

Dear potential marriage applicants,

Please read the entire contents of this marriage application packet carefully before filling it out or proceeding further. It is important to read and understand each and every page.

First Baptist Church does not rent our facilities to any persons for any reason. Use of our facilities is restricted to Active Church Members. If you are an inactive church member or a non-church member, you will be required to find a sponsor who is an active church member. They will be ultimately responsible for the wedding and all the people involved. You (or your sponsor) will be responsible for pre-ceremony setup (moving the podium, choir chairs, etc), **and** for reassembly of any and all furniture moved to accommodate the ceremony.

First Baptist Church does not permit alcohol of any kind, or dancing. If you feel that either of these is necessary, please feel free to have the ceremony and/or the reception at another location. All music to be used in the ceremony will be previewed by me. If any is unacceptable in God's house, you will be advised accordingly.

Be advised that I will not perform any marriage ceremony off church grounds nor will I attend any reception that is held off church grounds.

Marriage will require 6 hours of counseling to be set up at my convenience. You, after reading this letter and completing the application packet, will need to arrange to meet with me to begin the remaining 5 hours (the packet will take about an hour to complete).

I recommend that the counseling go for 5 consecutive weeks at 1 hour per week. It will be easier for you, the applicants, to get off work or make arrangements if the time and day are constant.

And finally, you must know that if, at any time before, during, or after counseling, I feel that this marriage is not something which God approves of, I will share this with you and inform you that I will not perform the ceremony. I also expect that you, the applicants, will be sensitive to God's leadership and will be truthful with yourself, your potential spouse, and me by informing me if you at any time feel that this marriage is not right.

It is an honor to serve The Lord.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris White", written in a cursive style.

Rev. Chris White

## MARRIAGE APPLICATION PACKET

Wedding of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Date & Time of Wedding: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Wedding: \_\_\_\_\_

Clergyman: \_\_\_\_\_

Date & Time of Rehearsal: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Information for Bride:

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Information for Groom:

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Classify married life of parents:

Bride: Extremely Happy \_\_\_\_ Moderately happy \_\_\_\_ Satisfactory \_\_\_\_  
Unsatisfactory \_\_\_\_

Groom: Extremely Happy \_\_\_\_ Moderately happy \_\_\_\_ Satisfactory \_\_\_\_  
Unsatisfactory \_\_\_\_

Are your parents Christians?

Bride: Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Groom: Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Classify parents' attitude toward your marriage:

Bride: Favorable \_\_\_\_ Mild approval \_\_\_\_ Has reservation \_\_\_\_

Groom: Favorable \_\_\_\_ Mild approval \_\_\_\_ Has reservation \_\_\_\_

What factors lead you to believe you will have a happy marriage?

Bride: \_\_\_\_\_

Groom: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**Page 2**

**What preparations have you made for marriage?**

**Bride:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Groom:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Are you willing to enter into a counseling program?**

**Bride:**      **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_      **No** \_\_\_\_\_

**Groom:**      **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_      **No** \_\_\_\_\_

**HISTORY OF PRESENT RELATIONSHIP**  
**(BRIDE TO FILL THIS FORM OUT)**

1. When did you first meet?
2. How many years and months have you known each other?
3. What five strong points attract you to each other?
  - 1.)
  - 2.)
  - 3.)
  - 4.)
  - 5.)
4. How confident are you about the wisdom of your decision?  
Very much so \_\_\_\_ Pretty confident \_\_\_\_  
Have some doubt \_\_\_\_ Very unsure \_\_\_\_
5. What reaction have your parents had to your decision?  
Very positive \_\_\_\_ Positive \_\_\_\_  
Neutral \_\_\_\_ Negative \_\_\_\_
6. What are your three most important interests?
  - 1.)
  - 2.)
  - 3.)
7. What are the three things which you and your friend most enjoy doing together?
  - 1.)
  - 2.)
  - 3.)

**HISTORY OF PRESENT RELATIONSHIP**  
**(GROOM TO FILL THIS FORM OUT)**

1. When did you first meet?
2. How many years and months have you known each other?
3. What five strong points attract you to each other?
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  - 2.)
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7. What are the three things which you and your friend most enjoy doing together?
  - 1.)
  - 2.)
  - 3.)

