



We are very excited about our upcoming Merge Class in the Spring of 2018. Our team has been diligently preparing for this weekend and praying for you and your relationship. We believe this eight-week course together will be a great help for you as you process next steps in your relationship and future marriage. We are encouraged by your desire to spend this time together so that you may grow in your relationship.

**In this packet you will find a few items:**

- **Schedule for the Class**
- **Frequently asked questions**
- **Pre-class homework for Merge**

• ***Where do I go?***

Join us at our Wills Point location. It is located on FM 47 South outside of Wills Point. For directions, simply go to our **website at [www.stonepointchurch.com](http://www.stonepointchurch.com)**

• ***When do I need to be at Stonepoint Church?***

Registration begins at 6:30pm on Thursday, March 22, 2018. We will officially kick off at 7:00pm. We will not provide dinner for you, but will have snacks, finger foods, and beverages available. You will get your class workbook when you arrive on the first night of Merge. *Stonepoint Church tends to be cold, so we recommend you dress in layers.*

• ***What can I expect?***

If you know much about Stonepoint, you know we are going to challenge you in many ways. You will not hear our opinions, but God's counsel through His word. Our desire is that everything we do will be informed by God's Word and will be indicative of His love for us.

The class is a combination of teaching segments and small group discussion. You will be paired with a married, mentor couple and other seriously dating or engaged couples in a similar stage of life. We will teach through different topics and your small group mentor couple will help facilitate discussion based on the teaching/content.



### **The Merge Class Premarital Process:**

Before we start the eight-week class, we want you to know how the Merge weekend process best works.

- 1. Register Online**
- 2. Print and Complete this packet, including the pre-class homework.**
- 3. Go all in with your leader and small group during the course.**  
Come ready to learn and come ready to have some fun!

If we can help you further before you arrive, please let us know! If we can pray for you in any specific way before class, please let us know. Otherwise, we will see you on **Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 6:30pm!**



**Schedule: *Thursday Nights from March 22- May 17, 2018***

**Merge Weekly Class Schedule** (subject to minor changes)

- 6:30pm - Doors Open (First Week Only)
- 6:45pm - Doors open (Rest of the weeks of Merge)
- 7:00pm - **Session Teaching**
- 7:45pm - Break
- 7:55pm - **Small Groups**
- 9:00pm - Dismiss



## Pre-Class Homework

We have included a few questions and exercises for you to complete before you arrive for the eight-week Merge Class. Please do your prep-homework **separately** and then take some time to discuss together before the class.

1. **Why are you taking this class? What do you hope to get out of the weekend Merge class?**
2. **What would need to happen for you to consider this weekend together to be a success?**
3. **How do you define marriage? What sources do you use to inform your definition of marriage?**
4. **Why do you want to get married?**
5. **The part of my relationship where I feel most confident or secure is \_\_\_\_\_? Why do you feel this way?**

6. The part of my relationship where I feel most anxious or insecure is \_\_\_\_\_? Why do you feel this way?

7. While we think the weekend class will be a great help in your relationship, what other steps do you anticipate taking to help you prepare for marriage?

8. Look up and read the following verses alone and then with your significant other. As you reflect on these verses, discuss together what God is saying through His Word.

- **Genesis 1:27-28**

- **Genesis 2:24-25**

- **Matthew 19:3-9**

- **1 Corinthians 6:12-18**

- **Ephesians 5:21-33**

- **Hebrews 13:4**

a) *What are some common themes in what Scripture says about marriage?*

b) *How did God design husbands and wives to live together?*

c) *How does the text apply to your relationship now?*



**9. Share with your significant other the specifics of how and when you became a follower of Christ.**

*a. How has Christ impacted/transformed your life?*

*b. If you were to die tonight, how certain would you be that you are going to heaven? Why? If your answer is not 100%, please ask your table leader during the weekend class.*

*c. Do you believe there is a way to heaven apart from Jesus Christ? Do you think all roads lead to God (i.e. other religions)?*

**10. What are three subjects, topics, circumstances or settings that usually lead to "conflict" or hard feelings? (i.e. in-laws, finances, schedules)**

**11. How do you view conflict? As something to avoid at all costs or as an opportunity to glorify God and build your relationship? Why?**



This is a printable form only (not an excel file).

### What I Own Summary

Checking Account (current balance)									
Savings Account (current balance)									
Other Savings									
Insurance (cash value)									
Retirement Funds									
Home (market value)									
Auto (age: _____ make: _____)									
Auto (age: _____ make: _____)									
Other Possessions (estimate)									
Money Owed to Me									
Other									
Other									

### What I Owe Summary

	<u>Total Owed</u>	<u>Min. Monthly Payment</u>	<u>Int Rate</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total Owed</u>	<u>Min. Monthly Payment</u>	<u>Int Rate</u>
Mortgage (current balance)							
Home Equity Loan							
Credit Cards:							
Car Loans							
Education Loans							
Family/Friends							

### What I Make

Self				Spouse			
Take-home pay (the amount of the check):				Take-home pay (the amount of the check):			
Job #1	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> weekly <input type="checkbox"/> monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> every other week <input type="checkbox"/> twice a month	Job #1	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> weekly <input type="checkbox"/> monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> every other week <input type="checkbox"/> twice a month
Job #2	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> weekly <input type="checkbox"/> monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> every other week <input type="checkbox"/> twice a month	Job #2	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> weekly <input type="checkbox"/> monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> every other week <input type="checkbox"/> twice a month
Other Income (please explain)							
Total Monthly Income				\$ _____			



## **Frequently Asked Questions:**

### **What meals are provided?**

We do not provide meals during the eight-week Merge class, however we will provide snacks and beverages each night.

### **Who are the mentor couples and how are groups put together?**

The married mentor couples are members of Stonepoint Church who are recruited by Merge ministry leadership. They are couples who love the Lord, love each other and care for other couples. They are trained and supported by Merge leadership. Groups are put together primarily based on age of couples and age of mentors. We will do our best to pair you with couples who are similar ages to you and your significant other.

### **What do I need to bring with me and what do I need to do to prepare for the class?**

A bible and journal would be great, and we will provide everything else. There are some pre-class assignments that are part of this packet that you will want to complete before our time together. We will have some recommended books available for you to look over, but you do not need to read anything (outside of this packet) to help you prepare.

**Week One: Biblical View of Marriage**

March 22, 2018

**Week Two: Communication and Conflict**

March 29, 2018

**Week Three: Biblical Roles in Marriage**

April 5, 2018

**Week Four: Strengthening Your Relationship**

April 12, 2018

**Week Five: Finances**

April 19, 2018

**Week Six: Expectations in Marriage**

April 26, 2018

**Week Seven: Sexual Intimacy**

May 3, 2018

**Week Eight: Understanding Your Spouse**

May 10, 2018