

PREFACE

This facilitator's guide is designed as a supplement to the "Marriage that Lasts: Tools for Success" workbook. This EAP facilitator's guide contains eight weeks of EAP activities and discussion questions that support and reinforce the course topics discussed in the couple's workbook. The couples are asked to go home and discuss these topics further and complete session assignments in the book for that chapter and or week.

This group can have various structured designs. There are 16 hours of EAP activities. Over the past years, we have found that a 2 hour session for 8 weeks was the most effective design for us. We had trouble with commitment level if it extended for longer than that. This can also be done in a retreat format. The number of hours needed to cover all the material may vary based on the size of the group and needs of the couples. Recommended size of group is a maximum of six couples. Any larger than that is too much activity for just one EAP team. This proposed structure is expecting the couples to do their homework and discussing at home; while, their time in EAP is more to help them apply what they have discussed.

Remember, the facilitator's guide is just that – "a guide" as is the marriage workbook. Don't get boxed into thinking you can only discuss the topics outlined for that week or just do these activities. If you need to skip around in the workbook to meet the needs of the group, do it! Be creative and use your own judgment and style to best meet the needs of the couples you are working with.

If time permits at the end of any week, add another EAP activity or discuss further what applications the activities hold for the couples. You can always refer directly to the couple's workbook and discuss some of the questions outlined to generate discussion in each session.

Most of all, be flexible and let the group take this course at their pace and degree of depth.

***"In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps."
Proverbs 16:9***

Table of Contents

About the Authors.....	2
Preface.....	3
Session 1: Introduction, Purity Covenant, and Love Languages.....	5
Session 2: Building from God's Blueprint..... <i>A biblical look at your role in marriage.</i>	8
Session 3: Building a Lifetime Marriage..... <i>Find out what helps and hurts a marriage and why.</i>	11
Session 4: Sex and Child-Rearing..... <i>Learn why sex was created and how sex and child-rearing will affect your marriage.</i>	15
Session 5: Conflict Resolution..... <i>Insights into resolving conflict.</i>	18
Session 6: Communication and Careers..... <i>Determine your personality type and look closer at your career as well as its influence on your life.</i>	21
Session 7: Finances..... <i>A serious look at family finances and creating a budget.</i>	25
Session 8: Summary, Quiz, and Love Letter.....	29