

## Top 5 Reasons to go on a Marriage Encounter Weekend

**Prior to making an announcement from the pulpit at your church, make sure that you have a Marriage Encounter announcement in the bulletin and in the pre-service slideshow if your church does that. Here are examples of those:**

### **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT:**

**GOD WAS AT YOUR WEDDING; HAVE YOU INVITED HIM TO YOUR MARRIAGE?**

Renew your commitment to your marriage, to God and to your church at a Marriage Encounter United Methodist Weekend. It's time for married couples to get away from jobs, kids, chores and phones — and focus on our relationship with each other and with God. Upcoming local Weekends will be <DATES> in <CITY> or <DATES> in <CITY>. For more details, pick up a brochure at the church information center, call <ME COUPLE'S NAME> at <COUPLE'S PHONE #>, or email <COUPLE'S EMAIL>.

### **SLIDE ANNOUNCEMENT:**

**MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TODAY**

Register for a Marriage Encounter United Methodist Weekend

<DATES>, <CITY>

or

<DATES>, <CITY>

Pick up a brochure today.

### **PULPIT TALK SCRIPT**

You can start your presentation by showing the video from the Encounter.org site:

[http://www.encounter.org/publicity/me\\_video.htm](http://www.encounter.org/publicity/me_video.htm)

**HUSBAND: Hello. My name is <\_\_\_\_\_> and this is my wife, <\_\_\_\_\_>. What have you done for your relationship lately? (pause briefly) We're here today to talk to you about United Methodist Marriage Encounter.**

**WIFE: We have these brochures (hold up brochures) and they'll be available at the church information center, or you can get one from us. We'll be available in the fellowship hall to answer any questions after the service. But first, we wanted to give you the top 5 reasons to go on a Marriage Encounter Weekend.**

(Wife holds up 5 fingers.)

**HUSBAND: Reason #5: There are <X> dates to choose from in <YEAR>, right here in <STATE>, so you should be able to find a time that works for you. No excuses!**

## **Top 5 Reasons to go on a Marriage Encounter Weekend**

(Husband holds up 4 fingers.)

**WIFE: Reason #4: It's 44 hours away from kids, in-laws, work, cell phones ... and a time to concentrate on your marriage.**

(Wife holds up 3 fingers.)

**HUSBAND: Reason #3: All those things that seemed so cute when you were dating are getting a little irritating now. Like how your spouse's friendly, outgoing nature attracted you to them, but now it can be embarrassing. For example, she thinks it's fun to get up in front of the ENTIRE church and make announcements.** (feel free to rewrite this example to fit better with your relationship, but make sure it's something that will come across as funny as opposed to sounding like you're complaining about your spouse.)

(Husband holds up 2 fingers.)

**WIFE: Reason #2: And this is a biggie. You don't have to share your feelings in group therapy. This is a private weekend, between a husband and wife only. No required open sharing.**

(Wife holds up 1 finger.)

**HUSBAND: And ...** (if your church has a praise band, ask the drummer to do a drum roll here) **The number ONE reason to go on a Marriage Encounter Weekend:**

**Because you love your spouse and you deserve this!**

**WIFE: OK, we'll be in the fellowship hall to answer questions, or you can call or email us, our contact information is in the bulletin. There is a weekend coming up at the end of THIS month in <CITY>. And the next <CITY> weekend is in <MONTH>. The dates are on the back of this brochure and there are <X> more weekends beyond that. So please find one that works for you. Thank you for time today.**

**HUSBAND & WIFE: Have a great day!**