

Wedding Guidelines

Thank you for asking me to be a part of your wedding. My promise to you is that I will do everything I possibly can to serve you as you prepare for this day.

As a Pastor I take marriage seriously. It is my desire to do the best job possible in helping you prepare for the actual ceremony, giving you advice and counsel on building a strong marriage, and preparing you for this life-long commitment. In doing this I also ask the couples to commit to the following.

1. Recognize that marriage is a mutual commitment to each other and a spiritual commitment to God.
2. Spend time reading and talking about the marriage materials.
3. Carefully plan your service in a way that honors each other, the sanctity of marriage, and God.
4. In planning the service, I ask that the wedding party abstain from alcohol prior to the service. If you choose to have a reception following the service where alcohol will be served, please be wise about its use.
5. Talk with your parents about your wedding and the arrangements.
6. Carefully plan your service. This is a once in a lifetime experience and I encourage you to personalize it.
7. Enjoy yourself!

As a Pastor I come at this from a distinctly Christian perspective. Therefore, I also ask couples to carefully consider the spiritual implications of marriage and agree to the above. Please let me know if:

- If one or both of you have been married previously.
- If you're living together.

Either of these will not necessarily preclude me from officiating your wedding ceremony, nor will I condemn you in anyway if either of these is the case. I simply ask couples to be transparent with me so that I can give appropriate encouragement and counsel.

If you still want me to perform your wedding, then know that I will do everything I can to encourage you.

Having read these guidelines, we acknowledge our willingness to abide by them and to participate in pre-marital counsel.

_____ *signature*

_____ *signature*

(In situations of dishonesty or gross behavior that dishonors the wedding Covenant, I reserve the right to refuse to perform the ceremony regardless of where we are in the process.)