

Biography

Kit Coons

Kit Quady grew up in Maple Plain, Minnesota. She attended the University of Minnesota and graduated with honors as an Elementary Education teacher. She joined Campus Crusade for Christ staff, was trained in evangelism and discipleship, and was assigned to the heavily Muslim Sudan region in Nigeria, Africa. Her entry assignment was as an instructor at Gindri Teachers College. In Nigeria, Kit won Campus Crusade's Culturalization Award for West Africa in 1980. While in Africa, she met her future husband, Drew, who was also there with Campus Crusade.

Drew Coons

Drew, born in Florence, Alabama graduated as a Mechanical Engineer with high honor, Phi Kappa Phi, at Auburn University and then finished first in the graduate school at Georgia Tech. Later he completed Campus Crusade's intensive Agape International Training. As a young engineer, he designed critical components for the Space Shuttle and later worked as a Development Engineer for BASF Corporation. Drew received 24 US patents for his work at BASF and completed his career as part of the Commercial Products Marketing Team responsible for \$100 million in annual sales.

Drew had left his engineering career to serve overseas with Campus Crusade. There he met Kit, who was literally living in a mud house with no water or electricity. "She was the prettiest girl I ever saw," he remembers "and as tough as a hickory nut." After 2½ years and suffering nearly continuous bouts with malaria and other tropical diseases, Drew decided to return to his engineering job in the USA. Kit returned with him and they were married on October 10th, 1981. The Coons relocated to Anderson, South Carolina.

Kit and Drew became active in a local church by specializing in outreach and small group discipleship. Kit started a women's ministry, teaching and counseling, in South Carolina in 1984. She has hosted or spoken at dozens of "Christmas Coffee" meetings and with Drew's help organized large women's conferences with Cynthia Heald and Elisabeth Elliot. In 1989, God led the Coons to bring the ministry of FamilyLife to their area of South Carolina as unpaid laymen. In the next 10 years, nearly 20,000 benefitted from their ministry. The following illustrates that ministry experience.

USA FamilyLife Summary

- Started over 400 HomeBuilders Bible study groups
- Started two new FamilyLife Marriage Conferences
- Conducted 22 Leadership Conferences
- Developed HB Marriage Seminars and spoke at 66 in hotels, schools, churches, and military bases
- Spoke at more than 90 additional groups or churches

Writing :

- HomeBuilders Leadership Guide published by Group Publishing of Loveland, Colorado
- FamilyLife's "Multiplying a Legacy" Manual "Keeping Togetherness" International HomeBuilders Couples's Relationship Seminar
- "The Children of our Hearts" for childless couples

The ministry grew to the extent that in 1997 they left Drew's 25 year engineering career to serve as full time field staff with FamilyLife of Campus Crusade for Christ in South Carolina.

International FamilyLife Experience

Although Drew's health had brought them home from Africa, the Coons' heart was to serve God overseas. They have spoken at FamilyLife events in China, Romania, Jordan, Ukraine, Russia, Spain, Bahamas, Colombia, Nigeria, Slovenia, Trinidad, Bahrain, Turkey, Bulgaria, Canada, Hungary, Israel, Czech Republic, Holland, Kazakhstan, St. John, and Bolivia. At multinational events they have trained speakers and leaders from many more. The Coons spent two years for FamilyLife in the South Pacific. Based in New Zealand they spoke at 22 FamilyLife events and expanded the ministries, speaking and training leaders in New Zealand, Australia, Papua New Guinea, and the Fiji Islands.