

# The Malaysian Family Needs Survey 2014

(Guide Book to Journeying with Your Church through the Survey)

*Jointly organized by*

**National Evangelical Fellowship of Malaysia (NECF) and  
Family Ministries Malaysia (a fellowship of Family Ministry  
Organizations and Leaders)**



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**National Evangelical Christian Fellowship**  
(Persaudaraan Kristian Evangelikal Nasional Malaysia – PPM3372/83)  
NECF Malaysia is a member of the World Evangelical Alliance,  
an NGO in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

14 April 2014

Dear Pastors / Elders / Church Leaders,

Greetings!

The Malaysian Church has been experiencing alarming rate of family struggles in various forms in recent decades. The recent Malay Mail online report of 'one divorce in Malaysia every 10 minutes' should prompt the Christian community to seriously examine our own marital health.

A Church becomes dysfunctional as Christian members of their families struggle with strained relationships. The breakdown of a marriage, the most intimate of all human relationships, mars the display of the agape kind of love between God and His Body, the Church, to the world. It incapacitates the family from passing the faith from generation to generation and, in doing so, weakens God's bride, the Church.

No one doubts the Church desires to inspire and equip families who will build God's kingdom and impact their communities for Christ. This is an overwhelming task at times.

We desire to partner with the Church, with tangible supports, in such endeavour as a part of our nationbuilding agenda.

National Evangelical Christian Fellowship (NECF) is jointly collaborating with Family Ministries Malaysia (a fellowship of family ministry organisations and leaders) and FamilyLife of U.S.A. (an internationally-known family ministry organisation, a division of Campus Crusade for Christ International) to coordinate the Malaysia National Family Needs Survey\*. All information gathered from individual participating churches will be kept private and confidential and is combined to form the national composite statistics.

The findings of the survey will be used to strategize how we build healthy families in the Malaysian Church in the years ahead, including determining the focus of the Malaysia Family Conference planned for January 2015.

A 114-page Comprehensive National Report of the survey will be made available to your church free of charge in the last quarter of 2014. A sample report is attached.

Pastor Matthew Ling has been appointed to coordinate the survey.

We invite you to be a part of this historic national survey. We are sending the relevant information on the survey for your attention.

Please let us know, if you need further information on the survey.



Eugene Yapp  
Secretary-General  
NECF Malaysia

\* We are focusing on the English-speaking congregations only at this stage.



## Introduction to the Malaysian National Family Needs Survey

No church, community, or nation will rise higher than the spiritual condition of its families. Healthy marriages and families build healthy churches, capable of impacting their communities and nation.

*Are the families under your care spiritually and relationally healthy?*

Although each Sunday they appear to be doing fine, you know appearances can be deceiving. You get hints of unhealthiness between Sundays when someone just drops into your office, runs into you at the grocery store, or drops by your home—maybe in crisis, but most of the time in loneliness. Or you hear statistics being quoted in seminars that in Malaysia, there is a divorce happening every 10 minutes. On top of this, we have a generation coming of age asking, “How do I do Christian marriage and family?” In light of what they’ve seen growing up they are skeptical and afraid.

But what of those who silently struggle in their family weaknesses: weak in their knowledge of God, weak in their convictions about God, weak in their experience of God, and weak in their understanding of how to love one another? This is not how God intended it to be. God designed the family to be the birthplace and residence of Christianity and yet in Sarawak for instance where the percentage of Christians is highest in Malaysia, the divorce rates are also one of the highest in the country. The family is the place where the knowledge, fear and love of the Lord are taught by parents and learned by children and yet, Christian families are losing the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> generations like never before. If the soul of Malaysia is to be restored, it will have to be done one household, one marriage, one family at a time.

Those of us who seek to minister to marriages and households know all too well the obstacles we face in ministering to today’s 21<sup>st</sup> century Malaysian family. But do we really know the needs of those living in these marriages, families and households? You may be thinking, “I counsel a lot—I know the needs of the people.” I’m sure that is true—as far as it goes. Those who counsel all too well know people’s objections to how God and life are treating them. But modern methods and technology allow even more sophisticated measurements of what people are thinking, feeling and really need.

FamilyLife offers churches a resource called the Family Needs Survey. Just like a doctor relies on time-tested questions and assessments to offer an accurate picture of our health, the Family Needs Survey can provide an objective, anonymous, and comprehensive look at the spiritual and relational health of individuals, marriages and families in your congregation. The church’s findings provide in-the-moment portraits of their current needs and health, as well as guidance, in using these findings to provide direction in their ministry planning to grow spiritually strong and healthy marriages and families.

With some 350,000 respondents from participating U.S. church's assessments, FamilyLife has been able to assemble aggregate or composite reports of findings that offer an emerging national perspective. While the Family Needs Survey was intended as a tool for 'one-church-at-a-time' with the purpose of identifying and prioritizing the needs of church members, provide clarity to relational and parental statuses and health, guide the formation of intentional, sustainable family ministry, stir healthy dialog among church leaders about reported needs and current church ministry emphasis, and direction in curriculum choices, sermon preparation and future direction for one church, the composite findings have stirred conversations in other churches, too.

*Do you sense the opportunity?* People are hungry for what God says about the family issues they are facing. The challenge is finding some fresh new ways to feed them a tasty meal! Ephesians 4:11 says that Christ gave apostles, prophets, evangelists and pastors/teachers, "for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to build up the body of Christ" (Ephesians 4:12, NASB). But where does the work of service start? Sunday School? The sermon? Wednesday night prayer meeting? No—because faith formation begins at home (Deuteronomy 6:1-9) and godly offspring are a product of oneness in marriage in the godly home (Malachi 2:14-15).

What makes the Family Needs Survey unique is that it provides 3 views of the findings: overall, by gender and by stages of life (single, married, widowed, divorced, and remarried) and assesses the congregation, as a whole. Through the aggregate or composite view, the same findings are offered—giving form to the same time-tested questions and assessments to offer an accurate picture of Malaysian Christian relational and family health.

Imagine how the Malaysian National Family Needs Survey can assist you with identifying the greatest needs of marriages and families in Malaysia—and if you choose, to do so in your congregation, too. Imagine as well, help and hope as your focus turns to meeting those needs. More importantly, imagine not having to do it all on your own.

