

WEDDING APPLICATION FORM

ABOUT YOU

Groom

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Cell: _____

How long have you been attending Cornerstone? _____

Where have you served at Cornerstone? _____

Bride

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Cell: _____

How long have you been attending Cornerstone? _____

Where have you served at Cornerstone? _____

ABOUT YOUR EVENT

Rehearsal

Date: _____ Time: _____

Location: _____

Wedding

Date: _____ Time: _____

Location: _____

Are you planning to write your own vows for your ceremony? Yes No

CORNERSTONES PRE-MARRIAGE COURSE GUIDELINES

PURPOSE – Our goal is to help promote and prepare for successful marriages. This course is overtly Christian; as such, we will be addressing each topic from a Biblical perspective. The course is for couples who are already engaged or seriously dating. Seriously dating means you plan to get engaged within the next six months to one year. This course is offered in preparation for a Christian marriage, and is not a course to prepare for engagement.

DATES/TIME – Sessions will take place on Thursday evenings from February 8 through March 22, beginning promptly at 7pm and ending no later than 9pm. Parking is available in the church garage or on the streets adjacent to the church.

COURSE STRUCTURE – The course consists of six content sessions and a potluck dinner on the final Thursday. Additional details are provided in the attached course outline.

COMMUNITY – The course provides participants with an opportunity to get to know other couples in a similar phase of life. Success is primarily based on interacting with your peers. In past years, we've seen couples make relational connections during the course that result in significant friendships.

HOMEWORK – This is a high-commitment course and it is important that you complete the workbook and reading assignments each week. You will only benefit to the degree that you put effort in. It is recommended that you do the homework individually and then have a check-in with your partner to discuss it. Some couples have found it helpful to have a set time and location to meet each week.

ATTENDANCE – Attendance is very important in this course due to the continuity of the content and the relationships you can build with other couples. Because there are only six content sessions, you should not miss more than one session. If one of you has a prior commitment that cannot be changed, but the other is available, you are encouraged to come solo – which is better than both of you missing a session.

REFERRALS – During the seven weeks of the course, you will be challenged as a couple. Being challenged is a good thing. If you find that issues come up where it would be helpful to have extra support, please let Pastor Carlos know. We can schedule a separate time to talk, and in some cases, provide a reference to a professional Christian counselor that could prove beneficial.

FEE - The \$70 registration fee covers two copies of the *Preparing for Marriage* workbook, all notes, and guest speakers. Additional books available for purchase include *A Model for Marriage*, and *Love and Respect* for \$14. *Five Love Languages* and *Little Changes, Big Results for Crazy, Busy Couples* cost \$10.

PERSONALITY PROFILE- For the personality and temperament session on February 15, we ask each person to complete a personality profile at www.kisa.ca/personality and bring it to class.

WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT MARRIAGE

Marriage is God's idea. He was the one who created man and woman and put them together in a covenant relationship that we call marriage. It is our hope that your wedding day is all that you dream it to be. It is also our desire to help support your marriage and to nurture the life-long commitment God intended it to be. We believe your relationship can be an experience of oneness, intimacy, and profound connection, but not without some bumps in the road.

When things go sideways, or you seem to have the same challenge over and over, it's time for some counseling. Check out our Care & Support page for some skilled therapists who can help you come up with a better strategy, a new best practice, and a rekindled love for one another.

THE FINE PRINT

As Christ-followers, we are called to love God with all our hearts and to honor Him by living consistent with what He has outlined as good and beneficial in the Scriptures. No one does this perfectly, but we are called to pursue His best for our lives.

Some elements of this involve nurturing our spiritual lives through prayer and reading His Word, investing in community that will encourage us to honor Him and our future spouse, and finding our unique assignments to serve others within the church community.

It also involves honoring God as we prepare for marriage by maintaining or re-establishing sexual purity until the wedding. If we want God's blessing in and over our future union, we must invite Him into the preparation season. Part of doing this well is not living together before marriage.

We hope the fine print doesn't scare you away from an honest conversation with a pastor about how to best move forward with your wedding plans. Time and again, couples who thought this challenge was physically and financially impossible found tremendous blessing by honoring God in this way.

As we will discuss, God created sex. He isn't against it, He is for it. However, He created marriage as the place in which a husband and wife could give themselves to one another freely and fully. We want you to grow and receive God's best for your married life together. If you are open to exploring this and other things that God says are for your benefit, we are excited to journey together and bless the union that God is creating through your approaching marriage.

OFFICIANT DETAILS

Several pastors are available at Cornerstone to officiate your wedding. Contact Pastor Carlos carlos@cornerstonesf.org to get the process started. The standard honorarium is \$500, which covers the pastor's time for the rehearsal, wedding ceremony, and planning for the ceremony (this includes meeting with the bride and groom). Additional costs may include transportation, airfare, hotel, and meals if the venue is outside the Bay Area. Payment may be presented to the pastor at the rehearsal or on the day of the wedding.