



PRE-MARITAL APPLICATION

Dear Couple,

We are blessed that you have chosen to seek information about being married by one of the pastoral staff members of Calvary Chapel Moreno Valley! We believe marriage is the second most important decision of our lives, second only to our decision to receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. We believe that marriage is exclusively the legal union of one genetic male and one genetic female as outlined in scripture and sanctioned by the state and evidenced by a marriage ceremony. We also believe that legitimate biblical sexual relations are exercised solely within marriage. Hence, sexual activities such as, but not limited to, adultery, fornication, pre-marital sex, incest, polygamy, homosexuality, transgender-ism, bisexuality, cross-dressing, pedophilia, and bestiality are inconsistent with the teachings of the Bible and the Church. Further, lascivious behavior, the creation, viewing and/or distribution of pornography and efforts to alter one's physical gender or gender related appearance are incompatible with a true biblical witness. (Genesis 2:24; 1 Corinthians 5:11; 6:9; 6:18-20; 7:1-3; 7:8-9; Romans 1:18-32). We believe in Creation and God as the Creator. We believe that God created man and that He created them male and female. As such, He created them different so-as-to complement and to complete each other. God instituted monogamous marriage between a male and female as the foundation of the family and the basic structure of human society. For this reason homosexuality and all other "sexual preferences" or "orientations" are unnatural, sinful, and unacceptable to God (1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 1 Timothy 1:9-11). Accordingly, this ministry will not perform any marriage ceremonies between two individuals of the same sex. It will not condone or recognize such same-sex marriages, civil unions, or domestic partnerships even if the state passes laws that provide for recognition of such unions. God designed marriage for our blessing! He loves marriage, and He desires to bless you in your marriage! With this in mind, we have established some very important biblical prerequisites that must be in place before any pre-marriage counseling can begin. These prerequisites are:

- **Both of you must be born-again believers in Jesus Christ, individually having received Him as your Lord and Savior.**
- **Both of you must be in regular attendance at Calvary Chapel or another Bible-believing fellowship for at least 6 months.**
- **Both of you must desire to make Jesus Christ the foundation and center of your relationship and must be willing to invest the necessary time in preparation for your marriage. This includes learning the directions, boundaries and guidelines Scripture reveals regarding this new relationship you are seeking to share together.**

It must be mentioned that there are several situations in which we are unable to provide pre-marriage counseling for a couple - situations that the Bible directly addresses. Because God's desire is to richly bless your upcoming marriage (and because He will be unable to do so should you be living in any manner that conflicts with His Word), the first place to begin must be the state and condition of each of your personal relationships with Him individually. If you are involved in any situation that is in opposition to His Word, the area(s) of compromise must first be rectified prior to embarking on any pre-marital discipleship. We are available and willing to walk with you through the process of restoring any area that needs addressing so that the two of you might move ahead and work towards experiencing the marriage God desires you to have. Examples of such situations would be:

- If one of you is not a born-again, Bible believing Christian. "Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers" (2 Corinthians 6:14.)
- If you are currently living together. "When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, your lives will produce these evil results: sexual immorality, impure thoughts..." (Galatians 5:19 NLT.)

How to Get Started!

To begin the pre-marital counseling, you will both be required to complete the two forms attached, returning it to the church office at your earliest convenience. You will then be contacted to set up an appointment. As the pastoral staff responsible for marrying couples, we believe it is essential that we get to know both of you and learn more about the relationship that the two of you share. It is from this standpoint that we can best assist and support you in preparing for what will be one of the most wonderful, challenging ventures of life you will ever embark on – marriage! We view this pre-marital process as a means through which the Lord will give His direction, guidance and leading, confirming whether or not the two of you are ready to enter the enormous endeavor of becoming husband and wife.

With this in mind, please be open to hear the voice of the Lord, even if He says “No” or “Wait.” Place your relationship on the altar, know that God loves you both and supremely wants what is best for you, and trust Him to verify if it is His desire that the two of you are to become one. You will be eternally grateful and thankful in the long run to have chosen to do this God’s way! We ask that you not set a wedding date until after the first two sessions with a pastor. He will either approve your tentative wedding date or ask you to wait, if we feel such a waiting period would be in your benefit. This decision is one that is made by the entire pastoral staff involved and not by any one single individual. We believe that “in the multitude of counselors there is safety” (Proverbs 11:14.)

