



With God, you still have a lot to look forward to in 2021!

Dear Friend:

Are you struggling to make sense of all that has transpired in these first days of the new year? The images and scenes of rioting and unrest from Washington, D.C., and elsewhere have been profoundly unsettling, only adding to the existing challenges of a deeply divided country.

I've actually just returned from the nation's capital, where I was honored to speak at the annual March for Life. For nearly a half-century, champions of the pre-born have gathered in the cold each year to speak up for the defenseless — innocent babies who have no voice. Since 1973, when the Supreme Court inexplicably discovered a constitutional right to abortion, over 60 million children have been lost, a tally so tragic that I fear all too many now deliberately ignore it.

Since our inception, Focus on the Family has been engaged in this campaign to protect every innocent life under law. It remains one of our five key priorities and is core to our mission as a ministry. Over the years, this position and commitment hasn't made us popular with many in positions of cultural power — but so be it. Saving children remains a top priority because it's an issue close to God's heart. I cannot thank you enough for joining with us in the effort.

Being on the ground in Washington and talking with many of our friends, the prospect of looming government policies that will most likely take away freedoms we have enjoyed for over two centuries is a growing concern.

How should we respond?

We should exercise our constitutional rights and peacefully and winsomely advocate for what we believe. Apathy is a sin. We can't turn a blind eye or just throw up our hands in frustration.

At the same time, we can do so with the confidence that comes with knowing that as Christians, we enjoy the three greatest weapons that are not of this world: faith, hope and love.

God will not be outflanked by His creation or outwitted by those who oppose Him. Even in the face of terrible circumstances our fellow believers from the early church concentrated on two commands given by Jesus himself, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" and "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Mark 22:37,39).

Even with the political swings in Washington, D.C., nothing has really changed for the Christian. Let's continue to place our hope and trust not in government, not in human leaders - but in Jesus Christ who saved us from despair, fear and separation from the Father.

(over, please)

As individuals or a ministry, we cannot stop all evil, but we remain hopeful in the midst of these challenging times. Hope, wrote C.S. Lewis, is not “a form of escapism or wishful thinking, but one of the things a Christian is meant to do. It does not mean that we are to leave the present world as it is. If you read history, you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next.”

I’m so grateful that you’re part of the Focus family, helping support our ongoing commitment to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, strengthen marriages, encourage and equip parents, save the lives of innocent children and inspire ordinary people to do extraordinary things in the public square. You’re making a difference.

While the world may mock the traditional and biblical understanding of family, we believe God’s design remains timeless and worthy of defense.

Much has been discussed lately about the need for national unity, a sentiment I wholly and enthusiastically embrace. It was the apostle Paul who wrote to Timothy, “I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people — for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness” (1 Timothy 2:1-2).

But we must unify around the right things. We cannot capitulate on our principles. While I have great concerns about many of the incoming administration’s announced plans and policies, I nevertheless pray that President Biden and his team will have their eyes opened to God’s truth. I am praying for him as I prayed for Presidents Trump, Obama, Bush and Clinton. In fact, we’re all commanded to do so.

Please join me in praying — it is a tall order, and he will need every one of our prayers.

Yours in Christ,



Jim Daly
President

P.S. This ongoing ministry is only made possible because of the generous contributions of friends like you. After you have met your obligation to your local church, we would be very grateful if you would consider supporting Focus on the Family. And please don’t hesitate to let us know how we can be of assistance to you and your family.



FOCUS ON THE FAMILY® BROADCAST*

The broadcast schedule is subject to change. Listen to the Focus on the Family® Broadcast on your local radio station, your mobile device or online. If you've missed one of these broadcasts, listen online at FocusOnTheFamily.com/Broadcast. You can also hear us with the all-new, enhanced Focus on the Family App found at the App Store and Google Play.

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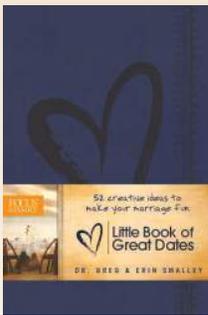
Feature Guests:

**Dr. Greg and
Mrs. Erin Smalley**



Little Book of Great Dates

will help build romance and fun into any marriage with its creative ideas for a year's worth of weekly affordable dates. This book will help couples build their relationship, showing how everyday activities can become "dates" that strengthen the relationship. It also includes plans for special-occasion dates, such as the couple's anniversary, birthdays and more. Get your copy!



Use the enclosed response card to mark your gift and book request or go to FocusOnTheFamily.com/LittleBook21.

Offer expires April 15, 2021

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FEBRUARY 2021

DATE	TITLE	GUEST
2/1-2/2	Understanding Your Child's Love Style I & II	Mr. Milan and Mrs. Kay Yerkovich
2/3	Mount Everest and Braving New Heights Together	Captain Harold and Mrs. Rachel Earls
2/4	Logging Off to Focus on Your Real-Life Relationships	Mrs. Wendy Speake
2/5	Using Your Love Language to Grow Closer to God	Dr. Gary Chapman
2/8-2/9	A Fascinating Perspective on Racial Issues I & II	Dr. Shelby Steele
2/10	Discovering Your Child's Unique Needs	Mrs. Julie Lowe
2/11	Walking Through Depression	Mr. Paul Asay
2/12	Adding Some Spice to Your Marriage	Pastor Ted Cunningham
2/15	Building a Lifelong Relationship with Your Child	Mr. Mike Berry
2/16	Sudden Cardiac Arrest: A Survivor's Story	Mrs. Pamela Christian
2/17-2/18	Staying Together When You Feel Like Leaving I & II	Mr. Bill and Mrs. Vicki Rose
2/19	Let's Not Fight: Godly Peacemaking	Pastor Brian Noble
2/22-2/23	A Fresh Look at Dating I & II	Mr. Gary Thomas
2/24	Finding God's Beauty in Alzheimer's and Dementia	Mrs. Sarah Smith
2/25-2/26	Mothers and Sons: Being a Godly Influence I & II	Mrs. Rhonda Stoppe

