

## Weddings at Christ Community Church of Gridley

We are so glad that you are considering Christ Community Church to host your wedding and to help you prepare for a healthy, lifelong marriage. We believe that a marriage done God's way, in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the Bible, will bring great joy and blessing into your life. Our goal at Christ Community is to help couples understand God's design for marriage and to help each party involved prepare to be faithful for better or worse, until death do them part. To this end, we ask all couples to agree to the following expectations, which we believe will help the couple to enter into a lasting, beautiful, marriage covenant.

- Both parties must demonstrate a genuinely submissive spirit to the pastoral guidance they receive.
- Couples should expect to participate in premarital counseling (typically four sessions). Some of the sessions will require that the couple do reading and homework in preparation for the session. We desire to invest in your marriage and, consequently, we ask that couples put forth a good-faith effort to maximize the premarital counseling sessions.
- The couple will be expected to understand and embrace a biblical covenant of marriage (a commitment for life, vowed before God).
- Given the clear statement of Scripture (2 Corinthians 6:14), Christ Community Church cannot marry a believer to one who is not yet a believer.
- Local churches help nurture Christian marriage. Therefore, couples must give evidence of a commitment to actively participate in a local church family.
- Couples are required to seek sexual purity in their relationship. Those who are living together will be expected to establish separate residences and pursue sexual purity for the duration of the engagement.
- We ask and expect the couple to be truthful throughout the premarital process. Further, if either party has previously been divorced, the circumstances of the divorce should be disclosed in the first introductory interview.

We hope that the wedding ceremony is a very special God-glorifying occasion and that the premarital process prepares you for a lifetime of healthy marriage. Please contact the church office (309-747-2299) if you have any additional questions about weddings at Christ Community.