

Pre-marriage Course Outline 2019

Bridgeman Baptist Community Church

This course is particularly suitable to engaged couples and couples who may be considering the possibility of marriage and would value the information prior to a possible formal commitment.

Objectives:

That couples will:

- Develop realistic expectations about marriage
- Be encouraged to develop a biblical perspective about marriage
- Explore significant practical and relational issues that often confront couples entering into marriage
- Review their relationship in the light of the course helping them to make wise decisions about whether their relationship should proceed to marriage.

Course dates: Five Sunday afternoons 2:30pm- 4pm
Oct 20th, 27th & Nov 3rd, 10th – **NB. The fifth session is still to be confirmed.**

Venue: 'Studio' – Check the map for location on church precinct -
<https://www.bridgeman.org.au/church-services/precinct-map/>

Cost: \$20.00 per couple for whole course (payable upon attendance)

Enquiries and bookings:

All enquiries and bookings may be directed through the Bridgeman Website, the Church Office 32631950 or by email andrew@bridgeman.org.au

Course content:

The course consists of five one and a half hour sessions offered in a group setting. All facilitators are from Bridgeman Baptist Community Church and have expertise in their given area. Tea and coffee are available throughout the sessions that are held in a friendly relaxed manner. There is no personal intrusion.

Session 1: Communication & Conflict Resolution

Sunday October 20th 2019 2:30-4pm

(Facilitators Dale & Fiona Macarthur)

This session will assist couples to gain a new awareness of the elements of effective Communication and Conflict Resolution and identify where they may need some further development in the future.

Session 2: Family of Origin and Personality Differences

Sunday October 27th 2:30-4pm

(Facilitators: Andrew & Nat Carnell)

Preparation: ***** Couples are asked to individually complete a Myers Briggs Personality Types inventory on line prior to attending the session and bring the print out of the results.

Web address: <http://www.humanmetrics.com/cgi-win/JTypes1.htm>

Family of Origin

- The importance of establishing a new family unit.
- Developing a new kind of relationship with parents
- The roles played in your family of origin including birth order
- How are our families of origin similar and different?
- Couple and Family Mapping as in "Prepare". Using the variables of closeness and flexibility.
- Family of Origin/ Previous family Issues to talk about before you are married.

Personality Issues/Understanding Each Other

- A simple overview of Myers Briggs Personality Types
- Accepting the differences
- Maximising the benefits and limiting the weaknesses of our different personalities.

Session 3: Biblical Foundation of Marriage - Developing Togetherness Sunday November 3rd 2:30-4pm

(Facilitators Andrew & Natalie Carnell)

Understanding the Genesis of Marriage –Genesis 2:24

Grasping basic principles:-

- Leaving Father and Mother to establish a new family
- Being United to Each Other – What it means.
- The Two becoming One –a life long process. How is it maintained?

Spiritually – Physically - Emotionally

Session 4: Money Matters and Legal Issues

Sunday March 24th 2:30-4pm

(Facilitator Glenn Baker)

Doing Finance "Together"

- Ensuring aligned vision around financial goals
- Developing a united approach to spending behaviour
- Communication, transparency and joint accountability.

Developing Financial Goals "Together"

- Knowing your current position
- Defining your financial goals
- Making major financial decisions: seeking counsel

Practical Financial Matters

- Preparing and managing a household budget:
- Banking and credit cards
- Insurances

Legal Considerations

- Developing a Will
- Property, loans and ownership

Session 5 Intimacy in Marriage Date – To be Confirmed

(Facilitators: Dr David & Dr Sharon Ward)

DVD Excerpt from "The Marriage Preparation Course" (Alpha UK)

How to Build Your Sexual Relationship

- See it as a journey
- Be ready to talk
- Be prepared to tackle problems
- Deal with past sexual relationships
- Don't believe everything you hear
- Common physical adjustment issues for newly married couples
- Sexually Transmittable Diseases
- Methods of Family Planning

Following the Course: Organising the Wedding (by arrangement)

Upon notifying the pastor of your choice about your decision to be married, the pastor will arrange to meet with you to organise the marriage. This involves:-

Bridgeman Marriage Preparation Guide

- Wedding components
- Marriage vows
- Arrangements for the Ceremony

Intention of Marriage Form

- Couples to complete Intention of Marriage Form (legal requirement)
- Receive "Happily Ever Before & After" pamphlet (legal requirement)

Completion of "Prepare" Inventory

- A "Prepare" Inventory is completed by the couple which is analysed by the Prepare professional team in Sydney with suggested areas to consider for the future. ('Prepare' cost \$44 per couple)
- The results of the analysis will be discussed with the couple by the Pastor.

Bookings and Enquiries are warmly welcome
Course Hosts/Coordinators – Andrew & Natalie Carnell
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