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**  
**(BRIDE TO FILL THIS FORM OUT)**

**Share with me your personal relationship with the Lord.**

**Date I got saved:**

**Where:**

**People involved:**

**How my life has changed (be specific):**

**Have you ever been married before?**

**Why are you coming to church to be married?**

**Share with me your definition of marriage:**

**What fears do you have about marriage?**

**Share with me five goals of your marriage:**

**1.)**

**2.)**

**3.)**

**4.)**

**5.)**

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**  
**(GROOM TO FILL THIS FORM OUT)**

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**1.)**

**2.)**

**3.)**

**4.)**

**5.)**

### **Before I Say, "I DO" (Bride)**

**WHY IS NOW THE TIME FOR MARRIAGE?**

- 1.)
- 2.)
- 3.)
- 4.)
- 5.)

**REASONS WHY I AM MARRYING \_\_\_\_\_:**

- 1.)
- 2.)
- 3.)
- 4.)
- 5.)

**Write a small paragraph on what you are bringing to this marriage that will make it work:**

**Write down your role and responsibilities that you will have within the marriage; Write down what you believe the role and responsibilities of your spouse will be. (Be specific & detailed)**

**What will you get out of marriage that you would not have gotten if you remained single?**

### Before I Say, "I DO" (Groom)

WHY IS NOW THE TIME FOR MARRIAGE?

- 1.)
- 2.)
- 3.)
- 4.)
- 5.)

REASONS WHY I AM MARRYING \_\_\_\_\_:

- 1.)
- 2.)
- 3.)
- 4.)
- 5.)

Write a small paragraph on what you are bringing to this marriage that will make it work:

Write down your role and responsibilities that you will have within the marriage; Write down what you believe the role and responsibilities of your spouse will be. (Be specific & detailed)

What will you get out of marriage that you would not have gotten if you remained single?

**Wedding Policy**

In order to avoid dishonoring our Heavenly Father and so that I may more boldly follow Him and thus correctly point others to Jesus Christ, I consider it necessary to determine and state my call as a servant of God relating to performing wedding ceremonies. Based upon my understanding of the Holy Word of God concerning marriage, divorce, repentance, and grace, I will follow the policy explained as follows:

- Believing:
- 1.) That marriage is of God, before God, and to honor God;
  - 2.) that God hates divorce, and that divorce is neither of God, before God, nor to honor God;
  - 3.) that repentance is turning away from sin to walk in righteousness;
  - 4.) that grace is given upon repentance, and that grace brings forgiveness, although circumstances may not always change with that forgiveness;
  - 5.) that God's plan is one man and one woman growing together as one flesh for life;
  - 6.) that marriage is a picture of Christ's relationship to His church, and that he is honored only as far as that marriage submits to Him and grows actively as a part of the body of Christ;
  - 7.) that the Church is to be a light to the world, proclaiming Jesus Christ as the only way, the only truth, and the only life;
  - 8.) that the Church is to be a good steward of its opportunities, its time, of its material resources, of its gifts, of its people, of its reputation, and of all its other involvements;
  - 9.) that as a pastor, I am to be shepherding by example and to live holy and discipling lives, administering the fullness of His grace, yet never compromising His will; and
  - 10.) that a marriage will grow wonderfully, triumph joyfully, and last a lifetime, as both partners submit completely both to God and to each other.

It is my decision to gladly join in matrimony before God any man and woman who, in submitting individually and together their lives to God through Jesus Christ, have determined the Holy Spirit to be leading them to marry. The couple should be actively seeking to serve our Lord in His body (the Church) and should be following Him in each of His commands, gladly honoring God.

I will not be compelled to perform a ceremony for any couple who will not practice sexual abstinence until marriage, who will not prepare with at least three weeks of pre-marital counseling, or who have not resolved all prior romantic relationships. In the case of divorce, if there is any possible opportunity for God to bring reconciliation, I will not interrupt His work, but will encourage those involved to yield themselves to His will.

It is also my decision not to perform any wedding ceremony for a man and woman who say by word or lifestyle that Jesus Christ is not the center of life and thus of a marriage.

We, the Bride and Groom, have read, understand, and accept the conditions of the Wedding Policy as laid out by the Pastor.

Bride: \_\_\_\_\_ Groom: \_\_\_\_\_

**Wedding Of:**

**Date:**

**Time:**

**Place:**

**SAMPLE -**

**ORDER OF SERVICE**

**Seating of Grandmothers**  
**Seating of mothers**

**Song**

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**Processional**  
**Wedding March**  
**Statement of Purpose**  
**Giving of the Bride**  
**Declaration of Consent**  
**Exhortation to Bride & Groom**  
**Marriage Vows**  
**Reading of Scripture**  
**Exchange of Rings**

**Song**

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**Unity Candle**  
**Pronouncement of Marriage**  
**The Nuptial Kiss**  
**Presentation of Newlyweds**  
**Recessional & Dismissal of Guests**