A Few More Details to Know!

As the pastoral staff of Calvary Chapel Moreno Valley, we believe that by performing your wedding ceremony, we are confirming that you are both, in every way possible, prepared to meet and succeed in the challenges that you will face as husband and wife in Christ. Our objective is to assist you in identifying and developing your strengths so you can enter into a lifetime commitment of marriage based upon a strong biblical foundation. We consider it an honor to support you in your marriage plans, and as we stand before the Lord and give an account for each couple, we want to be certain that we have been faithful with this responsibility.

We believe that pre-marital counseling will greatly benefit you both as you prepare for your upcoming marriage. During the appointments we will cover such subjects as the role of husband and wife, the expectations that you may both be coming into this marriage with, the fine (and sometimes difficult) art of communication, the vital need to have a plan as a couple in regard to your finances, as well as any other issues you may have questions about. We will assign you chapters from your book at the conclusion of each appointment – homework that you will complete for your next session. When you complete the homework and return it to the office, a pastor will contact you to set your next appointment. **It takes a minimum of six months to complete pre-marital counseling if you diligently complete your studies and all counseling sessions must be completed at least one month prior to the wedding. Therefore, it is to your advantage to be prompt in completing and returning them to the office. Pre-marital counseling must be completed prior to your wedding day.**

If you have any questions regarding our pre-marital counseling, please contact one of the pastors at the church office (951) 485-6080. We pray both of you will be blessed by the upcoming sessions. Allow me to encourage you to invest the time to complete your homework with thought and prayer – you will both reap the benefits in untold blessings and your upcoming marriage will be greatly enriched.

May the Lord bless you as you acknowledge Him in all your ways – you will, indeed, see Him guide you every step of the way to becoming man and wife!

Pastor John Milhouse
Senior Pastor
Calvary Chapel Moreno Valley

Keep cover pages and turn in applications only

Pre-Marital Counseling

Personal Information Form

One form must be filled out by each person

Name: (Bride) _____ Date: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Marital Status:

Please check one

Never Married _____ Separated _____ Widowed _____

Divorced _____ If yes, how many times? _____ # of children _____

Explain the cause of your divorce.

If further space is needed to answer the following questions, please use the back of this sheet.

1. How long have you been a Christian? _____

2. How long have you been attending Calvary Chapel of Moreno Valley? _____

3. How long did you date each other before becoming engaged? _____

4. How long have you been engaged? _____

5. What is your tentative wedding date? _____

(PLEASE NOTE: You will need to allow 6 months from the date of your first counseling appointment, and know that this date is tentative. One of the pastoral staff will confirm the final wedding date following your second session.)

6. Your first two pre-marriage counseling appointments must be completed at least five months prior to your wedding date. **You will complete your first two counseling appointments by _____.**

(PLEASE NOTE: Your planned wedding date may be forfeited if you fail to complete your counseling sessions by this date).

7. Will you be renting the church facility? YES NO

I have read and agree to the terms set forth in this packet:

Signature

Date

In order for your counselor to have a better opportunity to disciple the two of you, we need you to each answer the following questions and return with your information forms.

- Describe your current relationship with the Lord (devotions, bible studies, church attendance, etc...).

- Briefly explain what you believe God's purpose is for marriage?

- What is the role of the husband in marriage?

- What is the role of the wife in marriage?

- Other than the usual responses like "Because we love each other", or "We have so much in common", how has God confirmed to you that you are to marry this person?

- What do you expect to get out premarital counseling?

Pre-Marital Counseling

Personal Information Form

One form must be filled out by each person

Name: (Groom) _____ Date: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Marital Status:

Please check one

Never Married _____ Separated _____ Widowed _____

Divorced _____ If yes, how many times? _____ # of children _____

Explain the cause of your divorce.

If further space is needed to answer the following questions, please use the back of this sheet.

1. How long have you been a Christian? _____

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