

Spirit of the Word Church Pre-Marital Counseling Application

WEDDING INFORMATION:

Tentative Wedding Date (if any): _____

Location of wedding (if known): _____

Do you want a Spirit of the Word Church Pastor to perform ceremony? Yes _____ No _____

If so, which one? _____

PERSONAL INFORMATION: (Groom to be)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____

E-mail: _____

Your Age: _____

FAMILY INFORMATION:

Have you been married previously? Yes No

Do you have children? Yes _____ No _____

How long have you known each other? _____

Are you engaged? _____ If so, how long have you been engaged? _____

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION:

Are you employed? _____ Where: _____

How long have you been at this position? _____

SPIRITUAL INFORMATION:

Do you believe in God? Yes _____ No _____ Uncertain _____

Do you pray to God? Regularly _____ Occasionally _____ Never _____

Do you read the Bible? Regularly _____ Occasionally _____ Never _____

Is Spirit of the Word Church your home church? Yes _____ No _____ How Long _____?

How many times per month do you attend church? _____

A Christian is one who has trusted in Jesus Christ to save them and forgive them of their sins.

Have you received Jesus Christ as your Savior: Yes _____ No _____ Uncertain _____

If yes, when? _____

Have you been baptized in water since you received Christ? Yes _____ No _____

PERSONAL INFORMATION: (Bride to be)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____

E-mail: _____

Your Age: _____

FAMILY INFORMATION:

Have you been married previously? Yes _____ No _____

Do you have children? Yes _____ No _____

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION:

Are you employed? _____ Where: _____

How long have you been at this position? _____

SPIRITUAL INFORMATION:

Do you believe in God? Yes _____ No _____ Uncertain _____

Do you pray to God? Regularly _____ Occasionally _____ Never _____

Do you read the Bible? Regularly _____ Occasionally _____ Never _____

Is Calvary Fellowship your home church? Yes _____ No _____ How Long _____?

How many times per month do you attend church? _____

A Christian is one who has trusted in Jesus Christ to save them and forgive them of their sins.

Have you received Jesus Christ as your Savior: Yes _____ No _____ Uncertain _____

If yes, when? _____

Have you been baptized in water since you received Christ? Yes _____ No _____

Dear Couple:

We at Spirit of the Word Church believe marriage is the second most important decision of our lives, second only to our decision to receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. With this in mind, we have established some very important Biblical prerequisites before any SOTWC Minister perform a wedding. These prerequisites are:

1. Both individuals must be born again believers in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
2. Both individuals must be in regular attendance at Spirit of the Word Church or another Bible-believing fellowship.
3. Both individuals must commit to sexual purity and abstain from sexual relations, and may not live together before marriage.
3. Both individuals must desire that Jesus Christ be the foundation of their marriage and invest time preparing for marriage by learning the boundaries and guidelines Scripture reveals regarding this relationship with each other.

Spirit of the Word Church believes it is important for us to know each couple and to give Godly counsel based on what we see in the relationship. This means we will be honest enough to let you know if we see serious blind spots or problems in the relationship because we care about you and your future. We view the Pre-marital process as a vehicle through which God is able to ratify or refute the relationship. With this in mind, please be open to hear the voice of the Lord, even if He says “No!” or “Wait!” Put your relationship on the altar, and trust God to verify if He is in this relationship. You will be eternally grateful and thankful. We believe our time together will give you a head start in your upcoming marriage. 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 join couples together in the Lord, and it is our fervent prayer that Our Lord will use us to assist you in your marriage plans. 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. May the rich blessings of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and the full power of the Holy Spirit guide you in all your ways!

By submitting this form, you are saying:

I have read and understand Spirit of the Word Church’s Biblical Lay Counseling Ministry Policies and I agree to submit to them. I also understand that I am not seeking professional counseling, and I am asking for Biblical, spiritual advice. I also understand that confidentiality of my disclosure will be maintained by the lay counselor and the Pastoral staff of Spirit of the Word Church within the guidelines listed in the Biblical Lay Counseling Ministry Policies. I understand that all lay counselors will act as a conduit to the Pastoral Staff. All lay counselors receiving information will be receiving such information pursuant to the privilege established in North Carolina Statute. I understand that this privilege granted by these statutes is subject to court interpretation and court orders. In the event of an order of a court of competent jurisdiction, Spirit of the Word Church will release required information unless the counselee takes steps to obtain a stay of such order and/or review of such order at appellate levels. I understand that the privilege of confidentiality is an individual privilege. The privilege may be waived should the counselee discuss the privileged matters in the presence of third parties or discuss the content of the counseling with a third party after the counseling session. The discussion of counseling content with a person not a part of the counseling ministry may act as a waiver of privilege.

We commit to fulfilling the previously stated Biblical requirements before attending the 2-3 counseling sessions.

Bride to be

Groom to be

You are about to begin the most important stage of your life ... MARRIAGE. Marriage is a divine institution created by God, and it will be blessed when there is obedience to *His principles*.

To begin this process, fill out the Pre-Marital Counseling Application. When completed, return these forms to Spirit of the Word Church. Plan to begin these sessions with a *minimum* of 60 days prior to your anticipated wedding date. This will provide adequate time for the sessions with your premarital counselor. Your actual wedding date and the securing of a pastor will not be confirmed until we have been able to complete the process and all sessions.

1. All counselors are a part of the Biblical Lay Counseling Ministry and some may have secular or professional training. They are spiritually mature and Biblically knowledgeable.
2. Counselors are to open and close every counseling session with prayer and refer to an open Bible during the counseling session.
3. The lay counselors are not to discuss any counseling session with anyone who is not a pastor, minister or staff member of the Biblical Counseling Ministry. Any contact with a party outside of the foregoing, or the counselee, may be initiated only after first obtaining both written pastoral permission and written permission of the counselee; or through pastoral ministry determination. This privacy and confidentiality privilege may only be modified as set forth herein. Pastoral counselors will decide whether or not information is to be released.
4. Men are not permitted to counsel women, one on one, and women are not permitted to counsel men, one on one, without pastoral approval.
5. Pastoral approval is required for anyone to be counseled more than three times.
6. By accepting counseling by the Biblical Counseling Ministry, the counselee agrees to:
 - A. Commit themselves to the purpose of the counseling.
 - B. Be faithful to the scheduled time commitment.
 - C. Be open and honest during the counseling sessions.
 - D. Be diligent in the completion of all homework and/or exercises assigned.
 - E. Commit to a regular schedule of worship, Bible study, and prayer agreed upon with the counselor.
7. The failure to adhere to the above commitments may result in the counseling relationship being terminated.

The termination of counseling will in no way authorize the publication or discussion of any of the privileged communications acquired during the counseling sessions except as herein set forth.
8. Any violation of the above policies should be reported to the Pastor of the Biblical Lay Counseling Ministry or to any of the pastors at Spirit of the Word Church.

Guidelines for Weddings

Pre-Marital Program

Our Pre-marital program consists of three sessions with your Pre-marital counselor and your officiating pastor to discuss the details of the ceremony.

Pastor

It is customary to give a cash gift of \$250 for officiating your ceremony.

