

FamilyLife Blended® Marriage & Family Resources

Not sure which stepfamily answer is right for your stepfamily question? Use the chart below to find out.

			
	Preparing to Blend	The Smart Stepfamily	Blended & Blessed
Snapshot	Premarital counseling for engaged couples forming blended families familylife.com/preparing-to-blend	A comprehensive guide to building a healthy blended family familylife.com/the-smart-stepfamily	Blended & Blessed® is a one-day live event & livestream experience to enrich stepfamilies blendedandblessed.com
Audience Type	Engaged couples planning to form a stepfamily and/or the care providers that counsel them. Can also be adapted for a group setting.	Small Group, Mentor Couple & individuals or couple self-study. Add your group to the map: FamilyLife Blended small group map	Stepfamily couples, single parents, dating couples with kids: option for churches to host a livestream at their location
Topics Include	Practical Growing Activities for parenting, finances & establishing family identity; daily routines for your new life together	Making Your Marriage a Priority, Co-Parenting with Former Partners, Developing Relationship with Children/Stepchildren, Parental Unity, Managing Loss, Holidays, Spiritual Questions	Each year's event theme, messages, and teaching are different
Teacher/Author	Ron L. Deal	Ron L. Deal & couple/family vignettes	Ron Deal & various blended family experts
Price	Preparing to Blend : \$12.99	FREE ACCESS for videos on RightNow Media The Smart Stepfamily DVD : \$59.99 The Smart Stepfamily book : \$12.99 The Smart Stepfamily Participant's Guide \$9.99	Basic Edition Digital All-Access Pass : \$25 Complete Edition Digital All-Access Pass : \$79 PDF with discussion questions included for each video session (for couples/small groups)
# of Sessions	Self-Paced or Mentor/Counselor led	Eight (8) Video Sessions -5-20 mins each -via DVD or RightNow Media-	Speaker messages can be mixed and matched to be used within your blended family ministry or small group
Additional Content	Ron Deal Sand Ceremony Video (7 minutes) www.blending.love (for family genogram)- <i>find 30% off promo in Preparing to Blend book</i>	Optional sessions for kids & dating couples Ministry leader session	Complete Edition includes previous event speakers and backstage interviews
Suggested Time Duration	1 ½ to 2 hours	1 ½ hours	One Day Event or Use Digital All-Access Pass for small group material
Tip Sheets & Free Downloads	First Year Survival Guide Preparing to Blend Leader's Guide - FREE Guide Creative Blended Family Wedding Ideas for Your Ceremony (article)	Marriage Mentor Guide: The Smart Stepfamily - FREE download for 12 mentor-guided sessions Help for Blended Families Leading In-Person vs Virtual Small Groups	

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	The Smart Stepfamily Marriage	Well-Blended	Mindful Marriage
Snapshot	A guide to build on your marriage strengths and improve your weaknesses	Practical, biblical solutions for blending a family and marriage in a five-session online course	Backed by neuroscience and biblical principles, this book delivers a therapeutic model for couples who want to stop the painful patterns that harm their marriage so that they can build a stronger connection.
Audience Type	Individual, Small Group, or Couples (dating, engaged, or empty nesters in a blended family)	Couples in blended families; could be adapted as a stepfamily small group tool	Individual, small group, or <i>any</i> married couples (this book is <i>not</i> stepfamily-specific)
Topics Include	Healthy communication, fires of conflict, maximizing fun factor, re-sex, finances and sharing spirituality Note: this book was previously published as <i>The Remarriage Checkup</i>	How to talk about sensitive blended issues Ideas to create meaningful, unifying traditions; Tips for managing emotions and crises; Building challenging connections with a family member; How to deal when you feel rejected by a stepchild	The Deals and Hargraves introduce readers to this proven method that challenges popular beliefs about how relationships work. They show readers how to better understand themselves in times of emotional distress, so that they can self-regulate.
Teacher/Author	Ron L. Deal & David H. Olson	Ron L. Deal	Ron L. Deal & Nan Deal Terry Hargrave & Sharon Hargrave
Price	The Smart Stepfamily Marriage : \$12.99	Online Course : \$49	*Scheduled Release Date January 7th, 2025*
# of Sessions	Thirteen (13) Sessions - NOT video based	Five (5) Sessions	Not Applicable
Additional Content	Online Couple Checkup - FREE individual profile with voucher code (found in book) provides a relational 'x-ray' of the relationship	Articles & podcasts to dive deeper & Bonus material	Each chapter contains couples' conversation guide (discussion questions) and exercises related to the chapter content
Suggested Time Duration	1 ½ hours	Self-Paced	Self-Paced
Tip Sheets & Free Downloads	TSSM Small Group Study Guide FREE download Marriage Ministry Tip Sheet Relationship Positioning System (article) Help for Military Stepfamilies Tip Sheet		




