

Smart Steps for Stepfamilies

In my years of experience counseling married couples, I've seen firsthand that even under the most ideal of circumstances, marriage can be tough! The joining of two people with distinct backgrounds, personalities, and perspectives is a beautiful thing, but it's guaranteed to come with challenges as well.

And if marriage can be tough, you can imagine that *remarriage* is even tougher! You might be adding children from one or both spouses' previous relationships. You're also adding the pain that accompanied the end of those previous relationships, whether it was divorce, the death of a spouse, or other factors. You're adding a whole new set of extended family members. And the list goes on. The challenges are real, and they go way beyond anything you saw on *The Brady Bunch*.

Does this situation sound like something your family (or another family you know) is experiencing?

I believe that with God's help and some practical guidance, blended families can experience beauty, wholeness, and stability.

No one understands the ins and outs of blended families better than Ron Deal, a frequent Focus on the Family Broadcast guest as well as a bestselling author, licensed marriage and family therapist, and founder of Smart Stepfamilies.

If your blended family is feeling frustrated, misunderstood, or alone, I have good news for you. Our team here at Focus has produced a FREE series of seven short video clips with Ron Deal called **Thriving Stepfamilies — Overcoming Common Challenges in Blended Families**. These brief segments are brimming with practical tips and advice to help you and your loved ones find peace, harmony, and trust in your blended home! And each video includes discussion questions and additional resources to help you on your journey.

So what are you waiting for? The series is FREE and you can sign up right now by [clicking here](#). If you don't live in a blended family personally, but know a family that could benefit from a free resource like this, feel free to share this email with them!

May God bless you and your family as you work through this series together!

Dr. Greg Smalley
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Focus on the Family