

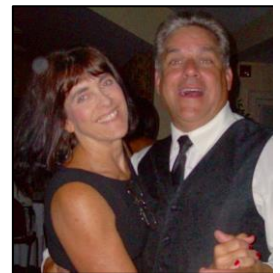
December 2016

Because of the generous financial and prayer support of our ministry partners, thousands of men, women and children have a home that was strengthened and preserved. During this past year our ministry has been reenergized as we have reached families throughout the New England states and as far west as California.

Let us tell you the story of one of the families touched by Family Builders Ministries. Russell and Helen's relationship goes back 51 years. They were both from a small town and were childhood sweethearts. They always believed they would be married and talked about having children, even describing the daughter they would have one day and what she would look like.

After high school they went separate ways, even though they still loved each other and wondered what had happened to their dream. Listen to how Helen tells the rest of the story.

Many years later I came back to Ashland to visit my family, which I did often. Russ and I talked and decided I would move back so we could start over, and possibly have the children we talked about so long ago. We repented, married, and were given not only the daughter we prayed for, but a beautiful son too! We thought our marriage was great!



Helen & Russ Pimentel

Life got busy and we developed some bad habits over time. We got too busy to be affectionate, and although we were loving and attentive to the kids, we could neglect that vital part of our own marriage. There was a lack of love and respect, but the enemy was subtle and we didn't see it. We thought our marriage was better than most, which was just pride.

When our daughter, Grace, was about 13 she said, "Mommy, when I grow up I don't want to marry a man like Daddy!" Horrified, I said, "Why honey?" She replied, "Because there's not a whole lot of love or affection between you and Daddy!" She also confessed that he checked out emotionally at times, but in her own words. I got the picture and I ran to Russ to share this with him. He was as

disturbed as I was and we began looking for help. We started searching for a seminar or biblical teaching on marriage when Russ found a "Family Builders Ministries" workshop in New Hampshire. We went and I remember the first thing Willie said!

"Perhaps your husband or wife doesn't look like they used to, or perhaps they have a little more around the waist, or perhaps you think that the love is gone and you can't get it back! I'm here to tell you that you can!"

Suddenly we were filled with hope and were ready to be led in the Word, and allow the Holy Spirit to transform our marriage. Willie's teaching enabled us to get real, go deep, and apply the Scriptures to our marriage in a practical way. It was life changing. We realized the importance of love and respect from God's perspective and we prayed more. Everything changed and after a Family Builders leadership seminar on marriage mentoring we began to help others, which was a blessing! It does take work, and with God all things are possible! Family Builders seminars have also affected our parenting and impacted our children.

Just one year later Grace gave us an anniversary card and wrote in it, "Someday I want a marriage just like yours!" We thank God that this ministry exists. We pray that every married couple would experience it so that marriages would be healthy. May God be glorified in all our marriages, in Jesus' Mighty Name!

Today, we're asking for your help in reaching people in New England like Russ and Helen who need help! Our goal is to help mothers, fathers, sons and daughters to be filled with hope and find a way to get their lives back on track. To bring them from darkness to light. You see, even though we helped thousands of people this year, there are thousands more we can't help because we don't have the resources to do so. Your support allows us to reach marriages and families with the tools they need to rebuild their lives!



FBM Executive Director Jere Vincent teaching at our Stronger Together Marriage Getaway for couples affected by a chronic illness or disability.

That's why our goal for this campaign is to **raise \$20,000 by December 31st**. If we raise that amount, we'll be able to provide seminars, relationship coaching, webinars and other tools to thousands more people in the coming year. «greeting», we need your help to make it happen.

Would you be willing to make a special year-end donation of \$50, \$100 or whatever you can afford to help us meet our goal and bring more people from the darkness to the light?

We simply can't do this work without you. Your support will make a real, lasting impact in the lives of those who are still in need. The lives of hundreds of others like Russ & Helen are at stake.

As we conclude this letter, we are smiling, not only because of what we have shared about 2016, but also because of what we are thinking about the stories we will be sharing with you in December of 2017. We cannot wait to see how God will use your significant investment at this time to impact lives in the months ahead through Family Builders Ministries. Who knows just who the next Russ and Helen will be?! We cannot wait to give Him the glory and share with you those stories of His grace!

Thank you for your continued support and friendship. On behalf of our families and our Board of Directors we wish you a blessed Christmas season as we celebrate with great joy the Good News that a Savior has been born. His name is Jesus!

Willie Batson

Jere Vincent



Willie Batson
Founder/President



Jere Vincent
Executive Director

What others are saying about our seminars and conferences...

- "This was our first marriage conference and really enjoyed the topics. Thank you for a great weekend together and for being such a blessing to so many."
- "Powerful, relationship changing and God's perfect timing for this time in our life."
- "This weekend got us back on track together."
- "We were able to tweak some things that we hadn't considered before."