

Overview of the Battle for Your Marriage

It is vitally important that each applicant understands and agrees to participate in all aspects of the Battle for Your Marriage process outlined below: Prep work, both retreat events, follow through process including team meetings, and facilitator coaching (if you are the leaders of the team). If you have questions about any part, please contact Dana Smith at danas@wellspringgroup.org.

Dates:

- Battle for Your Marriage: September 17-20, 2020
- Battle for Holistic Communion: February 2020 (TBD)
- Deadline to Apply for the Battle for Your Marriage track: March 10, 2020

The purpose of The Battle for the Heart of Marriage is to inspire and equip husbands and wives to increasingly become who God created them to be in and through the sacred union of their lives.

This track is divided into two modules.

Module 1 begins with a four-day event, the Battle for Your Marriage, with 10 weeks of team follow-through meetings. September 17-20, 2020 - beginning with lunch on Thursday continuing through lunch on Sunday.

With the Four Realities as the framework and the BLESS skills providing the tracks to run on, you will grow in:

1. Knowing the part your marriage plays in God's Eternal, Larger Love Story
2. Understanding the essence of marriage
3. Walking in the Way of Humility with your spouse and your team
4. Seeing how evil is hunting your union through the Dance of Fear and Pride
5. Discovering how the Fellowship desires to protect you, as a couple, through the beauty of authentic relationships with your brothers and sisters

Module 2 continues with a three-day event, the Battle for Holistic Union, followed by 8 more weeks of team follow-through meetings. February 2021 - beginning with lunch on Friday through lunch on Sunday.

Using everything you have gained throughout your entire Wellspring experience you will grow in:

1. Breaking the Dance of Fear and Pride and living in the Dance of Love and Grace
2. Knowing the unique part your sexual union plays in the Dance of Love and Grace and God's Eternal Love Story

Teams consist of three to four couples with the following criteria:

- Both husband and wife have effectively participated in the full Battle for the Heart process (BMH/BWH event, Module 1 Team Equipping, BYD event, and Module 2 Team Equipping).
- Teams consist of couples who have ongoing or pre-existing relationships with one another. The ideal would consist of three to four husbands who have gone through the BMH process together and whose wives have gone through the BWH process together. This is often not possible so we recommend the team form around existing relationships rather than having the Battle for the Heart of Marriage be the first and only experience of relating to one another. Regardless, it is wise for teams to have a *significant number of meetings prior to the initial retreat. The less prior relational connection, the more important these meetings are.

***We provide you with prep work and exercises for up to 6 team meetings that would take place BEFORE the September event. If teams are just completing the BMH/BWH process the number of these prep meetings can be decreased.**

- All participating couples should have a basic comfort level with practicing the BLESS skills of engaging and a willingness to grow in developing those engaging skills with their spouses and with other couples on their team. Each person must be committed to going deeper in their relationship with their spouse and the other couples on their team. Since this is built upon the foundation of the Battle for Your Heart for Men and Women, we expect couples to see the glory in each other and challenge the distortions that hold us back from being who God created us to be in our marriages. Since Battle for the Heart of Marriage teams are composed of couples, appropriate cross-gender (brother-sister) engaging should be expected and supported.
- Ideally each team should have at least one couple with prior experience in facilitating a BMH or BWH team who is willing to facilitate the BYM team at events and during the Team Equipping follow-through. This couple should have at least served as assistant

facilitator at a BMH/BWH event. BYM facilitator couples will participate in pre-retreat training as well as biweekly equipping calls in the follow-through process.

You may complete your Application on the Wellspring website [here](#). Note that completing an application DOES NOT guarantee acceptance into the Marriage Track. You will be contacted if we have any questions or concerns. Deadline for applications is March 10. We need a minimum of 15 couples. We are open to taking more.

Both retreats are at the beautiful Winshape Retreat Center in Rome, GA.

The entire Battle for Your Marriage is priced at \$1,800 per couple and is split into two modules. Module 1 will be priced at \$1,050 and Module 2 will be priced at \$750. This includes the retreat facilities for both retreats, all program costs and supervision of teams in the follow through process. This pricing reflects our hard dollar costs associated with the events. None of these fees go toward Wellspring Group's investment of time and staff to build or deliver the Battle for Your Marriage. The Battle for Your Marriage is made possible by financial partners who believe that your heart and the heart of your union are worth fighting for.

We anticipate offering this track each year or every other year depending upon interest and our capacity to execute it effectively.

We invite you to prayerfully consider entering into the sometimes dicey, never boring, incredibly rewarding Battle for Your Marriage!

If you have application or financial questions, please contact Abby Mandella at abbym@wellspringgroup.org. For questions about the marriage track or team dynamics, please contact Dana Smith at danasmith@wellspringgroup.org or Larry Bolden at larryb@wellspringgroup.org

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