

Premarriage Preparation Program

Lecture Outline

Part 1 of 3

Introduction

I. The Need for Premarriage Preparation is Greater Now Than in the Past

- A. Divorce
- B. F_____ and the blurring of gender identity and roles
- C. Sexual immorality
- D. Rape and sexual abuse
- E. Homosexuality and other sexual o_____ matters
- F. "P_____ counseling"

II. Purposes of the Pre-Marriage Preparation Program

- A. To discourage or delay i_____ marriages
- B. To serve as a f_____
- C. To provide the opportunity for e_____
- D. To provide d_____
- E. To help the couple decide if marriage is God's will for them
- F. To help the couple understand the p_____ of the commitment they are about to make, and the consequences of b_____ it
- G. To give the couple a r_____ and biblical view of marriage and realistic e_____ of what their marriage should look like
- H. To bring to the s_____ issues and problems that are critical to the continuation of that marriage

III. How the Program Works

- A. The church

- B. The church

- C. Contact church office, which notifies the pre-marriage coordinator. The coordinator assigns a church couple to follow up and set up their first meeting.
- D. And then there is the first session.

The First Session

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IV. Goals for the First Session

- A. Provide an o_____ for the couples (premarriage trainers and hopeful couple) to get acquainted and build a friendship.
- B. Discover their e_____ for marriage.
- C. Determine the couple's m_____, and potential trouble spots.

V. Stipulations within the Premarriage Preparation Program

- A. Talk about assignments and schedule, o_____ the whole premarriage program.
- B. Make it very clear that you are not c_____ to perform the marriage or to have the marriage performed in your church.
- C. Expect that there will be some couples who realize their relationship should not p_____ to marriage.

VI. Questions That Should Be Asked

Topics That Must Be Discussed

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VII. Major Topics

- A. Spiritual life as individuals and as a couple
- B. How to handle conflict
- C. Dealing with and reconciling differences
- D. Gender roles
- E. Matthew 18 – church discipline and marriage
- F. Divorce
- G. Parents
- H. Any hidden sins

VIII. Some Questions and Answers

- A. Who should the church authorize to marry?
- B. Should the church/officiant charge for conducting a marriage?
- C. Gay marriage – How will this impact the church and weddings?
- D. The use of alcohol and tobacco at weddings/receptions at the church
- E. Special situations
- F. Have I ever opted out of a wedding?

IX. Biblical Texts That Should Be Covered (Not in Video)

- A. Genesis 1–3
- B. All of Proverbs
- C. 1 Samuel 25 (The story of David and Abigail: What submission looks like)
- D. Ephesians 5; 1 Peter 3
- E. Philippians 2

X. Suggestions Concerning Wedding Plans