage, go to a Weekend to Remember. It will change your life for the better, forever*—Anonymous, Denver, CO. See www.familylife.com/wtr for information and the U.S. Schedule. Please let me know if you would like discount and gift information!

Our Family update; Lila had four girlfriends visit last week and it was awesome seeing them! We plan to visit Lila's parents over Thanksgiving weekend in SE Kansas then we will meet Steve's parents in Missouri a few days after that. We plan to be in Topeka for a few days in mid-December. Marshall and Maddie finish their home school cooperative right before Thanksgiving and Steve will be busy at the ministry through the end of December as things ramp up for year end. Our son and daughter-in-law, Ansen and Dri, are expecting their first child in January. We appreciate your prayers for them, a strong finish for the kids at school, safe travel for us in the coming weeks and for impact by FamilyLife around the world!

Love, Steve, Lila, Marshall & Maddie