

# helping you help them

Shaunti  
feldhahn

**Game-changing research.  
Eye-opening insights.  
Life-transforming results.**



Dear leaders,

Two weeks ago my healthy 72-year-old father had a severe stroke and I stand amazed at how God has brought healing after something that could have so easily been fatal. I see my dad (like many stroke victims) recovering and LIFE coming back to parts of his body, his mind and his physiology that were once *completely paralyzed and seemingly dead*. He's got such a good attitude and perseverance; he has not given in to fear or despair or the temptation to give up.

It makes me think about those who are living in marriages that can sometimes seem paralyzed or dead. LIFE *can* come back; it is so important to have a good attitude and perseverance. To remain hopeful and not give in to fear or despair, or the temptation to say "it is never going to get better." I'm devoting this Easter season newsletter to an entire message of HOPE for newness of life in marriage.

Wishing you a blessed Easter and NEW LIFE for your marriages,

Shaunti

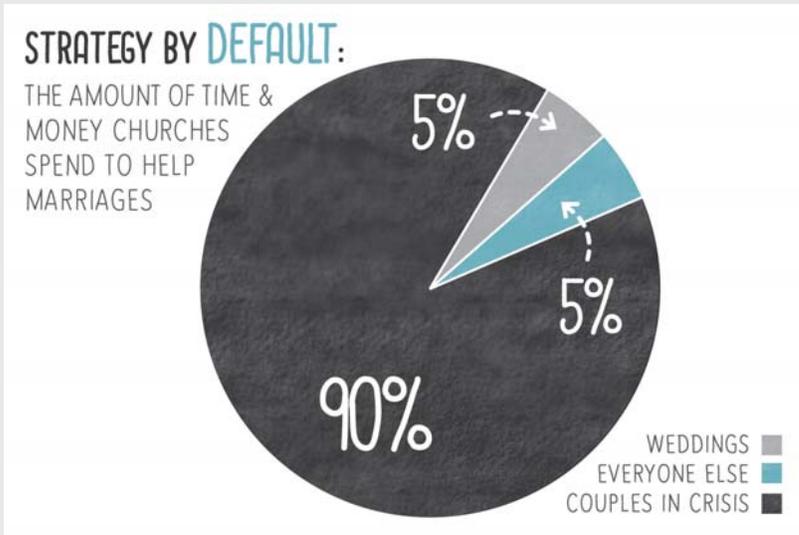
## **A Zero-Divorce Pre-Marital Program: A Great Case Study for Churches and Couples!**

A few months back, Jeff and I came across a highly successful model of pre-marital preparation at a church in a small town in Michigan; after seventeen years, among couples who were getting married for the first time, **not one** had since gotten divorced. And this was after marrying more than 200 couples! Dave Carleton, the church's director of marriage ministry, wrote a great blog post about the program.



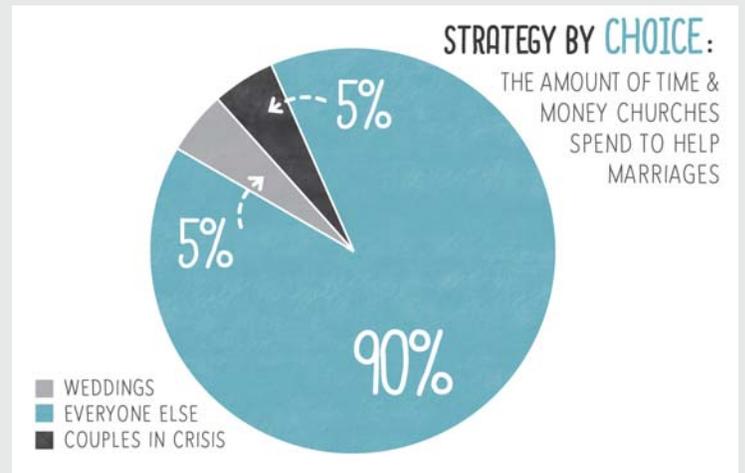
[Check it out!](#)

# Hope-based Marriage Ministry Models



With these research graphs, Ted Lowe with [MarriedPeople](#) (the marriage ministry of Orange) points out that most marriage ministries are crisis-driven by default, focusing primarily on those with urgent needs – which is only a small percentage of the marriages in the church.

