



JOHN PAUL II HEALING CENTER

*Transformation in the Heart of the Church*

**Unveiled:  
Discovering the Great Mystery in Your Marriage  
EVENT REPORT  
Lafayette, LA  
August 7-9, 2015**

Bob, Bart, Margaret, Ken and Kim ventured to Lafayette, LA to present a three-day *Unveiled* conference on August 7-9. The return to our close friends in the community, and our hosts at Our Lady of Wisdom, is always a joyful experience. The people of Southern Louisiana always make us feel welcome, as if we are family returning for a visit.

For this weekend, we added three breakout sessions for *Unveiled* “veterans” who previously attended this conference. With more than 50 couples in attendance, 16 of them found their way to the breakouts. In the breakout sessions, Bart, Ken, Margaret and Ken took the group into deeper places of the masculine and feminine journey. A few of the comments from the breakout sessions were:

*“Loved, loved, loved it- especially as a second timer.”*

*“I enjoyed the breakout sessions for year two.”*

*“The breakout sessions were fruitful.”*

*“Absolutely loved Ken’s reenactment of the woman caught in adultery [John 8].”*

It was apparent that the Father was present with us over the weekend as couples drew deeper into their marriages, bringing their thirst for deeper intimacy with each other, and with God. In an era where marriage seems to be assailed on every side, it was obvious that God has ordained a Holy anointing for marriage among His people. God is sovereign in every age, and He continues to show His love for us.



Here are just a few of the comments we received:

*"...God put this conference in our lives just in time. We have...been going through a difficult time. We were able to work through the issues at the conference."*

*"[This] helped us to break the shield that I had over my heart from hurts and wounds of the past."*

*"I thought our marriage was failing. Without this, I'm not sure we would have known how to continue."*

*"It has truly opened my eyes and my heart to my relationship with my husband."*

*"Thank-you Holy Spirit for getting us to this retreat."*

*"For times that I have sinned [against] my wife, it was the way to say I'm sorry and ask to be forgiven. Amen!"*

*"This experience helped rekindle the flame of our bond of marriage."*

*"I was extremely hesitant, out of fear and embarrassment... I enjoyed and benefited from every moment."*

*"This retreat has given me renewed hope that we will survive as a married couple."*

*"[It is] unbelievable how much more I am open to love my wife more deeply, more tenderly, more Holy (sic)."*

*"In the gazing [exercise], I felt like our whole life as a couple was reflected back in my husbands' beautiful blue eyes."*

*"[Hearing] God's intention for lovemaking was profoundly beautiful... and gives us a new way to love one another more fully".*

Among the activities that spoke to people's heart at the deepest levels were the demonstrations using 'human sculpture'. The sculpting exercise is a human representation of emotional and spiritual realities. It provides an experiential reference point that is powerfully tangible. Many couples were touched by the sculpt of the Holy Trinity, and the difference between living "in" the Trinity, and living separate from the Trinity. Another powerful sculpt represented how the hurts and brokenness of the past can "invade" a couple's relationship, negatively affecting their relationship. Other couples were moved by the journaling questions, the gazing exercise, and letter writing.

As a ministry, we continue to be encouraged that the *Unveiled* conferences are speaking to married couples in a particularly unique way. Many of the attendees made unsolicited comments wishing they had experienced this sooner. Several comments seemed to particularly capture the sentiment: *"I wish there would have been a marriage prep as good as this before we got married"*. One other stated, *"I wish we would have had this years ago"*.

We continue to work toward, and pray for a renewal in marriages across the country, knowing full well that thriving marriages are the bedrock of the family and society.

"As the family goes, so goes the nation and so goes the whole world in which we live in" ~ St. John Paul II

Blessings to all of you!

JPII Healing Center Team