For more information, check out [http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFYmVlrRpZ\\_PYAY2\\_72Sozg](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFYmVlrRpZ_PYAY2_72Sozg) or [www.familylife.com/FNS](http://www.familylife.com/FNS). To register your church to participate in the Malaysian National Family Needs Survey, send an email request immediately to either Glenn Gritzon ([ggritzon@familylife.com](mailto:ggritzon@familylife.com)) who will help you set up the survey in your local church. For further enquiries, email Pastor Matthew Ling ([matthewling.life@gmail.com](mailto:matthewling.life@gmail.com)) or Dr. Herbert Tan ([uncleherbie@gmail.com](mailto:uncleherbie@gmail.com)).



Glenn Gritzon  
FamilyLife USA  
(A division of Campus Crusade for Christ,  
USA)



Dr. Herbert Tan  
Family Ministries Malaysia  
(A fellowship of Family Ministry  
Organizations and Leaders)

## An Invitation to the Malaysian Family Needs Survey

National Evangelical Christian Fellowship (NECF) is collaborating with Family Ministries Malaysia (a fellowship of family ministry organizations and leaders) and FamilyLife of U.S.A. (an internationally-known family ministry organization, a division of Campus Crusade for Christ International) to coordinate the Malaysia National Family Needs Survey (MNFNS) for the English speaking congregations initially. The findings of the surveys will be used to strategize how we build healthy families in the Malaysian Church in the years ahead, including determining the focus of the Malaysia Family Conference planned for January 2015.

### The National Family Needs Survey

The Family Needs Survey is an online-based tool designed and provided by FamilyLife that covers the following:

- The Wellbeing Sections assesses the responder's receptiveness to help others and receive help, themselves.
- The Marital/Relational Health section assesses three key components: marital satisfaction, positive marital bond and danger signs.
- The Parental Health section assesses nine key indicators of effective parenting.
- The Spiritual Belief Section assesses nine core Christian perspectives.
- The Spiritual Activities Section reveals the respondent's faith formation and practices between Sundays.
- The enhanced Demographic Section provides us with an essential understanding of key roles and statuses held by those responding.

You may watch the youtube videos to understand better the various aspects of the survey at [http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFYmVlrRpZ\\_PYAY2\\_72Sozg](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFYmVlrRpZ_PYAY2_72Sozg).

### Survey Report

A 114-page Comprehensive National Survey Report (containing analysis of the findings of the survey) will be made available to the Christian community free of charge in the last quarter of 2014. Please visit <http://www.familylife.com/FNS> for a sample report.

### Survey timeline

**17<sup>th</sup> August, 2014.** Launch of nationwide phase of the survey. The closing date is **15<sup>th</sup> October, 2014.**  
**16<sup>th</sup> November, 2014.** Completion of survey report for distribution.

**Confidentiality:** All information gathered from individual participating churches will be kept private and confidential and is combined to form the national composite statistics. We are focusing on the English-speaking congregations only at this stage.

### What is Next?

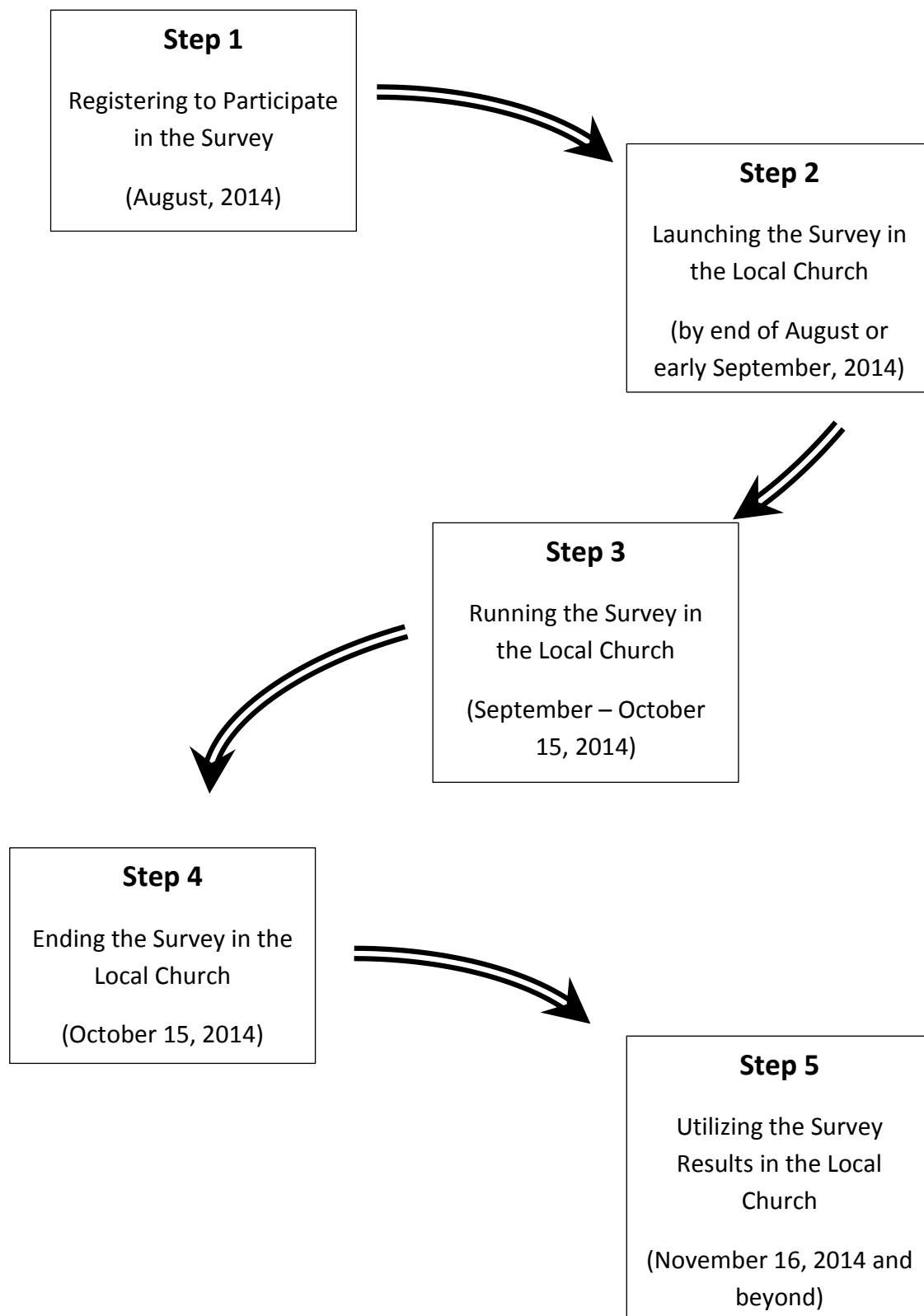
Please confirm with us your decision to participate in this historic national survey. If you are also interested in finding out the family needs of your own congregation, please contact us.

