Counseling Model for Premarital Couples
Counseling Ministry First Baptist Atlanta

We welcome you to the Counseling Ministry First Baptist Atlanta. Congratulations as you think about taking a step in the direction of marriage (Genesis 2:24).

Please read the following before becoming a participant in premarital counseling. If you agree with these statements, please sign and submit your completed intake documents to the Counseling Ministry. We require that the initial paperwork be scheduled at least five months before your wedding.

The First Baptist Atlanta Counseling Staff desires to help prepare couples for lasting marriages through application of scriptures focused on the marriage commitment (Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:6). All couples who schedule their wedding at FBA are required to satisfactorily complete Premarital Counseling. The Premarital Counseling will be provided by the pastor performing the ceremony, staff counselor or trained lay couples from the Counseling Ministry that will help equip the engaged couple in understanding the Biblical principles for a successful marriage.

The Prepare/Enrich Inventory will be used to indicate areas of compatibility and lack of compatibility in the couple’s relationship. Failure to attend or complete the Premarital Counseling will result in canceling a couple’s use of the church facilities.

Becoming a participant in premarital counseling involves completing intake material that includes the Prepare/Enrich Questionnaire and Taylor Johnson Temperament Analysis (TJ TA). Please note that some testing results will require that a couple be counseled by a Staff counselor during daytime appointments.

The counseling will take place either here at church or in mentoring couples’ homes at a time that is agreeable to all. The average number of meetings is usually 6 to 8 sessions of 1 to 1.5 hours in length. This can vary depending on issues that may surface during the course of the counseling.

The total cost of premarital counseling can be as much as $180.00 for the Prepare/Enrich Questionnaire, Taylor Johnson Temperament Analysis (TJ TA), and a premarital resource book. A check for $100.00 of this amount is to be made payable to FBA for the (TJ TA) and resource book; the remainder of the fee up to ($80.00) is to be paid online directly to Prepare/Enrich prior to taking the test.
Eligibility for marriage/remarriage counseling is based on the following criteria for using FBA facilities.

1. The participants must be born-again believers (2 Corinthians 6:14-unequally yoked passage)

2. The participants may not be living together nor engaging in premarital sex. It is our experience that pre-marital sex leads to serious problems after marriage. Sex outside of marriage is a sin of fornication for the single and adultery for the married.

3. The participants, if divorced, may be remarried only if the divorce was for the following reasons:
   
   A. The former spouse violated the principles laid down by Christ (Matthew 19 & Mark 10).
   
   B. The former spouse, who was a non-believer, abandoned the marriage (1 Corinthians 7:15).

4. If one or both of the participants are divorced, he/she must be divorced for a minimum of 1 year before seeking pre-marital counseling.

A wedding ceremony is a spiritual covenant with God. Everything pertaining to the wedding must be viewed and planned in that context in order to tie the hand and hearts of couples to Christ and His church.

The Counseling Ministry staff wishes to extend assistance to you so that your wedding will be a relaxed and sacred event exalting and glorifying God.

Signed ________________________________  Date __________________

Signed ________________________________  Date __________________
Premarital Counseling Information Sheet
Counseling Ministry First Baptist Atlanta

Today’s Date________________ E-mail address____________________________________

Name_________________________________________ Age___________________________

Address_________________________________________ City___________________________Zip________

Telephone (Hm) ___________________ (Wk) ___________________ (Cell)_______________

Employer ____________________________________ Job Title__________________________

Are you currently receiving counseling? ____ If yes, please give name and location of counselor:
__________________________________________________________________________________

Have you reached the place in your spiritual life where you know for certain that if you were to
die today that you would go to heaven? Yes ______ No _______ Uncertain _______

If you checked yes, according to your beliefs, on what basis would God let you into His heaven?
__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

Fiancé/fiancée (if engaged) ___________________________ Age ________________

Seeking counseling for Pre-engagement _____ Pre-marital _____ Wedding date____________

In order to determine eligibility for marriage/remarriage, please answer the following questions:
Is this your first marriage? _____ If not, how did the first marriage end? ________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

If any of these apply, please check appropriate box:
☐ Irreconcilable differences
☐ Spousal adultery/ fornication
☐ Spouse unsaved
☐ Other: __________________________

Present Church Membership: ______________________________________________________

Wedding Location _________________________ Pastor (Who) ____________________________

MARITAL STATUS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single</th>
<th>Engaged</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Married Date(s)</td>
<td>Separated Date(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widow/er Date(s)</td>
<td>Divorced Date(s)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 – Premarital Intake Documents FBA Counseling Ministry 2.2017
Has divorce happened in your immediate family? ____________________________________________
Who?
__________________________________________________________________________________

NAMES AND AGES OF YOUR CHILDREN:

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Age</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Designate any of above that are stepchildren by circling the number.

FATHER’S NAME __________________________ Age __________ Deceased date_______

MOTHER’S NAME __________________________ Age __________ Deceased date_______
Premarital Counseling Relationship Information
Counseling Ministry First Baptist Atlanta

Your name_________________________________________ Date ________________________

1. Are you acquainted with your mate's immediate family?
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________

2. Do you dislike any of your intended's family? If so, what do you dislike?
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________

3. Name several reasons that led you to desire to marry your potential mate?
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________

4. Are there any areas of your life that you find difficult to discover openly with your potential mate? If so, what are they?
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________

5. What would you consider as grounds for divorce?
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________

6. What would you consider biblical limitations to a physical relationship before marriage? Give specifics.
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________

BACKGROUND:
Describe your parent's marriage: 1. ___ 2. ___ 3. ___ 4. ___ 5. ___
Unhappy Very Happy
7. How do you expect your marriage to differ from your parents?

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

8. Which parent contributes the most to the strength of the marriage?
   Mother _______ or Father _______

9. What do you want to bring into your marriage from your parents' marriage?

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

10. How did your parents handle problems between them?

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

11. What was your response to how they handled problems?

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

12. How much influence should your in-laws have on your marriage?

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

13. How will you handle holidays and starting your own traditions?

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

14. How important are certain dates (anniversary, birthday, etc.) to you?

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
Spiritual:

15. Do you have a relationship with God, having received Jesus Christ as your personal Savior? Describe your experience.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

16. Describe where you are in your spiritual walk.

   Infant___ Child___ Teenager ___ Adult ___

   Babe     Mature

17. Are you sure your fiancé/ fiancée is a Christian? Explain.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

18. Mother and father gave me a view of myself as...

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

19. Mother and father's relationship with each other gave me a sense that love was....

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

20. One unspoken message I got from my parents' relationship about love was...

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

21. My parents often expected me to...

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________