

Harvest Chapel International

Pre-Marital Counseling Questionnaire



What we Believe

Marriage is one of the most important commitments a person can make. Aside from your decision to follow Christ, no other decision will have as great an impact on your life. In a Christian marriage, two individuals are making a vow to God to fulfill to the best of their ability, all that God requires for their marriage as outlined in the Bible. Because of the great significance and importance of the marriage vow, all parties should approach marriage prayerfully, patiently, and honestly. It is our belief that performing wedding ceremonies is not an obligation by Harvest Chapel International and its ministers, to the members of Harvest Chapel but a sacred duty to God to make sure marriage honour and glorify Him. This means that if we feel that you and your fiancé are not ready, or should not be married for any reason, we will decline to perform your wedding or continue the pre-marriage counseling.

What We Require

There are situations in which we will automatically refuse to perform your wedding or begin pre-marriage counseling.

First: If one of you is not a born again Christian. The Bible clearly teaches that we are not to be unequally yoked with an unbeliever. (2 Corinthians 6:14)

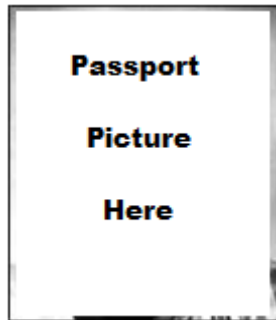
Second: If the two of you are currently living together. Even if you are only living “under the same roof”, the Bible tells us to “abstain from all appearance of evil”. (1 Thessalonians 5:22)

We believe it is much more important to counsel you as to how to get out of either of these situations than to move ahead with your wedding plans.

The following is a list of requirements that must be met before we will agree to perform your marriage ceremony. We will strictly adhere to these requirements without exception.

1. As we have already mentioned, in order to be married at Harvest Chapel International both the bride and groom must be born again Christians (i) who are in active fellowship at Harvest Chapel International or; (ii) one of whom must be in active fellowship at Harvest Chapel International and the other a Bible believing Church; for at least six months.
2. Each couple must complete the attached Pre-Marital Questionnaire before counseling will be scheduled.
3. After you have submitted your completed questionnaire, the head pastor or his representative(s) will have to review and approve it.
4. After approval by the head pastor, the marriage counseling committee will meet and assign suitable counselors to the prospective couples.
5. The prospective couples will be notified by the head of the committee as to who their counselors are.
6. Before a final wedding date is set, the couple must complete the church's counseling programme with the counselors here at Harvest Chapel International.
7. The final wedding date should be at least six months from the date of submission of the forms.
8. The counselors providing the counseling must approve of the wedding before we will agree to continue with plans such as the final date etc.
9. The purpose of pre-marital counseling is to better prepare you for the marital relationship. We would hope that every marriage we perform would be honoring and glorifying to God.
10. A Christian wedding is a sacred event. Therefore, the entire ceremony must be conducted with reverence, and centered on Jesus Christ. All parties must be appropriately dressed, and the music glorifying to God.

Pre-Marital Questionnaire



This questionnaire must be filled out completely and turned in to the church office.

NOTE: We reserve the right to discontinue the counseling and planning process at any time, at our discretion.

Both you and your partner need to complete a questionnaire.

1. Personal Information

Name:						Age:					
Nationality/Home Town:						Highest Qualification:					
Job/Vocation:						Tel. No.:					
E-mail Address											
Blood Group		Rhesus Group		Sickling		HIV test		Hepatitis			
Partner's Name:								Age:			

2. Marital Status

Have you been married before?				If yes, how many times?		
Are you: Divorced		Widowed		Separated		

Do you have children from a previous marriage/relationship?		If yes, how many?	
What are their ages?			
If divorced, why was your previous marriage terminated?			

3. Dating Period

How long have you known each other?		How long have you been going out?	
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4. Religious Background

Do you regularly attend a Harvest Chapel International?			
If yes, which branch?		For how long?	
If no, where do you attend church?			
What department/ministry in church do you belong to?			
Where would you like to perform the ceremony?			

Please answer the following questions as completely yet as briefly as possible. Remember that our goal is to help you prepare for marriage. Therefore be honest with your responses. Don't simply write the answers you think we expect.

5. How have you prepared for marriage?

Have you read Christian books on marriage?			
If yes, please list them.			

6. Give some reasons why you want to marry your partner.

7. With so many marriages failing today, why do think yours will succeed?

8. How do other members of your family (parents & siblings) feel about your partner?

9. List what you see as your partner's three greatest character strengths?

10. List what you see as your partner's three greatest character weaknesses?

11. Are you prepared to accept your partner, just as they are, (without trying to change them) for the rest of your life? What are the things you will like to change?

12. Are there any health concerns of physical conditions that might hinder your functioning in the marriage?

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13. If so, have you discussed these concerns with your partner?

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14. Is there any other information to share that may make your premarital counseling process beneficial?

Best Time for Premarital Counseling Appointment

Anytime 9 am – 5 pm, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
 Anytime 9 am – 6 pm Tuesday (not applicable)

We will attempt to accommodate these times as our availability allows.
 The greater flexibility you can have with your schedule may allow for quicker placement.

Please Note:

Performance of marriage ceremonies is an accommodation to the body. NOT an obligation. It is understood that entering into pre-marital counseling is NOT an agreement of approval to be married by Harvest Chapel International or by one of its pastors. Harvest Chapel is NOT obligated to meet any wedding date set prior to the completion of counseling. We are not, nor do we claim to be “Professional” Counselors. Our counsel is based solely on God’s Word, the Bible. Be sure you thoroughly understand our position, before signing below: I acknowledge that I have read and understand the above, and that all of the information filled in is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature			
Date Collected		Date Submitted	