



JOHN PAUL II HEALING CENTER
Transformation in the Heart of the Church

Unveiled: Becoming One Event Report Lafayette, LA February 20-21, 2015

We were back in beautiful Lafayette Louisiana, for an *Unveiled: Becoming One* Marriage Conference, hosted by Ashton Mouton and the team at St. Pius X Parish. The weekend got off to a great start, and the 45+ couples seemed actively engaged in the process. On Friday night, I presented God's vision for marriage to the couples, and encouraged them to look at their marriages from Heaven's perspective, to see their marriage as a gift not just for themselves, but also for their spouses, children, families, the Church, society and most especially, for God's glory. It is a deep blessing to see couples respond to God's vision for marriage, for hearts to be stirred toward Heaven within the mystery of the marital Sacrament. The general feedback from this first session was captured in the comment of one participant, *"God's design for marriage from the beginning of time-mind blowing!"*



The talk contained a demonstration of the Sacrament of Marriage. The volunteer couple in the demonstration seemed especially moved as they renewed their vows. After they shared with the group the grace of their experience in the demonstration, all of the couples were invited to renew their own vows. I saw many tears and loving glances. A few said their exchange of vows made a tremendous impact in their willingness to open their hearts again to their spouse, and set the stage for the entire weekend.



The theme for Saturday morning was “Becoming One”, and provided the couples multiple opportunities to apply the material. Even as the couples practiced five levels of communication, the Holy Spirit seemed to be moving hearts. After being encouraged to pray as a couple, several remarked that praying together was one of the most intimate experiences of their marriage! The fast pace of the morning made the time fly, but the energy level and enthusiasm of the participants was impressive. One spouse expressed it this way: *“The activities were excellent. They were simple and focused and brought attention to beautiful insights into our marriage.”*

After the morning session, Kim Glass was joined by Lilla Marie, Sr. Mary Clare, Robin, Kristine, and Missy to provide opportunities for prayer ministry. It’s an amazing experience to see God move in so many different ways: in the talks, journaling, demonstrations, prayer etc. One woman who decided not to receive prayer ministry later remarked, *“[I] Wish I would have attended prayer ministry. My husband said it was amazing.”* During this same time, two priests were available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, which clearly helped several individuals continue to open their hearts.

In the afternoon session, we focused on Sexual Intimacy in marriage. One person later said: *“I have never had a sexual talk tied to religion”*. The talk was followed by an activity and several journal questions, about which one person said, *“[I] Wish we would have had these tools at the beginning of our marriage.”*

One of the deep joys of this ministry is to see transformation taking place in the hearts and lives of God’s people. By the end of the day, we had again witnessed the powerful and beautiful healing grace of Jesus Christ in people’s lives. Many of the couples encountered their spouse, Church, and God in new, deeper, and in some cases, profound ways.



Before we left Lafayette, we had an opportunity to see many of our friends and supporters in the community. We always depart from “Cajun Country” with a certain sadness, thankful for the warm hearts, deep friendships, enthusiastic support, and exceptional food! We look forward to our return to Lafayette in August for a three-day *Unveiled: Discovering the Great Mystery in Your Marriage*, at Our Lady of Wisdom Catholic Church.

Praying that all of you are enjoying a fruitful Lenten Season,

Bob and the John Paul II Healing Center Team