

# THE OUTLINE

## PART 1

### | VALUES OF FAMILY MINISTRY

- STRONG MARRIAGES
- Confident Parents
- Empowered Kids
- Healthy Leaders

### | A STRATEGY TO MINISTER TO MARRIAGES IN YOUR MINISTRY

- Be intentional about building strong marriages
- Offer the vision of a strong marriage (be real)
- Connect with their pain and struggles
- Create a list of topics
- Keep it practical and keep it real

## **| THE ONE PERCENT FACTOR**

### **Helping Marriages Succeed**

- The stages of relationships...
  - How to know if you are in love and the Purity Code (Help kids)
  - Getting Ready for Marriage
  - First Few Years of Marriage
  - Refreshing Your Marriage – What are you doing to keep marriages strong in your church?

### **What Can a Church Offer?**

- Resources
  - Marriage Mentoring
  - Counseling and counseling referrals
  - Conferences
  - Seminars
  - Courses
  - Small Groups

## GETTING READY FOR MARRIAGE

(This is great for premarital and those seriously dating)

### Are You Ready?

1. Are you willing to work on premarital education?
2. Are you willing to hear from your relational community?
3. Are you willing to look honestly at red flags?
  - Addiction
  - Abuse
  - Unfaithfulness
  - Cohabitation
  - Sexual activity
  - Pregnancy
  - Different spiritual values
  - Poor communication and conflict skills
  - Unresolved issues with a previous spouse or relationship
4. Are you willing to be brutally honest about your own brokenness?
5. Are you ready for unconditional commitment?

## PERSONAL & GROUP REFLECTION

### PART 1

#### REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. The one percent factor is a powerful illustration of reducing the divorce rate by just one percent. This changes the trajectory of over one million kids. Why is this key to a marriage and family?
2. How effectively is your church reaching each of the stages of relationships? What do you do best and what needs the most work?
3. The church can offer great resources to build strong marriages. Which of the resources Jim mentioned is your church doing and which are they not yet doing yet? Is there a resource that your church could work on this year to be more effective in this area?
4. The section “Are You Ready for Marriage?” could save a lot of pain in marriages. Which areas stuck out in your mind as critical to the success or failure of a marriage?
5. Why do you think dealing with the in-law situation before you get married is critical in premarital education?