FOL Couples Meeting 24 January 2009

- Ideas
  - Finances
    - big issue in marriage
    - jobs threaten
    - e.g. airline deals
    - Western society does waste a lot - deep thought into how we manage finances
    - ☑ marriage is a covenant
      - money is 'one' as well - not separate
      - share ideas
      - ☑ you cannot lead two lives -you need to commit yourselves
      - ☑ marriage is more important than things, finances
      - ☑ common/joint account
        - ☑ stops one person going 'haywire', squandering
        - ☑ be aware that some cannot manage this as one may not be good with money, especially initially in marriage, growth/trust may be required
      - ☑ there is a 'maturity' in finances to aim for - trust will be built
    - ☑ how you manage your money makes you 'richer' (more substance)
  - We have ideas
    - in house
    - 'welfare account'
      - e.g. help students
        - feeding
        - rent
      - people need to know it's there
        - providers and receivers
      - FOL is providing some for others -when we can and in a wayat present
    - let people know of ones struggling etc.
    - jumble sale
- Way to go - What next? Couples future?
  - dinner
    - when
      - July
  - dinner & dance
  - the ideas into practice
  - meal at a hotel
  - announce more
  - workshop
  - bowling
- Last Meeting
  - challenges
    - very similar
    - Have we moved on?
  - issues of sex
    - husband wrong moves
    - wife not forthcoming
    - ☑ **need to communicate**
      - ☑ children blessing
      - ☑ God is part of sex
        - ☑ love is a healer
      - ☑ meet each other halfway
      - ☑ understand each other
        - ☑ appreciate the difference
        - ☑ needs - beware of each other needs
        - ☑ understand each other
      - ☑ need for balance
      - ☑ your partner may 'think' it is a need - but you may need to help them to see it is a want
    - ☑ man & women different - celebrate
      - woman wants affection
        - emotional
        - the way a women appreciates is different e.g. text in daytime
      - man wants sex
        - logical
          - men compartmentalise
          - women encompass many things
      - ☑ both are to sacrifice
        - work at it
          - e.g. we forget to be the best for our partner
          - help each other e.g. housework
    - we often forget the things we used to do for each other
    - not in a mood
      - raises contention
- we are talking about couples
  - ☑ directive - to become 'one'
    - ☐ anything against that is against God's purpose
    - ☑ we need to work towards that
    - ☑ foster a union to become one
    - ☑ Adam not complete without Eve - cleave to husband
    - ☑ I want - can be divisive
    - ☑ there needs to be a **serious understanding**
    - ☑ work, children, etc. needs to work towards this
- ☑ We have to work on ourselves as individuals
  - ☑ be sincere with yourself
  - ☑ live through the Fruits of the Spirit
  - ☑ family spending quality, time with God, edify each other - will achieve good
  - ☑ pray
    - ☑ encourage to pray together - family also
    - ☑ it is hard to change the habits (e.g. prayer)
    - ☑ it helps to create/set 'a time' e.g. 7pm
  - ☑ circle of influence '7 Things...'
  - ☑ we are different, we do interpret differently
  - ☑ we need to change - but change must start with yourself
- ☑ make time for each other
  - ☑ e.g. children to bed - 'our time' to catch up
  - ☑ good for children to have a bedtime - even if they don't go to sleep - older children will let you have time for yourselves
  - ☑ perhaps **say devotions together** - even in the car
  - ☑ perhaps send devotional texts to the other
- **assumption is the model of all mess ups**
  - saying he/she has to understand is wrong
  - experience helps
  - demanding 'We have to ....' does not help
- ☑ Find ways to help each other - e.g. buy clothes for the other - instead of criticising what they wear
- Looking after the home
  - Is it a mis-directed priority? - e.g. extremely tidy etc
  - How do we prioritise our time?
- ☑ bible 'marriage is an honourable thing'
  - not as in today's society
  - ☑ we are meant to be 'a witness'
- Executives
  - Lara
  - Emmanie
  - Yinka
  - Olumide
- trial website: **fol.objectis.net** or Google: fol wgc