MARCH 2021

DATE	TITLE	GUEST
3/1-3/2	Navigating a Toxic Culture with Your Daughter I & II	Dr. Meg Meeker
3/3	Journeying from Tragedy to Triumph	Pastor Bryan Koch
3/4-3/5	Reconnecting with Your Spouse I & II	Dr. Greg and Mrs. Erin Smalley
3/8	The Joys and Challenges of Marrying Your Opposite	Mrs. Melanie Shankle
3/9	Finding Hope in an Unexpected Pregnancy	Mrs. Leslie Leyland Fields
3/10	Sharing Your Faith as a Family	Pastor Kevin and Mrs. Sherry Harney
3/11-3/12	Reigniting Your Passion for Jesus I & II	Mrs. Kim Meeder
3/15	TBA	
3/16-3/17	Holding on to Hope During Separation I & II	Dr. Gary Chapman
3/18-3/19	Guiding Your Teen into Adulthood I & II	Dr. Kenneth Wilgus, Mrs. Jessica Pfeiffer and Mrs. Ashley Parrish
3/22	Survival Tips for New Dads	Mr. Aaron Sharp
3/23-3/24	The Journey Back to My True Identity I & II	Mr. Walt Heyer and Ms. Kathy Grace Duncan
3/25-3/26	Identifying Triggers in Your Marriage I & II	Mr. Guy and Mrs. Amber Lia
3/29-3/30	Understanding Spiritual Temperaments in Your Family I & II	Mr. Gary Thomas
3/31	Reconciling Faith and Science in a Medical Crisis	Dr. Lee Warren

* The broadcast schedule is subject to change.

He Said, She Said

How to focus on your relationship

With Dr. Greg and Mrs. Erin Smalley



Dr. Greg and Erin Smalley discuss how to keep your marriage relationship strong.

GREG: The saying goes, “Love is in the details.” That can definitely be said of marriage. While big things are important, too, much of the magic of a relationship can come from the small choices we make every day. That’s where most of the distractions come from as well.

ERIN: It’s true. Over the past year, couples have had more distractions than ever. It can be hard to attend to the details when you are busy helping your children with online school, working from home yourself and keeping up social distancing. Add to that fear and uncertainty about finances, health and the future and you have a million distractions.

GREG: We hear from couples and families daily who are still struggling after the challenges of a tough year. That is why we want to encourage you to remember that “Love is in the details.” Don’t get so distracted that you forget to do the little things that encourage your spouse and let him or her know you care.

“My husband and I both came from dysfunctional families, and had no clue how to have a successful marriage. We listened to Focus on the Family every day for eight years. We give credit for our marriage to this ministry.”

—LAURA, FLORIDA

“I got my life in order, got off drugs, got a great job. But still I was sad inside. I realized that until I came back to my first love, Jesus, I would always be empty. I started listening to Focus on the Family. The teachings gave me the strength to stand strong in my faith.”

—CRAIG, OHIO

LIFE UPDATE

Thank you for celebrating Sanctity of Life month

Focus on the Family is grateful to friends like you who locked arms with us as we celebrated Sanctity of Human Life Month in January. Whether you made plans to join Jim Daly and others during the March for Life, participated in a local march, signed our #LoveEveryHeartbeat pledge or downloaded our “Valuing Life from the Start” guide, your voice matters!

Please continue to be in prayer for mothers and babies who are at risk of abortion. Pray that God will use your support to save lives through our

Option Ultrasound® program and other ongoing efforts. Will you also be in prayer for our See Life 2021 event scheduled for this fall?

We’ll be in touch with more details in a few months, but we would love your prayers as we make plans and work out details.

And if you and your family haven’t already downloaded our FREE “Valuing Life from the Start” guide, go to FocusOnTheFamily.com/ValueLife



Daly Focus

By Jim Daly, President

Staying focused.

With big changes happening all around us—a new political climate, increasing financial uncertainties, social distancing and health concerns—it can be easy to be distracted and overwhelmed. But now is the time to focus on what God has called you to do.

At Focus on the Family, that God-ordained mission is to see families thrive. In that calling, we are focused on saving marriages, strengthening families and rescuing babies from abortion. Though the times and headlines may change, we remain committed to you and your family.

No matter what is happening in the world around us in 2021, we are focused on using your support to bring couples back from the brink of divorce, empower families to live boldly in faith and save mothers and babies from the pain of abortion.

Your generosity enables us to provide resources that make that happen—including our daily broadcasts, counseling resources, Hope Restored marriage intensives, the Option Ultrasound program, print and online materials, podcasts and more.

Even though everything may seem like it’s in a state of fluctuation, something has not changed—the mission God has called us to for your family and others.