Instead, consider focusing more on the overwhelming majority: the marriages that need fellowship and support in order to avoid becoming a crisis marriage. While those in crisis often need a different kind of help as well (e.g. intensive counseling), you'll find that some of what you do for everyone will be a big help to those in crisis too.



There are many great ways to do that. [Here are three simple models](#) worth looking at.

The Good News ABOUT MARRIAGE

**IT TURNS OUT MOST MARRIED PEOPLE TODAY**

**— 80% —**

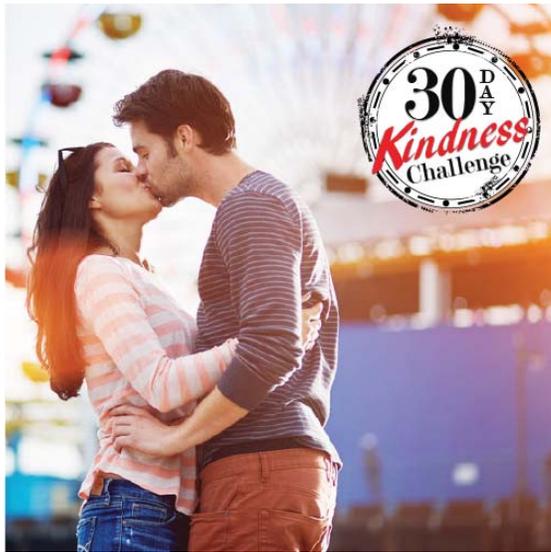
enjoy being married and, given the chance, **WOULD DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN.**

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## Be an advocate for marriage!

1. Click, download, and share the graphic to the left - on Facebook, Twitter, or Pinterest!
2. [Share this postcard with details](#) on [The Good News About Marriage](#) with the marriage champions in your church.

# Know anyone who participated in Shaunti's 30-Day Kindness Challenge?



We are conducting specific research related to our 30-Day Kindness Challenge. We'd love to hear how the challenge impacted relationships or how to make the challenge better. Please email my team member Caroline ([Cniziol@Shaunti.com](mailto:Cniziol@Shaunti.com)) with feedback!

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Just copy and paste the text above in an email or FB post to share with your folks - it would be a big help in my next project which I'll share in more detail with you a little later.

## Where I've been lately

I was recently on the [Dave Ramsey](#) show, and he had so much fun busting divorce myths and talking about my [research](#)! Two weeks ago I had to suffer for Jesus in Hawaii at the Hawaiian Islands Ministries (HIM) conference and (after unexpectedly spending a week with my father in the hospital) this week I'm doing women's leadership training with a large client company.

## I'd Love to Speak At Your Church / Event

I'd love to share my findings with your church or event. If you have suggestions, or know someone who might be interested in bringing me in, contact Naomi at [NDuncan@shaunti.com](mailto:NDuncan@shaunti.com). She is great at brainstorming ideas with you, including [pastoral interviews on Restoring Hope for Marriage, Understanding Men / Women, etc.](#)

## Am I coming to your town?

**April 1** || Los Angeles, CA || Corporate Women's Leadership Summit

**April 10-11** || Memphis, TN || Kirby Woods Baptist Church

**April 16** || Addison, TX || Stronger Marriages Annual Fundraiser Banquet

**April 23** || Eastern VA || Closed Marriage and Family Event

**April 27** || Silver Springs, MD || North American Division, Seventh Day Adventist Family Ministries68

**April 29** || Franklin, TN || Dave Ramsey headquarters

**May 1-3** || Los Gatos, CA || Venture Church - Girls' Weekend Away

**May 21** || Bellevue, WA || Washington Society of CPA's