

## Prepare/Enrich Newsletter June 2007

### How do YOU use Prepare/Enrich inventories?

When I joined Prepare/Enrich, the use of the inventories was split about equally between Marriage Preparation and Enrichment. Since then most of the growth has been on the preparation side. This started me thinking about the range of current and potential applications and I wondered if you might have other thoughts.

Here are some of the variations:

- Marriage Preparation
- Marriage Enrichment
- Group based or with one couple
- In counselling, pastoral or wider work
- Through churches, other faith groups or community organisations
- Linking in with bridal fayres and the registrars
- Stand alone or linked to a course (eg the HTB Marriage Course)
- Linked to life events: Mate is particularly geared to mid life transitions, but what about around having a first child, thinking about changing jobs and relocation\*.
- Weekend events or spread across a number of evenings

What about your thoughts, and uses? Do share your experiences.

*\* One of the couples in our church was about to move to London and those close to them thought it would be good to have a marriage 'MOT' before heading into what was likely to be a demanding situation. What about families from your settings going out into 'missionary outreach'?*

### The New Building a Strong Marriage Workbook (BASM)

The new workbook has been well received - all the reports we send out from now on will be accompanied by the new workbook. You will find a number of improvements, clearer presentation, a new section on intimacy and a diary section for couples to record their learning points. If you have not already received a copy for your own use, it will come when we return your next inventory.

### Practicalities

Our recent experience with Royal Mail reluctantly leads us to encourage you to **take a copy of your answer sheets** before sending them to us for scoring. There have been a few instances of post not arriving with us, and the information is obviously time consuming to recapture. If you do this please either copy back to back or annotate your copies so that it is clear which back page belongs with which front page.

Please make sure you're up to date with the more complex **posting costs** related to size of envelope: anything larger than A5 or thicker than 5mm needs to have postage at the "Large letter" rates. Envelopes with too little postage incur a penalty at this end, and have been known to take 2 weeks to arrive!

The **scoring fee** is still £25 per inventory, by cheque to Prepare Enrich UK sent with your answer sheets please. If you are interested in prepaying for 10 or more, and thus getting a reduced rate, please get in touch.

## **National and regional gatherings**

There was a good response to our sessions in Southampton and Sheffield in 2006 to encourage practitioners to develop their use of the inventories and related areas. The thought is to develop these regional gatherings on a two yearly basis, so we are planning to hold two events in 2008, one in the North and one in the South. Let us know if you have any key topics you'd like us to feature.

## **Training days**

Training days are currently planned in Seaford (July 14), Southampton (October 13) and the Midlands (some time in the autumn). We will run a training day whenever we can guarantee at least 4 attendees (a couple counts as 1). So encourage interested people to contact us; those already trained are also welcome to come along as a "refresher" at reduced rates.

## **Contact details:**

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