## **APRIL 2008 - RETROUVAILLE CALGARY COUPLE COMMENTS**

I came in on Friday thinking divorce would be such a good way out. We were given an excellent tool and we are prepared to use it and try a new beginning.

They touched our hearts and helped us understand that we can get through our troubles too.

I would recommend this program to anyone who wants to have a happy healthy marriage.

I got to see my husband from a very different perspective. The method used is very good to get to know his feelings without criticism. I thought I had told him my feelings before but now he understands me.

I am in awe of the strength and courage of these couples and how they found the ability to forgive.

To hear these presenters tell their stories of the struggles they encountered is an amazing gift to receive. It helps you realize that you are not the only one who goes through hardships and it has given me a different outlook on my marriage and hope.

This may have been the last chance we had to salvage our marriage. It is worth the time!! Better and more realistic than winning the Lottery. This lasts a lifetime!

When I came here I did not know what to expect but was hoping for guidance on what we could do to resolve our issues. Everything we had done to this point had not worked. Thanks to this weekend session we have the start of a road map that has already led us to places we wanted to get to, but did not know how to get there.

Awareness of Retrouvaille should be offered to every participant of Marriage Preparation Programs as a place to turn to before they reach the "misery" stage of their married life.

Retrouvaille is a gift. The leader couples who selflessly give the toolbox filled with communication techniques....all have been invaluable. We are filled with hope....the road ahead is still uncertain and a little frightening but armed with the many tools and blessings we have been

given through Retrouvaille, we have the courage to go forward together, in love.

The presenters, though of varying backgrounds were all intelligent, articulate individuals who had come from marriages with dysfunctional communication. Many of the issues mirrored our own and so there was a real identifying feeling for us with them. We now have a tool to help us communicate more effectively and are hopeful to reunite our family as we recently separated.

This program and the presenters have given me hope and courage to work on a marriage that had suffered tremendous blows to trust and stability.

This is truly an amazing program. You get out of it 10 times what you put into it or more. It is not easy and is probably the most difficult journey I have ever taken. It is hard work and tiring but it is a good and peaceful tired that is very refreshing.

This weekend has enabled us to start addressing the tough questions in our relationship and I feel very positive about the outcome. Prior to this weekend our marriage counselor gave us a 5% chance of staying together and a 95% chance of divorce. I am now hopeful that those numbers will be reversed in the not too distant future.

This Weekend has breathed new life into our marriage and into our outlook on living. It has put us back on track and given us hope.

Coming into the Weekend, I felt exhausted from my struggle to move our relationship in another direction. I was dejected, depressed and pretty much resigned to the fact that I truly was powerless where our marriage was concerned. That I had no choice but to accept that I was going to spend the rest of my life feeling unloved, alone, ignored and down on the list of priorities and not to hope or expect anything to change. By the end I was daring to believe that maybe it might be okay and safe to feel cautiously optimistic and to open up my heart to the possibilities.

My husband and I had difficulty with conflict resolution. This program has given us a tool to allow us to communicate without harsh words and judgment.

Coming here has offered us both a chance to learn to communicate at a very deep level rather than repetitively locking horns over what really amounts to superficial issues. I have a new, real sense of hope about the future of our relationship and some tools to use.

For me, I feel very grateful that this program exists. It has given me tools to begin to figure out how to share my feelings with the person I love as well as helping me get back to understanding what my feelings are. I think it has and will bring us closer together.

The testimonies of the presenters were heart touching, honest and not canned. We have practical tools as we leave this Weekend which if we stay committed to practicing, can lead to the deepest intimacy we probably have ever had in 25 years of marriage. Retrouvaille opened a door that we stepped through together.

This experience has given me hope that my communication and ultimately my marriage can be improved. It also has reminded me of many of the reasons why we got married in the first place.

It has opened my eyes about what a relationship is all about.

I see hope and love in my marriage.

I see a loving relationship and very positive feelings.

A very touching... hurtful... MIRACLE weekend.

I was hesitant at first but willing to try. Our area of concern was in our communication to each other...or lack of.

Over the three days I discovered that we weren't alone and had nothing to be ashamed of. We are human. By the end of the weekend I felt like a broken electrical circuit had been repaired because we are using the right tools to find the problem. Thank you.