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	Dating & the Single Parent	The Smart Stepmom & The Smart Stepdad	Building Love Together
Snapshot	Expert advice for single parents and those who date them	Help and hope to stepparents specific to the role of a stepdad and stepmom giving practical help and biblical advice	The best of <i>The 5 Languages</i> & <i>Becoming Stepfamily Smart</i>
Audience Type	Dating or Engaged Couples, Single Parents	Stepparents and the partners who love them (dating/engaged/married)	Couple or Parent/Stepparent
Topics Include	Preparing yourself & your kids for dating, smart dating, cautions in dating and remarriage with children	How to connect with stepchildren and remain connected to your spouse; wisdom in handling holidays, discipline and dealing with your spouse's former partner	Unique dynamics of stepfamilies Overcoming fear and trust issues in marriage Learning healthy parenting and step-parenting practices How the love languages should—and should not—be applied
Teacher/Author	Ron L. Deal	Ron L. Deal Laura Petherbridge (The Smart Stepmom)	Authors: Gary Chapman, PhD & Ron L. Deal
Price	Dating & The Single Parent \$13.99	The Smart Stepmom : \$12.99 The Smart Stepdad : \$12.99	Building Love Together in Blended Families : \$15.99
# of Sessions	Not applicable *There are discussion questions at the end of each chapter that could be used within a small group or as a couple.	Not applicable *There are discussion questions at the end of each chapter that could be used within a small group or as a couple.	Not Applicable *At the end of each chapter there is a "Your Turn" action point exercise/discussion question to apply the concepts learned
Additional Content	Dating with Purpose Free Devotional -FREE 7-day devotional from YouVersion	Two chapters are provided for the partner of the stepparent (biological parent) to read that will help you become a team	5 Love Languages Online Quiz
Suggested Time Duration	Self-Paced Reading	Self-Paced Reading	Self-Paced Reading
Tip Sheets & Free Downloads	11 Best Practices for Dating as a Single Parent	Women's Ministry Tip Sheet Men's Ministry Tip Sheet	The 5 P's of Stepparenting Building Love Together in Grandparenting (and Stepparenting Adult Children) -FREE chapter download


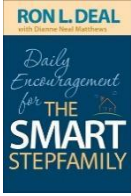

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	The Summit on Stepfamily Ministry	Certificate in Blended Family Ministry	FamilyLife Equip
Snapshot	The Summit is the only event geared toward equipping the church to minister to stepfamilies summitonstepfamilies.com	Digital course that is nearly seven (7) hours of engaging video content from blended family experts; online ministry certificate upon completion	A free portal for ideas, training, and inspiration to guide others toward Jesus and open doors in your community. familylife.com/equip
Audience Type	Marriage and blended family ministries, experts, counselors, pastors, and lay leaders	Anyone in pastoral ministry, stepfamily ministry leaders, small group leaders, blended family therapy providers	Anyone in pastoral ministry, stepfamily ministry leaders, small group leaders, blended family therapy providers
Topics Include	Each year's event theme, messages, and teaching are different but basic stepfamily ministry topics are covered yearly	Why pastors must care about stepfamily ministry (and how to get there), the basics of understanding stepfamilies and how to minister to them; a redemptive theology of divorce & remarriage	To access a <i>library of videos by Ron Deal</i> designed specifically for stepfamily ministry leaders, go to familylife.com/equip > (sign up or enter your login) > Menu > "Care Well" > "View All Blended Family Resources"
Teacher/Author	Ron Deal and various blended family experts	Various stepfamily experts	Ron Deal and various experts
Price	Basic Edition Digital All-Access Pass : \$25 Complete Edition Digital All-Access Pass : \$79	Online Course : \$49	FREE Note: you will be prompted to create a <i>free user login</i> which is required to access content
# of Sessions	Speaker messages can be mixed and matched to be included in your church leadership training	Self-Paced Nearly seven (7) hours of our best training for stepfamily ministry leaders	Self-Paced
Additional Content	We have included bonus videos of various speakers from previous Summits.	Handouts to help you reflect and apply; Bonus resources to use	Leading Dynamic Small Groups Video When to Refer to a Professional Counselor Video Small Group Ground Rules Infographic How to Lead Challenging Personalities Infographic & PDF- Do's & Don'ts for each type
Suggested Time Duration	Self-Paced	Self-Paced	Self-Paced
Tip Sheets & Free Downloads	Leadership and the Backbone of Stepfamily Ministry		