Pastor Matthew Ling

**Survey Coordinator on behalf of NECF**

Email address: [matthewling.life@gmail.com](mailto:matthewling.life@gmail.com). Phone: 019-8873585

## Flowchart for the Survey Process – The Big Picture



## Step 1 – Registering to Participate in the Survey (August, 2014)

### The Pre-survey Preparations

1. This step should be completed soonest to allow sufficient time for securing surveys from people. We suggest that you begin in **mid-August** and complete it **by end of August, 2014**.
2. A Survey Team (the size of which depends on your needs), who is equipped to answer any questions the congregation puts forth and guide the congregation through the entire survey process, is to be formed.
3. The leader of the team, designated as the Coordinator, is to serve as a liaison person between the church and the team of Survey Coaches (contact Pastor Matthew Ling for Survey Coaches nearest to you – [matthewling.life@gmail.com](mailto:matthewling.life@gmail.com)).
4. The Survey Team shall carry out the following.
  - a. To register the church for the survey with Bro. Glenn Gritzon ([ggritzon@familylife.com](mailto:ggritzon@familylife.com)) and obtain a specific URL website address for survey data entry of your church.
  - b. To plan how the survey is to be organised in the church. This may include the following.
    - i. To meet the church leadership to determine the process on the promotion and the conduct of the actual survey and their actual implementations.
    - ii. To involve the church leadership in challenging the congregation to complete the survey during the few weeks allocated for this.
    - iii. To plan the details of the Survey Launch Sunday.
  - c. To organise for those unable to use the online survey to use the hardcopy survey form. They shall update online of the hardcopy survey latest by the Friday following the Sunday of survey and inform the Survey Coach of the weekly count of these online data entries. The completed hardcopies the survey shall be kept in a secure place until confirmation from Bro. Glenn is received on their successful entry. When the survey comes to a close, such hardcopies will be destroyed to keep them private and confidential.
5. Following successful registration of the church to participate in the survey, you will receive something similar to this from Bro. Glenn Gritzon:

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

I am excited to welcome you and your church to this pioneering effort to understand the Christian households of Malaysia. The objective, anonymous and comprehensive characteristics of the survey will provide a clear big picture view of the health and needs across your nation. And if desired, to look more closely at your city, or your church. To keep open the options of looking at the findings as a city, or as a church, FamilyLife provides each church their own online portal for participating in this national effort. All responses remain confidential as individual respondents, yet can be associated to their region, city and/or their church.



1. General Set-up Questionnaire: To assist me in setting up your survey tools (a unique URL, just for your church, web coding to bring people to your church website to take the survey, and so forth), and through your survey process, may I ask you your assistance? Kindly complete and return to me only (at ggritzon@familylife.com) the attached questionnaire. As I have walked alongside hundreds of churches in conducting their Family Needs Surveys I have found this information helpful as I assist and pray for God's favor on your survey efforts.
2. Survey via Email: Please find your \_\_\_\_\_ URL  
as: [http://surveygoldcloud.com/s/\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_/\\_\\_\\_\\_.htm](http://surveygoldcloud.com/s/_____/____.htm). As you may send this invitation to people by email, we suggest you use a simple hyperlink such as \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Survey via Church Website: If your church has a website (some of the information requested in the questionnaire), then it is far better to invite people to go to your church's website and launch the survey from there. I am providing the web pasting code for you, if you have a website. That coding is:  
`<a href="http://surveygoldcloud.com/s/_____/____.htm">Go to the survey</a>`  
I have attached the header image which serves well as a visual to connect your bulletin or visual invitation materials.
4. Survey via QR code: We live in an interesting time of smartphones, tablets and devices with cameras that are able to read QR codes. For that reason I have also attached a QR code for \_\_\_\_\_ for those who might want to use it.
5. Survey via hardcopy: I have also attached the hard copy file, for those who are not computer-friendly, or are people who prefer to see the whole survey and flip from section to section as their thoughts are gathered. I have attached an Instruction file on how to equip your volunteers to transfer those hard copy responses into your URL.

Blessings as you get started! So glad you are joining this national effort.

## Step 2 – Launching the Survey in the Local Church (by end of August or early September, 2014)

### The Survey

1. The launch of the survey should take place as soon as the pre-survey preparations are in place. We suggest that the local church be ready to launch the survey by **end of August** or latest by **early September, 2014**.
2. Utilizing the links and URLs provided by Bro. Glenn Gritzon that is specific to your church, begin to think and plan how to integrate it into your church communication system which may include one or more of the following to secure maximum participation:
  - a. Church website
  - b. Worship service bulletin
  - c. Existing networks like via CGs
  - d. Emails
  - e. Others as is relevant to your church
3. To organise for the church leadership team (including the top leader, supporting staff, and those leading various church ministries) to complete the Church's online Leadership Assessment (see [Sample Church Leadership Assessment](#)) and be the first to take the Church's online *Family Needs Survey* (see [Sample MNFNS online survey](#)).
4. The Survey Team reviews the feedback from the leadership team on any issue relating to the survey and makes any needed corrective action before the church-wide launch.
5. On the Survey Launching Sunday, your instructions to the congregation may include the following.
  - a. *The survey is for all adults 18+ years old.*
  - b. *The web location of Family Needs Survey, highlighting the purposes and instructions.*
  - c. *The survey options: taking it before leaving church/taking it on own at home/combination.*
  - d. *The hardcopy survey eligibility, confidentiality protocols, and where to turn them in.*
  - e. *The survey update for the congregation on the following Sunday. Bro. Glenn provides the midweek update on response progress weekly.*

