

## **First Baptist Church Wedding Packet**

We are excited that you have decided to bring First Baptist Church along in your journey to marriage. We are here to help you build a Christ-centered foundation for your marriage and to help you become the husband and wife God intended you to be.

This packet is for those couples who desire to get married at or through FBC. In this packet you will find the following:

- First Baptist Church's Philosophy and Requirements for marriage. These are our beliefs on what God intended marriage to be.
- An application to use the First Baptist Church building. While using our building you also receive the expertise of our Wedding Coordinator that has been doing weddings at FBC for 10 years.
- An application to conduct premarital counseling with an FBC mentoring couple. Through this process you will learn real life application to the deep spiritual truth of marriage.
- An application to use an FBC Pastor to officiate your wedding. We have multiple Pastors and Elders that have had the joy of officiating weddings. We would love to serve you on your day.

You only need to fill out the forms that are relevant to your wedding day.

It is our joy to serve you on your special day. If there is any other way we can serve you, please do not hesitate to contact our office with your request.

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## First Baptist Church Wedding Philosophy and Requirements

Your wedding is one of the most significant days and experiences in your life. A lot of planning and preparation goes into a wedding. Besides all the details of the ceremony, reception, and honeymoon, the leadership of First Baptist Church (FBC) encourages attention to the spiritual foundations of marriage first and foremost.

The leadership of FBC believes the following about marriage:

- Marriage is the earthly example of a deeply spiritual concept. The Bible teaches that the body of believers are the Bride and Jesus is our Bridegroom (Ephesians 5, 1 Corinthians 11:2). We will be reunited with Jesus as our Bridegroom (Revelation 19), to live in complete intimacy with Him. Earthly marriage has been given to us as a representation of this spiritual union.
- God Himself established the institution of marriage. When God created Eve to be a helper for Adam, He said that “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh” (Genesis 2:24).
- Marriage is intended to be a lifelong commitment. God himself said “I hate divorce” (Micah 2:16). Jesus affirmed this in Matthew 19:6 saying, “So they are no longer two but one flesh. What God has joined together let no man separate” and in Matthew 19:8 “Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning.” For this reason we focus more on the marriage, and not simply the ceremony.
- Both the bride and the groom must individually confess a personal commitment as Jesus Christ as Lord. We do not believe that marriage is designed to be between a believer and an unbeliever (1 Corinthians 6:14-18).
- We believe that marriage is between one man and one woman. In Genesis 2 God says that a man will leave his mother to be joined as one flesh with his wife. Jesus affirms this teaching in Matthew 19.

All the requirements listed below must be met in order for a wedding to take place at FBC or have an FBC pastor officiate your wedding:

- Both the bride and groom must have individually confessed a belief in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.
- Both must be over 18 years of age.
- Both must have parental blessing.
- In the case of a prior marriage, Biblical guidelines for divorce and remarriage are to be followed.
- The couple must have completed a premarital counseling course through FBC or another approved premarital counseling program.
  - In the course of premarital counseling the mentor couple has the right and responsibility to recommend that a marriage ceremony not be performed.
- A non-FBC Pastor must be approved by FBC staff before officiating a ceremony at FBC.

**FBC SLO Wedding Venue Application**

2075 Johnson Ave.  
San Luis Obispo, CA

**Wedding Information:**

Name of Couple: Bride: \_\_\_\_\_ Groom: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: Bride: \_\_\_\_\_ Groom: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: Bride: \_\_\_\_\_ Groom: \_\_\_\_\_

Addresses: Bride: \_\_\_\_\_

Groom: \_\_\_\_\_

After the Wedding: \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Details: Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Guests \_\_\_\_\_

Rehearsal Details: Date of Rehearsal: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Rehearsal: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Tell Us:**

Why would you like to hold your wedding at FBC?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Has the bride trusted Jesus as Savior? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Has the groom trusted Jesus as Savior? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Is either the bride or groom divorced? Bride \_\_\_\_\_ Groom \_\_\_\_\_

If a non-FBC Pastor is officiating please give his name and phone number:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please have the Pastor read FBC's Wedding Philosophy and Requirements.

