

## WHAT IS MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER?

**M**arriage Encounter is designed to give married couples the opportunity to examine their lives together – their weaknesses and strengths; their attitudes towards their families; their hurts, desires, ambitions, joys and frustrations – and to do so openly and honestly in a private, face-to-face, heart-to-heart “encounter” with the person whom they have chosen to spend the rest of their life.

Marriage Encounter is for married couples, consisting of one man and one woman, who desire to better their marriage. For those with a good relationship, the Marriage Encounter will improve it. For those with a cold relationship, but who are willing to be open and learn, Marriage Encounter can be the beginning of relighting the flame to warm both your hearts towards each other.

The idea is for husband and wife to spend a weekend away from distractions and tensions of everyday life, to be able to concentrate on talking deeply with each other, re-establishing couple **COMMUNICATION.**

The **Central Coast Marriage Encounter** deals with marriage in it's Christian dimension, and the experience is open to couples of all faiths. Our approach is one of inter-denominational exploration of what marriage means to us, as individuals and as a couple. The emphasis is on renewal of relationships. Even couples approaching their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversaries have made Marriage Encounter weekends and come away saying they have learned a lot about their spouse. Everyone agrees they wish they had the opportunity to experience a weekend early in their marriage!

## IS THERE A LOT OF GROUP SHARING?

**NO.** This is not an “encounter session” with group sharing or group dialogue. Sharing only occurs between husband and wife in private. There is **NO** group discussion.

## WHAT HAPPENS ON THE WEEKEND?

The weekend is presented by a “team” of two or three married couples, who have gone through an Encounter Weekend themselves. They found the Marriage Encounter weekend so beneficial to their marriage and family life that they have volunteered to help you two share the same experience of renewed love and growth. The “team” shares experiences from their own lives on various topics of relationships and life. They will then offer you some questions that will lead you to think about and share your views with your spouse on these topics.

## WHAT IS THE SECRET?

Why does Marriage Encounter work so well? Here are just three of many reasons that couples have shared in discussing the experience:

1. Couples see other couples also striving to reach deeper understanding. Many couples comment that so many of their friends don't seem to value their relationship. You will realize that you are not alone in wanting to make your marriage something special.
2. The Marriage Encounter “team” sets an atmosphere of open and loving dialogue between husband and wife. They provide a model and the opportunity for truly deep communication. The sharing of life experiences by the team couples makes it easier for couples making the weekend to find trust, confidence and understanding within their own relationship.
3. This weekend provides you with a gift of time – free from pressures at home. In such an atmosphere, open exchange can take root.

**“Work on your Marriage; at the Work Ranch!”**

## WHAT IS THE COST?

The cost of the Marriage Encounter weekend, including lodging and meals is \$225. A deposit of \$50 is required upon registration and the balance of \$175 is due at the beginning of your weekend. No fees are paid to presenting team couples.

You will also have the opportunity to make a free-will donation to enable other couples to attend a Marriage Encounter. No couple is ever refused the opportunity to make a Marriage Encounter because of lack of funds. Marriage Encounter is a non-profit organization and your contributions are fully deductible.

## WHERE IS THE WEEKEND HELD?



*View from the Work 12,000 acre ranch*

The Marriage Encounter weekend is held at a family Ranch east of San Miguel, California, owned by the Work family. This is a 12,000 acre working ranch opened to Marriage Encounter as a gift of love to other couples from the Work family.



*Sample bedroom at Work Ranch*

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# Central Coast Marriage Encounter



Although it is true there are successful marriages without Marriage Encounter, we believe this weekend will offer a unique experience that can truly enrich your lives.



*Our marriages so quickly settle into a series of routines, excluding the deep communication that marked our courtship and honeymoon. With demands of housework, careers, children and social calendars, we fall "out of touch" with each other; more importantly, we lose track of who we have become as the years have passed.*



Your marriage can provide you far more satisfaction, growth and security than any other endeavor.

Give your marriage an opportunity –  
**Marriage Encounter!**

## WHAT DO FAMILIES SAY?

- *"We have fallen in love again and feel closer than ever before," says a wife.*
- *"I came because she begged and pleaded, but I got more out of this weekend than she did!" said a husband."*
- *One couple agreed, "It was the best weekend in nearly 12 years of marriage. We now have a better understanding of each other."*
- *And a comment from a son, "I don't know what you guys did on that weekend, but you sure have changed! It's neat!"*
- *"I found out how deeply my husband loves me," said a wife. "I will recommend this to every married person I know!"*

## CONTACT US:

Email for information: [info@ccnme.org](mailto:info@ccnme.org)

### Weekend Registration:

Joe ♥ Linda: (805) 922-2526

### Weekend Information:

Bob ♥ Marilyn: (805) 481-6508

George ♥ Elaine (805) 467-3233

Website: <http://www.ccnme.org>

### National Marriage Encounter: 1-800-367-0343

Website: <http://www.marriage-encounter.org>

## SCHEDULE:



Plan on arriving at the Work Ranch between 7:00 and 7:30 p.m. on Friday evening and staying through Sunday afternoon around 4 p.m.

### 2010/2011 Scheduled weekends:

October 21-23, 2011

March 16-18, 2012

May 4-6, 2012

October 19-21, 2012

*Brochure updated August 2011*

To register for a weekend, send this form and \$50 check or credit card (make check payable to Central Coast Marriage Encounter) and send to: 3028 Eversden Ln, Santa Maria, CA 93454. Your choice of dates to attend: \_\_\_\_\_

To pay with Visa or Mastercard:

Name on Credit Card

Type of card

Card number

expiration date

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ amount authorized

(husband)

(wife)

(last name)

(address)

(city)

(zip code)

(your phone)

email address (ok to share this with National Marriage Encounter?  yes or  no

How did you hear about us?

Any dietary restrictions (medical or religious only, please) or anything else we need to know about you?

\*Deposit is NON-REFUNDABLE & NON-TRANSFERABLE