### **Step 3 – Running the Survey in the Local Church (September – October 15, 2014)**

1. The running of the survey should be done over September and early October.
2. On the subsequent Sundays following Survey launch, you may consider the following in building the momentum for the survey.
  - a. *To update the congregation on the survey.*
  - b. *To give directions again on the survey and to provide computer stations with helpers for those who haven't taken it.*
3. On the last Sunday of the survey, a survey update and reminder will be given during worship and in all printed materials. Directions will be provided and computer stations with helpers will be available for those who haven't taken it. In addition, a 'may we ask a favor of you' request is made for the congregation to complete the hardcopy of the survey before leaving church on that day.
4. If your local church is planning to order a report specific to your church, you will need to target at least 50% participation from the congregation size. The higher the percentage of participation, the more accurate will be the analysis.
5. If your church size is too small for any significant analysis, partnering with other churches in the city may provide a more meaningful result to the survey and lay the ground for future city-wide partnership in family ministries.

### **Step 4 – Ending the Survey in the Local Church (October 15, 2014)**

1. Plan to end the survey in your local church by October 15, 2014. If you desire a local church analysis, you need to secure at least 50% participation from your congregation.
2. We aim to secure 15,000 responses nationwide for a more credible analysis. Therefore every effort to secure maximum participation in the participating local church is important.

## **Step 5 – Utilizing the Survey Results in the Local Church (November 16, 2014 and beyond)**

1. This step helps bridge the survey results with local church planning and ministry.
2. FamilyLife will provide the interpretation of the findings through the e-Book that provides an objective presentation of the findings and interpretations essential to convey appropriate affirmations, concerns and warnings, both in the Composite and for the complete survey churches.
3. The Family Needs Survey is a planning tool—so the discussion of action steps is natural and expected. Survey debriefing personnel will be arranged for churches which are looking at their individual local church report or at national forums on Family Ministry issues and consultation.
4. The local church will have on hand key information that will guide the church's planning and ministry direction. The church will see in the analysis concrete indication of felt needs, ministry focus needs, effectiveness of programming, and the health of the families. These hard data will become launching pads for dialogue that will lead to more effective planning of future direction. Leaders ministering to different age groups and people in different seasons of life and family will have greater clarity what to do and how to be more relevant.
5. There is a survey fee for churches wanting an individual church analysis and interpretation of data that is specific to the particular church. The table below lists the fees for the church-wide survey. The survey package consists of the following.
  - a. A digital 114-page Comprehensive Report, a 24 page Snapshot Album, and a 6 page Executive Summary Report [Note each church receives all three]
  - b. A 90-minute videoconference to unpack the survey findings.

<b>Church Size (Weekly Adult Attendance)</b>	<b>Fees (US\$)</b>
<200	<b>\$350</b>
201-600	<b>\$500</b>
601-999	<b>\$850</b>
1000 & above	<b>\$1,000</b>



## Family Needs Survey FAQs-Malaysia 2014

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A **YouTube** format of the following can be viewed at <http://www.familylife.com/familyneedssurvey>. The following FAQs are organized to match the 10 video segments.



As you place your cursor over the Full-Screen icon (green arrow lower right) and then click PLAYLIST, you will see a Menu of 10 video discussions of the frequently asked questions surrounding the Family Needs Survey.

In each video segment you will hear Glenn & Jo Gritzon—Marriage & Family Ministry Research Specialists with FamilyLife responding to the overarching question, and in doing so expand their answers into the practical components your church may experience.

For those who ‘just want the facts’, the following tabular listing of responses to the FAQs is provided. All FAQs are arranged under the YouTube video heading in which they are discussed.

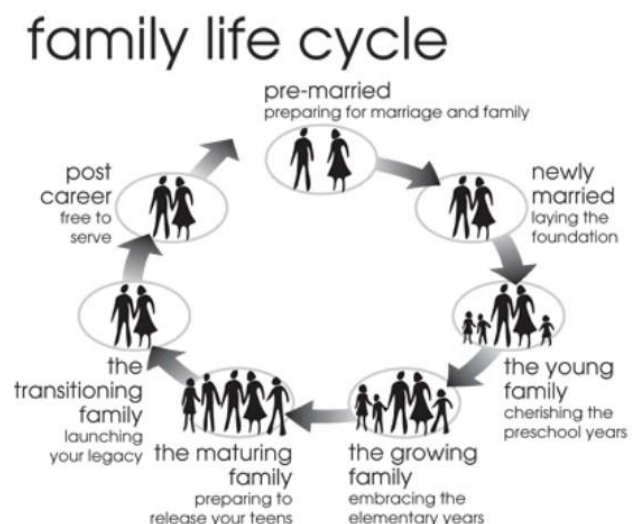
0	<b>NeedsSurveyOverview</b> by Family Needs Survey-FamilyLife
1	<b>What is FNS</b> by Family Needs Survey-FamilyLife
2	<b>Why Would A Church Use FNS</b> by Family Needs Survey-FamilyLife
3	<b>EasyUseFNS</b> by Family Needs Survey-FamilyLife
4	<b>Info on FNS</b> by Family Needs Survey-FamilyLife
5	<b>Assistance for FNS</b> by Family Needs Survey-FamilyLife
6	<b>Assistance After FNS</b> by Family Needs Survey-FamilyLife
7	<b>Approach Church About FNS</b> by Family Needs Survey-FamilyLife
8	<b>IdealTimeForFNS</b> by Family Needs Survey-FamilyLife
9	<b>UseFindingsFNS</b> by Family Needs Survey-FamilyLife

### Overview Synopsis (05:40)

[Special Note: The phrase *HomeBuilders movement* refers to inviting everyone passionate about effectively developing godly marriages and families who change the world, one home at a time to grab a tool as a first step, to family reformation. The invitation is to 'Help Others' and is explained at <http://www.familylife.com/help-others>. FamilyLife seeks to both *minister to* (prepare, enrich and restore a family we minister to) we also seek to *minister with* (provide tools, coaching and encouragement) these same families, to equip and resource them to minister to others in their household, church and community.]

