

STEPS TO GET MARRIED

Read Christ First's Perspective on Sex Before Marriage

Prior to completing your wedding application, please read Christ First's Perspective on Sex Before Marriage. (You will find the document link on the Weddings at Christ First page.)

Complete a Wedding Application

We ask that you submit the wedding application at least 6 - 9 months before your desired wedding date so that you can complete the necessary steps in the wedding process. (See the Weddings at Christ First page to and click the link to complete the online wedding application.)

After receiving your application, and upon approval after review, your security deposit of \$250 will be due and will reserve your wedding date. 60 days prior to your wedding date, the balance will be due.

Schedule Pre-Marital Counseling

Contact the church office for a referral to a Christian counselor. This must be scheduled prior to application approval.

Why pre-marital counseling?

Promises are no substitute for preparation. You know this when it comes to running a marathon. It doesn't matter if

you register for the race. It doesn't matter if you make a heart-felt commitment. It doesn't matter if you tell the whole world. What matters is preparation. To successfully complete a marathon you must prepare. Marriage is similar. Just because you say "I do" doesn't make you're able. Just because you say "I do" doesn't make you capable, it only makes you accountable. And when you're accountable for something you're not capable of doing, you become miserable. Pre-marital counseling is a key component to help couples prepare for a healthy marriage.

It is important for couples to complete 100% of assigned homework on time. Not completing assignments and not engaging in the process will decrease the effectiveness of counseling sessions and is an indication of a couple's interest in pushing pause on the ceremony. We love you, we want the best for you, so prepare well.

Enter the Mentor Process

You will be assigned a volunteer Marriage Mentor couple who will contact you. These mentors are Christ First couples who have been married for varying lengths of time, and whose desire is to assist engaged couples in starting their lives together successfully. Each engaged couple will meet with a mentor couple for 4 to 6 sessions to discuss various aspects of married life. Our hope is that this couple would continue to be a resource and support in the years to come.

Wedding Coordinator – if you are getting married at Christ First

Approximately two months prior to your wedding, a wedding coordinator will contact you to discuss the details of your wedding. The wedding coordinator will be present at both your rehearsal and your wedding ceremony. They will provide access to the building, as well as helpful information and service. Your wedding coordinator will work closely with the pastoral staff member involved in your wedding. If you are getting married either On-Site or Off-Site you will be assigned a pastor upon approval of your application. If you have a specific pastor you would like to request for your ceremony, we will try to accommodate your request. Please do not contact the pastor directly and ask him to perform your ceremony. Because of the limitations on our staff, careful planning needs to be put into scheduling a Pastor to officiate a wedding in an already busy ministry schedule. We are here to support and celebrate your marriage but please remain open and flexible on who performs the ceremony.