

Coming Up

Celebrate Love Seminars

A two day seminar for married couples exploring spirituality and sexuality in the Catholic context.

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| 2007 | |
| Masaka, Uganda | Nov 24 & 25 |
| 2008 | |
| Sydney, NSW | Mar 8 & 9 |
| London, GB | Mar 8 & 9 |
| Brisbane, QLD | Mar 8 & 9 |
| Christchurch, NZ | Mar TBD |
| Perth, WA | Mar TBD |
| Wodonga, NSW | Mar TBD |
| Warnervale, NSW | Apr 5 & 6 |
| Melbourne, VIC | Apr/May TBD |
| Kent, GB | Jun 7 & 8 |
| Sydney, NSW | Aug TBD |
| Brisbane, QLD | Sep TBD |
| Birmingham, GB | 1 & 2 Nov |
| Sydney, NSW | Nov TBD |

www.CelebrateLove.com.au

Embrace

Preparing to Live in Love

A six session programme for engaged couples preparing to marry in the Catholic Church.

Available Now!
in Brisbane, Sydney,
Central Coast,
Newcastle, Perth,
London

www.Embrace.org.au

Smart Loving Evening Talks 2007

Dates & Venues to be determined

www.CelebrateLove.com.au

Living Well Media Resources for Catholic Families

A selection of CDs & DVDs are available including Christopher West and Byron & Francine Pirola

www.LivingWellMedia.com.au

Smart Loving

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info@CelebrateLove.com.au

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Success breeds Success

A lot of people think that having a few failed relationships is helpful in preparing them for marriage. Some even go as far as seeing the first marriage itself as a 'training ground' for the grand love that is expected to follow. They reason: now I know what NOT to do in a relationship.

Experience often does produce wisdom, and wisdom is surely a help in any relationship. However, for many, experience breeds not wisdom, but cynicism and bitterness. Too many people learn the wrong things from their negative experiences; they learn not to trust, not to have high expectations about a relationship lasting, not to invest too much of themselves. These are excellent self-protective strategies if your goal is to avoid the pain of rejection and failure, but they are exactly the wrong behaviors for building a vibrant marriage. No marriage can flourish without trust, hope and total commitment.

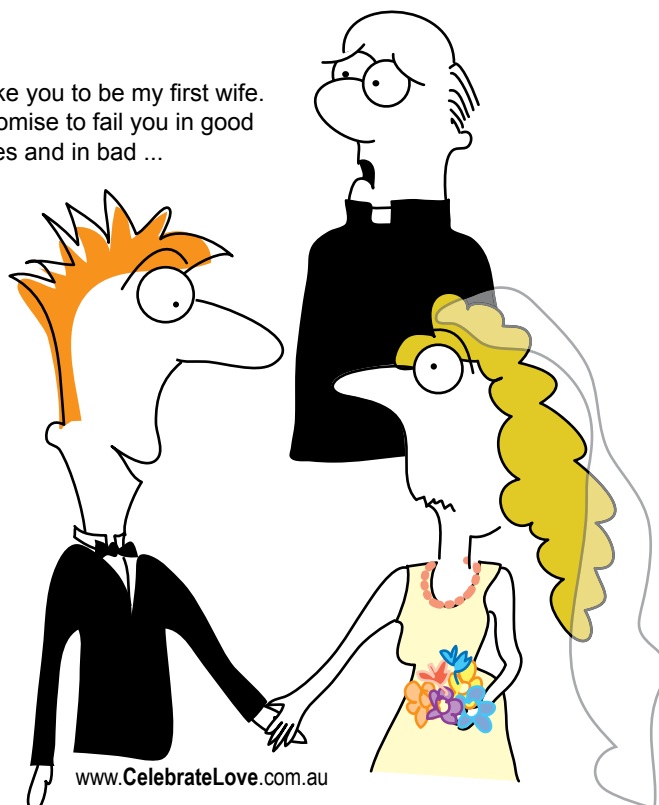
But there is something else that is faulty with this thinking.

There is an underlying assumption that the only way to learn about relationship is through mistakes; that we have to have failure and disaster in order to learn and mature. In truth we learn from both failing and succeeding. In business no one would consider successive failures as providing any confidence of success next time round. Just like in business, being in a successful relationship is the best learning opportunity.

All relationships have difficulties. The challenge for us all is to learn wisdom rather than cynicism in order to overcome the difficulties rather than walk away from them. Like anything in life, success breeds success... especially in marriage.

The Starter Marriage

I take you to be my first wife.
I promise to fail you in good
times and in bad ...



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