### What is the Family Needs Survey? (01:36)

- The *Family Needs Survey*...is like a home inspection that examines the households that make up the church family, as they are live it out their 'one another' lives together, between Sundays.
- The *Family Needs Survey*... is an objective, anonymous, and comprehensive instrument to gather 1<sup>st</sup> person information regarding: demographics and stage in the family life cycle, marital/relational statuses and health, parental statuses and health, measures of well being, spiritual beliefs and activities, as well as insight into current needs, one's desire for help in this need area from the church, and the priority seen among the top 3 needs. The invitation is for all adults (that is age 18 or older, single or married, with or without children, caring for an aging parent or an aging parent—the desire is for a complete church family portrait in order to minister to all households, as they are formed.
- The *Family Needs Survey*... is a ministry planning tool providing pastors and church leaders with objective, factual information about the individuals, and households from which your church gathers for worship and participate in the church's mission and purposes.
- The actual 184 Family Needs Survey questions can be seen in the Paper Ballot and Leadership Assessment at <http://www.familylife.com/familyneedssurvey>



### Why would a church use the Family Needs Survey? (02:57)

- A church can use the *Family Needs Survey* to...benefit from a fresh set of eyes who bring experience in ministering to families who can offer an objective set of findings pointing out 'what is well', where there is seen 'wear and tear' requiring maintenance, and where there are 'critical warnings' where areas need to be addressed before remodeling or building onto existing ministries.
- A church can use the *Family Needs Survey* to...encourage anonymous input by way of the ease (10-15 minute for most people) and confidential format (completed online, wherever Internet access is available). FamilyLife provides a church with a unique URL, full web pasting information

and a QR code to allow participating to fit into everyone's already busy schedules. A church can use the *Family Needs Survey* to...

- A church can use the *Family Needs Survey* with...those reluctant to go online and/or without Internet access by way of a 'hard-copy' version of the assessment (see Paper Ballot at <http://www.familylife.com/familyneedssurvey>). FamilyLife helps the church follow the provided confidentiality protocols to allow full confidence that responses offered remain anonymous. The *Family Needs Survey* findings assembled by FamilyLife are presented in an aggregate or combined format-only.
- A church can use the *Family Needs Survey* to...benefit from FamilyLife's experience surrounding the 31 needs (since 1999) known to be significant in assessing the health, strength and spiritual life of individuals within Christian churches. As a skilled 'home inspector', FamilyLife has developed essential objective measures and rubrics to identify affirmations (what is well), concerns (areas of wear and tear needing attention), and warnings (indicators of instability needing urgent attention) in the individual lives and households of your church.
- A church can use the *Family Needs Survey* to...correlate a church leader perception of current ministry emphasis across the 31 needs by the aggregate individual expressions of the 31 needs, as viewed in their lives between Sundays. The resulting quad map serves as a ministry planning tool, for years to come.
- A church can use the *Family Needs Survey* to...speak only of the needs and other measures as they exist, at the time of the assessment. The *Family Needs Survey* cannot be thought of, or used as a grade or evaluation of past or present ministry efforts, staff or leadership. It is merely a 'snapshot' of who God has currently gathered, the indicators of the needs, health and activities of their current lives between Sundays.
- A church can use the *Family Needs Survey* to...use the findings to increase dialog necessary to construct an intentional and sustainable 3-5 year marriage and family ministry plan that has a goal of growing spiritually strong marriages and households.

#### ***How easy is it to implement (conduct) the Family Needs Survey?*** (00:45)

- The ease of the *Family Needs Survey* is found in...its digital, online format. An example of the NECF Malaysian National Family Needs Survey capable of engaging individuals can be viewed at <http://surveygoldcloud.com/s/1344BE3B11AC4ED6/108.htm>. Rather than a final question asking the city nearest to them, the URL would be specific for their church, and aggregate their responses with the rest of their church family. For those completing the Leadership Assessment, FamilyLife provides both a print or online option on request(see online option at <http://surveygoldcloud.com/s/1344BE3B11AC4ED6/108.htm> )
- The ease of *the Family Needs Survey* is found in...its being completed by most people in 10 to 15 minutes. A 'Save & Return Later' feature allows completing a portion of the online survey when a busy life allows, and then return to complete and click 'Submit' later.
- The ease of the *Family Needs Survey* is found in...its ability to be viewed and completed on most computer, tablet and smartphone internet browsing devices. For the visually impaired, the browser screen can be set to as much as 400%, and still retain all online formatting.
- The ease of *the Family Needs Survey* is found in...FamilyLife providing and 'coaches' assisting you to use your church website to draw people to your unique survey URL. This allows the pastor and church leaders to express their desires for the Family Needs Survey findings and plan to

share the findings, as they are shared. By drawing people to the church website, all instructions and helps are located with the survey link.

***What information does the Family Needs Survey provide (01:25)***

- The *Family Needs Survey* findings provide...three views of the Malaysian National Family Needs Survey findings (and also for each church or city seeking their own reports): the Executive Summary (a one-page high-altitude view of the key indicators), the Snapshot Album (a twenty-four page final-approach view of the key components making up the key indicators), and a one hundred and twenty-four page pilot's view of all components needed to 'land-the-plane')—all of which serve to build your individual 3-5 year plan.
- The *Family Needs Survey* findings provide...a stimulus for conversations about marriage, family and God's purposes and plans for both in His kingdom.
- The *Family Needs Survey* findings provide...multiple views appropriate to different audiences:
  - The Executive Report is only valuable once the other two views are understood. Then it serves as a quick reminder of the key components and the 3-5 year plan seeking to respond to these measures. See Executive Report imbedded as initial six pages of Composite Comprehensive Report lower left quadrant <http://www.familylife.com/familyneedssurvey>).
  - The Snapshot Album is appropriate for all audiences—and is the most widely shared form of the findings. Everyone who took the survey will be able to see how their responses aided us in seeing their expression of their needs, their measure of marital/relational and parental health and activities, their spiritual beliefs and activities and how their stage of life fits into the aggregate of all individuals and their households making up the church. See Super-Composite Snapshot Album lower left quadrant <http://www.familylife.com/familyneedssurvey>).
  - The Comprehensive Report zooms-in on all 184 questions overall, by gender and by stage of life. This view of the findings provides in-depth understanding of the affirmations, concerns and warning plus creates additional questions to being to both FamilyLife and the assessment coaches to fine-tune ministry planning. See Super-Composite Comprehensive Report lower left quadrant <http://www.familylife.com/familyneedssurvey>).
- The *Family Needs Survey* findings provide...a set of finding views that lends itself to building a marriage and family ministry team, to review and seek to understand the findings from more than just the pastoral/staff/leadership perspectives. Everyone brought their thoughts regarding the questions into the survey findings—it is a benefit to include those sources in understanding what the responses mean, and what forms of ministry would be effective responses.
- The *Family Needs Survey* findings provide... a set of finding views that will trigger individual ministry passions to be revealed and opportunities to invite those passions to become involved in the 3-5 year plans, as hands-on workers.