Have you completed, or are you in the process of completing, premarital counseling through FBC or another approved program? Check one: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

FBC Mentor Couple: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Program Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Wedding Fees:**

- Refundable Damage Deposit: \$200
- FBC Pastoral Honorarium: \$200-\$300 to be given at the wedding rehearsal
- Wedding Package: \$700 Non-Members \$500 Members
  - *Included in Wedding Package Cost:*
    - Sanctuary: rehearsal & ceremony
    - Two Dressing Rooms
    - Sound Technician
    - Custodial Services
    - Wedding Hostess to run rehearsal & ceremony

A \$100 non-refundable deposit is due upon approval of this application. You will be notified by the church office of your application's status once it has been reviewed by the staff. The damage deposit and final payment are due **two weeks** before your wedding rehearsal.

Do you plan on using an outside Wedding Coordinator?

If so, who: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone/email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Read and Sign Below**

We understand that this application does not guarantee the use of the facility. This application must be approved by the FBC office and staff. Upon approval/denial of this application, the Bride or Groom will be notified. If your application is approved your \$100 non-refundable deposit is due.

We acknowledge that we have received, read, and are in agreement with FBC's Wedding Philosophy and Requirements. We, the undersigned, have read and understand the Wedding Ceremony Application. We are aware of all the church deposits and fees due for use of the First Baptist Church building.

**Groom:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Bride:** \_\_\_\_\_

**For Office Use:**

Application Status:

\_\_\_\_\_ Approved      \_\_\_\_\_ Needs Amending      \_\_\_\_\_ Denied *Reason:* \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor Officiating: \_\_\_\_\_

Sound Tech: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_

\*a copy of this application is to remain in the church office and emailed to the Wedding Hostess

### Premarital Counseling Application

This application is simply for us to get to know you a little in an effort to match you up with a mentoring couple. We would ask that you pray for the pre-marital counseling process and pray that your journey would be enriched by your counseling couple.

1. Name of Groom: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Bride: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Contact Info: Phone Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

3. When is the date of your wedding? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Are you currently a member or attender of First Baptist Church? Please check one box.

\_\_\_\_\_ Member \_\_\_\_\_ Regular Attender \_\_\_\_\_ Attend Celebration

--How long have you been a member or attended? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Have either of you been married before? Bride: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Groom: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

--If the answer is yes for either of you, you will be contacted by an FBC Pastor to insure that Biblical guidelines for divorce and remarriage are followed.

6. Why do you want to go through marriage counseling through First Baptist Church?

7. Have you already talked to a specific couple about being your mentor couple? Which couple?

\_\_\_\_\_

### Tell Us About Yourself

1. Employer or Year in School and Major:

2. Give a brief description of how you met and how long have you been together.

3. What role does your faith play in your relationship?

4. What are some of your favorite hobbies to do together?

5. What are you looking forward to most about being married?

Groom:

Bride:

Please read the FBC Wedding Philosophy and Requirements. By signing below you acknowledge that you have read and agree with the Philosophy and Requirements.

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Groom

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Bride

**Wedding Officiant Request**

Please have the *Bride and Groom* sign at the bottom

- 1. Which FBC Pastor are you requesting to officiate your wedding?

\_\_\_\_\_

- 2. What is the location of your wedding venue?

\_\_\_\_\_

- 3. What are the dates and times of your wedding ceremony and rehearsal ceremony?

\_\_\_\_\_

- 4. Have you completed or are in process of completing a Premarital Counseling program through FBC or another FBC approved premarital counseling program? **Yes/No**

\_\_\_\_\_ Your FBC Mentor Couple

\_\_\_\_\_ Other Program (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

The suggested honorarium for an FBC Pastor to officiate the marriage ceremony is \$200 to \$300. If the Pastor is serving at more than simply the ceremony, please give as God prompts. It is customary and to give this honorarium at the rehearsal ceremony.

If the service is outside of San Luis Obispo County, please consider covering travelling costs for your Pastor.

If accepted, this request of an FBC Pastor to officiate your wedding is the Pastor agreeing to wedding rehearsal and ceremony. If you wish for the Pastor to serve above and beyond the ceremony, please speak with him personally. In some instances of weddings on-site at FBC, the Pastor may elect to have the wedding coordinator take his place of leadership at the rehearsal ceremony.

Please read FBC's Philosophy and Requirements for marriage. By signing below you are acknowledging you have read that document and have read and understand the Wedding Officiant Request:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Bride**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Groom**