

Marriage...

more than a wedding



Your wedding is an exciting and joyful event, and one of the most significant and serious commitments of your life. It is important to remember that getting married is, first of all, a spiritual matter.

Christian marriage is clearly taught in many places in the Bible, particularly in Genesis 2:18-25, Matthew 19:1-9 and Ephesians 5:21-31. In light of that teaching, we recognize our responsibility to help prepare you not just for your wedding, but also for your marriage. We strive to do so by equipping you and your partner with a biblical foundation for marriage.

We believe marriage is a covenant intended by God to be a lifelong relationship between a man and a woman. A covenant marriage relationship means that you will remain steadfast in unconditional love, forgiveness and sexual purity, while growing in your relationship. Marriage is God's idea and we want to help you understand and grow together in your relationship with Him.

"Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator `made them male and female,' and said, `For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh' ? So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."

Matthew 19:4-6

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Planning a wedding at Redeemer



Redeemer Evangelical Free Church

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Getting Started

If you or your parents are a member of the Redeemer Church family...

1. **Approach the pastor of your choice** to see if your planned date works for him and the church calendar.
2. **Schedule the first session** - Get your pre-marital counseling started as soon as possible so that you and the officiating pastor can get to know each other better and determine if you can proceed with your wedding.
3. **Complete a Facility Use Request Form** - which will be used in determining if your date will work with the church calendar as well as the pastor's own ministry calendar. (The form can be requested from the church office and the facility is confirmed when both the officiating pastor and church office approve it.)
4. **Connect with the Wedding Coordinator** - Once the wedding request is approved, the Church Office will inform the Wedding Coordinator. She will contact you directly to set up a meeting.

5. **Connect with the officiating pastor for pre-marital counseling sessions 2-5.** During your sessions with the pastor, he will use pre-marital inventories to clarify issues unique to your relationship that can help you better prepare for a successful marriage.

Contact the Church Office if you are not from Redeemer or will be using a pastor who is not from Redeemer.



Frequently Asked Questions

Who can be married at Redeemer?

Any couple whose relationship fits within biblical guidelines and whose request has been approved by our pastoral staff.

How long does it take to complete the pre-marriage process?

Couples need to complete the pre-marital counseling, which involves six sessions. This usually takes several months and must be completed before the wedding date.

The first session with the officiating pastor to determine the suitability of the couple getting married at Redeemer. Sessions 2-5 will be to review and discuss the results of the pre-marital inventories. The final session will cover preparations for your wedding day, including the details of the ceremony.

Are we required to be engaged in order to take the pre-marriage class?

No. Many couples are seriously dating and want to learn as much as they can before going forward with a greater level of commitment.

How do we contact a pastor to officiate at our wedding?

All of the pastors at Redeemer are available to perform wedding ceremonies. You may contact any one of them or call the Church Office for assistance.

Can a non-Redeemer pastor perform our ceremony?

Guest pastors are welcome to perform ceremonies at Redeemer with approval from the Senior Pastor.

How much does it cost to be married at Redeemer?

The total cost for your wedding will vary depending on the extent of your requests. Fees will apply to pre-marital inventories, room requests, and other needs. Honorariums will be required for the services of the Wedding Coordinator, sound technicians and special music.

The Facility Use Application will provide guidelines for the fees and honorariums.

For more information, please contact one of the pastors directly or the church office.