***What assistance does the church receive in preparing before/while conducting the Family Needs Survey? (04:45)***

- The assistance in preparing before/while conducting the *Family Needs Survey* includes...includes both a Family Ministries Malaysia 'coach' as well as email or Skype access to FamilyLife's Marriage & Family Ministry Research Specialist/FNS Director.
- The assistance in preparing before/while conducting the *Family Needs Survey* includes...assisting you (and possibly even your survey team) to avoid the trap of 'inspiration without instruction = frustration'. This is especially true is a church is considering receiving their own church findings, as well as being part of the aggregate Malaysian National Family Needs Survey group findings. Since 1999, FamilyLife has 'coached' several thousand churches through this process. We need look any further than to Genesis 3, to see mankind's tendency to reach for whatever will cover up our 'knowledge of the fruit of good and evil'. How we invite is very important! This is where the Questionnaire FamilyLife will ask you to complete and return, will help us guide your 'coach' in assisting you. Your response to the Questionnaire is viewed by FamilyLife, alone. We have learned what obstacles accompany different church systems and structures, and can help you anticipate them properly, and plan, with those obstacles in mind.
- The assistance in preparing before/while conducting the *Family Needs Survey* includes...helping you develop a customized invitation process for your church. I've come to modify an old hymn to the Family Needs Survey process... 'flex and obey—that's the family ministry way!' Over the course of the four Sunday survey window—you will find yourself needing to flex often. This is where having a 'coach' and HelpDesk becomes valuable.
- The assistance in preparing before/while conducting the *Family Needs Survey* includes...asking the favor of having your staff, leadership and family ministry leaders taking the *Leadership Assessment* and completing their personal *Family Needs Survey*, before your survey 'launch.' Why? A couple of reasons.
  - The first one is that it allows completing the *Leadership Assessment* with their ministry hat or role in mind. This tool asks their perception of current ministry emphasis (time, talents and treasure plus awareness of ministry opportunities) from that perspective.
  - The second one is to then, take off that hat or role, and complete the *Family Needs Survey* with their own life, marriage/relationship, parental statuses and so forth in mind. Family ministry should benefit our own households, too—and possibly, first.
  - The practical reason is that if do find a 'bug' in the technology or instructions, you can think together how to resolve it before your Survey Sunday 'launch.'
- The assistance in preparing before/while conducting the *Family Needs Survey* includes...giving people as many options and opportunities as possible, to participate. The 'hard-copy' which a church can print—must be manually entered according to the confidentiality protocols, into the church's URL. (see <http://www.familylife.com/familyneedssurvey>). With this hard-copy format, there are multiple unintended consequences your coach can discuss with you, and then you will make the final call on if, and how to offer them, and to whom. Your 'coach' and/or FamilyLife can provide you with the protocols and procedures for 'hard-copy' inclusion.
- The assistance in preparing before/while conducting the *Family Needs Survey* includes...
  - Four (4) weekly updates describing who has participated using your unique church URL. This update will include demographic information, such as age and gender distribution, marital/relational and parental statuses of those already responding, ages of youngest

and oldest children (to compare to children and youth ministry participation) and so forth. FamilyLife and/or your 'coach' will point out where the response is going well, and where adjusting your invitation might be wise. The current online format allows gathering and forwarding this information by FamilyLife through simply a series of clicks, and has been the #1 improvement mentioned by our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> generation survey taking churches.

***What assistance does the full survey church get after the Family Needs Survey is complete?*** (01:53)

[Special Notes: 1-As part of our 'flex and obey—that's the FamilyLife way' in response to our 'coaching', we now offer a 'you-asked-for-it' view: the Snapshot Album. The request was to create a view that served as a template for the team after the findings were presented to begin to tell the 'church's story' to the church family. You can see an aggregate example of this Snapshot Album in the lower left quadrant at <http://www.familylife.com/familyneedssurvey>.) 2-The NECF Malaysian National Family Needs Survey is asking a favor of member churches by inviting their members to help generate this national view of marriages and households. All participating churches will receive access to the MNFNS findings and 'premier' in due time. The description that follows is for those churches which select the option to request their own church's full Family Needs Survey findings, at the same time. Your 'coach' is equipped to discuss this more fully with you.]

- The assistance the full survey church receives after the *Family Needs Survey* is...confirming the church's digital reports have been uploaded successfully and a date is scheduled for the initial ninety (90) minute 'premier of the church's findings' with your coach and/or FamilyLife. FamilyLife offers a videoconference option at no additional cost which includes the option of including your 'coach' virtually present or physically present dependent upon Malaysian 'coach's' availability.
- The assistance the full survey church receives after the *Family Needs Survey* is...to use the Snapshot Album as the guide for offering a 'premier' of your findings with some zoom-in elements from the Comprehensive Report to better understand affirmations, concerns and warnings.
- The assistance the full survey church receives after the *Family Needs Survey* is...built around the initial 'premier' time consisting of seventy-five minutes as presentation—15 minutes as question & answer. It is important to us for you to be comfortable with the start of your church's story-formation, knowing we'll return a few weeks later, when your questions come easier.
- The assistance the full survey church receives after the *Family Needs Survey* is...a conversation—not a presentation. Your 'coach' and/or FamilyLife will ask a series of follow-up questions, to facilitate understanding your findings within the context of your church.
- The assistance the full survey church receives after the *Family Needs Survey* is...interactive, with a second ninety (90) minute consultation built into the process as familiarity increases and thoughts turn to a 3-5 year plan to respond to the findings. The 'coach' is here to help you create your church's plan—whatever that comes to look like.

