

## Wedding Policy

We want all engaged couples to know that we are fully committed to the success of every marriage. Therefore, we are fully committed to the Biblical principles relating to marriage. We believe marriage is an extremely important commitment.

Other than your decision to place your faith in Christ, no other decision will have as great an impact on your life.

In a Christian marriage, a natural born man and woman make a vow before God to follow, to the best of their ability, all that God requires for marriage as outlined in the Bible. Anyone considering marriage should approach it prayerfully, patiently, and honestly.

### Pastoral Participation

It is our belief that the decision to perform wedding ceremonies is at the personal discretion of our pastors. If a pastor feels that you and your fiancé are not ready, or should not be married for any reason, they are encouraged to decline participation.

There are two separate situations in which our pastors will automatically decline to perform your wedding.

1. If one of you has not trusted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. The Bible clearly teaches that Christ followers are not to be joined in marriage to unbelievers. (2 Corinthians 6:14)
2. If you are currently living together and are not willing to live separately from the time counseling begins until after the wedding. (1 Thessalonians 4:3-5, 1 Corinthians 7:2)

### What We Require

The pastors at Living Faith Community Church, are dedicated to equipping people for a healthy marriage relationship. Before we will perform a marriage ceremony, the couple must commit to, and complete a 12 hour pre-marital counseling curriculum, administered by the pastor, that is divided into between six and eight sessions over a minimum of 6 months.

### Biblical Principles

-Marriage is a special relationship between a man and a woman. (Genesis 1:27-28, 2:18, 21-24)

-Marriage is meant to last a lifetime. (Mark 10:6-9)

-A Christian and a non-Christian should not marry.  
(2 Corinthians 6:14)

-Remarriage after a Christian has been divorced is prohibited in certain circumstances. (Mark 10:2-12; 1 Corinthians 7)

-A couple living together should live separately prior to seeking a Christian wedding. (1 Thessalonians 4:3-5, 1 Corinthians 7:2, Hebrews 13:4)

We encourage couples to pursue authenticity in their wedding ceremony consistent with their values. If a couple is not committed to these biblical values regarding marriage, we encourage you to consider a civil ceremony.