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	Stepparenting With Grace	Daily Encouragement for The Smart Stepfamily	Life in a Blender
Snapshot	In this devotional, Gayla Grace offers a soothing salve and a holy nudge of daily encouragement for anyone navigating the unique dynamics of a blended family.	Daily devotional for couples in a blended family	Ron L. Deal will help you navigate life as a kid in a blended family.
Audience Type	Couples in blended families	Dating, Engaged or Married Couples in a Blended Family	Parents and kids (ages 10+) in a stepfamily
Topics Include	Find unity in your new marriage and parenting; explore your worth in Christ amid rejection; gain confidence in the stepparent role as you take on the armor of God.	Strengthening your marriage, parenting/stepparenting, grief, co-parenting with former partners	Learn how to handle the “Big Five” challenges—loss, sadness, fear, guilt, and confusion that most children feel within a blended family
Teacher/Author	Gayla Grace	Ron L. Deal	Ron L. Deal
Price	Stepparenting With Grace : \$15.99	Daily Encouragement for The Smart Stepfamily \$19.00	Life in a Blender \$4.99
# of Sessions	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Additional Content	Each devotion begins with Scripture along with an encouraging thought for the day and closes with prayer.	Some devotionals ‘could’ be shared with age appropriate children in a blended family FamilyLife Blended Minute (audio episodes)	Parent handbook to be used by the biological parent; kid booklet to be read with the biological parent and biological child in a stepfamily Bonus session: Kids 10-minute video from The Smart Stepfamily series available for free on RightNow Media
Suggested Time Duration	Self-Paced Reading	Self-Paced Reading	Self-Paced Reading
Tip Sheets & Free Downloads		2 weeks of free daily devotionals	Ministering to Students in Stepfamilies

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	The Smart Stepfamily Guide to Financial Planning	Christmas / Holidays	Spanish Resources
Snapshot	Money management before and after you blend a family	free e-book to help you find the gift of peace during the holiday season	Resources for blended families in Spanish www.vidaenfamilia.org/blended
Audience Type	Engaged or Married Couples in a Blended Family, Financial Planners	Couples in blended families; could be adapted as a stepfamily special topic group discussion	blended families who prefer Spanish translation
Topics Include	Merging day-to-day financial responsibilities & relationships, parenting adult children & caring for aging parents; creating a togetherness agreement	Tips for a peaceful stepfamily holiday Reminders for grieving stepfamilies 13 Ideas to manage holiday step-stress. A gratitude scavenger hunt. A Christmas bingo for those not-so-perfect moments.	-The Smart Stepfamily 8-Session video series (with Spanish subtitles)- FREE on RightNow Media with account login -Ron Deal video vignettes from The Art of Parenting (with Spanish voice-over) -Life in a Blender (Spanish version) children's booklet & Parent's Guide- FREE download
Teacher/Author	Ron L. Deal Greg S. Pettys David O. Edwards	Ron L. Deal Gayla Grace	Ron L. Deal couple/family vignettes (The Smart Stepfamily video series)
Price	The Smart Stepfamily Guide to Financial Planning : \$12.99	A Very Blended Christmas: Unwrapping the Gift of Peace - FREE e-book download	Visit www.vidaenfamilia.org/blended for FREE resources
# of Sessions	Not applicable	Not applicable	Varies
Additional Content	Create an "Own & Owe List"; planning for the future (retirement and children's college)	Links to some hand-picked podcasts highlighting unique blended Christmas challenges.	bonus video with Kathi Lipp (with Spanish voice-over)
Suggested Time Duration	Self-Paced Reading	Self-Paced	Self-Paced
Tip Sheets & Free Downloads	10 Financial Tips to Get Started : Avoid Money Drama and Plan Your Blended Family Future		