**What assistance do participating NECF Malaysian national churches get after the Family Needs Survey is complete?**

[Special Note:

- The assistance the NECF Malaysian national church receives after the *Family Needs Survey* is...access to the MNFNS reports and the recorded 'premier' of the MNFNS Snapshot Album beginning in October, 2014.
- The assistance the NECF Malaysian national church receives after the *Family Needs Survey* is...additional access through Family Ministries Malaysia and NECF updates and articles leading up to the January 2015 national Family Ministries Conference.
- The assistance the NECF Malaysian national church receives after the *Family Needs Survey* is...access to the eBook merging the MNFNS findings and the Family Ministry Malaysia 'bid-ideas' for steps of action which will be released in late 2014.
- The assistance the NECF Malaysian national church receives after the *Family Needs Survey* is...continued access to your 'coach'/FamilyLife in your journey to grow spiritual strong marriages and families in your church.

**How does a lay person approach church leadership /a pastor approach church leadership about using the Family Needs Survey? (04:11)**

[Special Note: The phrase *HomeBuilders movement* refers to inviting everyone passionate about *effectively developing godly marriages and families who change the world, one home at a time* to grab a tool as a first step, to family reformation. The invitation is to 'Help Others' and is explained at <http://www.familylife.com/help-others>. FamilyLife seeks to both *minister to* (prepare, enrich and restore a family we minister to) we also seek to *minister with* (provide tools, coaching and encouragement) these same families, to equip and resource them to minister to others in their household, church and community.]

- A lay person desiring their church leadership to consider using the Family Needs Survey is wise to consider:
  - Seeking out another person with the same desires to grow spiritually strong marriages and households—and ask them to pray with you, gather information with you, and go with you—when you meet with your pastor or church leader.
  - Each of you preparing a 2 to 3 minute expression of the passion and burden God is stirring in your for godly homes.
  - Taking advantage of the 'coaching' opportunity where the questions about your church's systems and structure will lead to a clear understanding of how to present using the assessment within the church's vision, mission and purpose.
  - Inviting your pastor/church leader to view the Overview video on your smartphone or tablet at <http://www.familylife.com/familyneedssurvey>.
  - Being prepared to reemphasize, the findings of the *Family Needs Survey* are not a grade or evaluation of past or current ministry, but rather like a 'home inspection' done prior to remodeling or expanding the church's ministries.
- A pastor desiring their church leadership to consider using the Family Needs Survey is wise to consider:

- Seeking out another person with the same desires to grow spiritually strong marriages and households—and ask them to pray with you, gather information with you, and go with you—when you meet with your church leadership.
- Whether this is the right time in the rhythm of the church to ‘inspect, before we plan and build’. What ‘issue(s)’ is the church leadership presently sorting through? Use of the *Family Needs Survey* in the presence of church tension(s) is unwise. Your ‘coach’ is able to dialog with you to sort this out.
- Preparing a 3-5 minute expression of your shepherd heart, as the one who sits across the table as individuals, couples and families in crisis. Consider including your desire to ‘equip the saints for the works of service’ which includes being equipped to honor God in their homes.
- Showing the Overview video at <http://www.familylife.com/familyneedssurvey> and inviting the leadership to complete the Leadership Assessment (printable document upper right quadrant at <http://www.familylife.com/familyneedssurvey>). Tally their aggregate responses, and work through the 31 needs and the perceptions of the significance of addressing each need, and the current ministry emphasis provided. This is usually the most ‘active’ board meeting the leadership group has had in years.
- Point the conversation to ***or which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? – Luke 14:28 (ESV).*** The unintended consequence of building without first inspecting the condition of the households of the church is ignoring the current state of those same households.

***When is the ideal time to conduct the Family Needs Survey and how do we get started? (01:51)***

- The ideal time to conduct the Family Needs Survey in your church...
  - Would involve a 10 week window—a 6 week period of raising the awareness and preparing—a 4 week window beginning with a ‘launch’ Sunday, followed by 3 more Sundays of updating response progress (per weekly updates from FamilyLife/coach) and inviting everyone to join those already participating.
  - Avoids leading into Christmas or Easter, holiday travel times, or those times where the church is ‘dispersed’.
  - As part of **the Malaysian National Family Needs Survey**, may be in *phase I* (27 April 2014-25 May 2014), or be in *phase II* (4 week survey window completed on or before 26 October 2014). Your ‘coach’ is prepared to help you find the best place in your church’ rhythm.
- The best way to get started...
  - Is to go to <http://www.familylife.com/familyneedssurvey> and click the [FamilyNeedsSurvey@familylife.com](mailto:FamilyNeedsSurvey@familylife.com) link to email a ‘coach’ or email [ggritzon@familylife.com](mailto:ggritzon@familylife.com) or call (800) 404-5052 x3475 to speak directly to the Family Needs Survey specialist.
  - For the Malaysian National Family Needs Survey is to contact Dr. Herbert Tan at 019-3820277 ([uncleherbie@gmail.com](mailto:uncleherbie@gmail.com)) and Pastor Matthew Ling at 019-8873585 ([matthewling.life@gmail.com](mailto:matthewling.life@gmail.com)).

***How do you use the findings from the Family Needs Survey to establish a plan?*** (04:05)

- The *Family Needs Survey* findings help you establish a plan by...way of the 'quad map' and 'quad listings' seen in either the Super Composite Snapshot Album Report pg. 6-8, or in the Super Composite Comprehensive Report pg. 6-8 at <http://www.familylife.com/familyneedssurvey> (lower left quadrant). Page 6 offers a full description of what each quad represents, yet your 'coach' is prepared to help you, too.
- The *Family Needs Survey* findings help you establish a plan by...way of the responses of those 65% of adults who responded. The 'whole' church means adults singles too, whether never married, a single parent, or single-again after losing a spouse to death or divorce.
- The *Family Needs Survey* findings help you establish a plan by...gathering a team who listen together to the 'premier' videoconference overview of your findings, as well as the follow-up videoconference where the camera is zoomed in on the elements behind the affirmations, concerns and warnings.
- The *Family Needs Survey* findings help you establish a plan by...means of your 'coach' walking with and alongside you in aligning skills, knowledge and attitudes to form your church's plan
- The *Family Needs Survey* findings help you establish a plan by...identifying 'who' is wrestling with 'what' and 'how' they most desire to be ministered to. This process leads you to your answer to the question, 'What should we do first?'

## Thirty-one Needs

Thirty-one needs have been identified as the most common **issues** of 21st century families. The Family Needs Survey asks members of the congregation if they are **seeking and desire help** from their church in areas **known to be important** in growing spiritually strong marriages and families. The thirty-one needs as defined by a survey question are listed below:

### FAMILY NEEDS SURVEY ITEMS EXPLAINED

#### GENERAL

1. **Connecting with the people around me** - this item has to do with establishing adult friendships. It includes aspects of accountability, encouragement, transparency, support and just plain old fun.
2. **Managing finances/money** - this item has to do with better spending and saving your money. It includes aspects of debt, savings, budgeting, tithing, planning and attitudes associated with them.
3. **Growing in my relationship with God** - this item has to do with spiritual growth. It includes both education of the theoretical and practical, as well as opportunities to experience them through worship, evangelism, fellowship, service and devotion.
4. **Managing the hurriedness of life**- this item has to deal with the “hecticity” of our schedules. It is about planning our time to include margins which allow us to live less stressful lives in times of instant obstacles.
5. **Selecting wholesome entertainment for me and my family**- this item has to deal with the media. It includes setting standards for movies, TV, radio, internet, printed materials, music, etc. and then finding those that fit the standard.
6. **Finding opportunities to serve/help others** - this item has to do with ministering to others. It could include using Spiritual Gifts, simply showing love to them in a time of need or equipping them to live better physically, mentally, spiritually and emotionally.
7. **Facing struggles in my marriage and/or recovering from divorce** - this item has to do with helping an individual or couple face serious marital discord, the threat of divorce as well as being a part of the healing process should a divorce occur.
8. **Adjusting to changes in myself, my roles/responsibilities, and the seasons of life** - this item has to deal with changes in life. This includes a change in life stage, relocation, or family dynamics such as caring for an elderly parent or the addition of a new child, the empty nest, etc.
9. **Adjusting to a change in employment, health, and lifestyle** - this item has to deal with the stress of changing jobs or being unemployed, a change in discretionary income, or a lifestyle change caused by injury or illness and may include aspects of physical as well as emotional change.
10. **Developing and maintaining spiritual disciplines** - This item has to deal with regularly practicing activities that will help us grow in our relationship with God.
11. **Knowing better how to share my faith with others** – This item has to deal with knowing how to start conversations and effectively communicate with others about faith issues.
12. **Dealing with current or past drug/alcohol abuse** - this item has to deal with overcoming habitual behavior and its results. It could involve large group programs or one-to-one counseling and encouragement.
13. **Dealing with current or past sexual/physical/emotional abuse** - this item has to deal with healing from abusive experiences. It includes learning new ways of thinking and breaking old patterns and habits.
14. **Developing healthy lifestyle habits** - this item has to deal with our physical bodies. It could include everything from smoking to how much we weigh, from how much sleep we get to how much stress is in our lives.

## MARRIAGE

15. **Dealing with sexual boundaries prior to marriage** - this item has to deal with dating pressures. It includes understanding where and how to set boundaries and how to deal with the pressure or effects of crossing those boundaries.
16. **Dating and preparing for marriage** - this item has to do with understanding the role of courtship and getting ready for marriage. It includes learning what attracts you emotionally, physically and mentally toward a marriage partner, understanding marital roles and anticipated adjustments.
17. **Understanding biblical roles and responsibilities for a husband and wife** -this item has to do with the fog in our culture over who men and woman are from a biblical perspective. It would include redefining what true headship and submission are.
18. **Understanding your spouse's desires, personality, needs, and or expectations** - this item has to deal with learning how your mate is wired and how they see life differently than you do. This includes understanding characteristics which are genetic as well as learned behaviors.
19. **Developing and maintaining good communication** - this item has to deal with becoming transparent to your mate. It could include aspects of time management, learning new speaking or writing skills, dealing with past hurts and a willingness to become vulnerable.
20. **Developing and maintaining sexual intimacy in marriage** - this item has to do with our desire and a biblical view of sex. Included could be issues of frequency, time, impotency, romance, pornography, adultery, abuse, etc.
21. **Rekindling and renewing the “zing” in marriage (fun and friendship)** - this item has to deal with emotional connection. It includes the areas of communication, respect, simple enjoyment of one another, spending time together, encouragement, complementing and learning to improve all these.
22. **Building a marriage bond that won't break** - this item has to deal with creating a strong marriage. It includes learning how to be a good spouse, how to challenge your spouse to grow, how to stay committed through the storms of life, accountability and enjoying the whole ride.
23. **Relating to family of origin and in-laws** - this item having a good a connection to your family of origin and your mate's family. It might include learning history, setting limits, learning new traditions and willingness to change.
24. **Living in an interfaith and/or spiritually mismatched marriage** - this item has to deal with the situation a spouse who has different beliefs or a different faith commitment than you. Since there would be some different core values, it would deal with keeping the marriage strong in spite of them. It would include learning to depend on similarities instead of differences and how to negotiate for a win/win ending.

## PARENTING

25. **Developing and sharpening parenting skills** - this item has to deal with an overall desire to parent better. It would include recognizing our deficiencies, learning and changing.
26. **Releasing and moving a child towards adult independence** - this item has to deal with letting go of your children. It would include learning what to teach your children about this stage of life as well as how to make your own process smoother.
27. **Developing and improving family communication** - this item has to deal with increasing transparency in your family. It could include aspects of creative time management, learning new speaking or writing skills, learning to adjust to others and creating an environment of emotional stability and security in the home.

28. **Disciplining a child** - this item is about changing behavior in your child through rewards and punishments. It would include learning limits and creative ways to apply rewards and punishments as you shape their behavior.
29. **Helping a child succeed at school**- this item is about educating your children. It could include everything from learning the academics as well to learning how to “play well with others.”
30. **Helping a child grow spiritually (developing a child’s character, identity, and morality) beginning at home** - this item has to do with increasing their desire to know God. It includes developing an environment at home that promotes spiritual growth as well as providing opportunities and encouragement outside the home for this as well.
31. **Helping a child develop a godly view of human sexuality and family** – this item has to do with helping a child develop their sexual identity and prepare for adult family roles. It would include understanding the biblical roles and responsibilities that boys and girls are to grow into.

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