

PRE-MARITAL EDUCATION CONTRACT WITH JOHN DOE

Information for Couples

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Preparing couples for marriage is a passion for me. Personally, I have witnessed the impact divorce has on a family and their group of friends and extended family. Many of these break-ups could have been prevented.

Professionally, over the last fifteen years, I have counseled countless numbers of engaged and married couples as an independent relationship educator, private practice counselor, and now, as a pastor at ABC Church.

I help people discover ways to strengthen their marriage and family relationships. I have been trained in several of the most effective marriage-building tools available including PREPARE/ENRICH (relationship inventory), and PREP (Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program). On a regular basis, I conduct marriage enrichment classes and workshops, and speak to the issue of marriage in different venues.

I graduated from XYZ University, and completed my masters in marriage and family at A2Z College. My greatest qualification is being a loving husband since my wedding day, and a caring father to my daughter and three sons.

PHILOSOPHY OF PRE-MARITAL EDUCATION

My passion in life is to help couples live the *Full Marriage Experience* by cultivating a healthy and vibrant marriage relationship. This kind of marriage does not happen by accident, nor does love simply lead the way. As with any relationship, it takes effort, time, wisdom, knowledge and growth.

Over the years, I have surveyed a number of marriage programs and resources, reviewed numerous research reports that confirm the importance and positive impact of a healthy marriage; and continue to experience the rich depths of a strong marriage relationship. All of this has bolstered my deep conviction to help engaged and married couples experience all marriage has to offer.

The pre-marital education you receive is designed to be fitness training for your relationship. My role is to facilitate the process so you read the workbook, discuss issues, and develop skills necessary for a healthy, growing marriage. This is not counseling or therapy, and does not attempt to be. I guarantee you will learn more about yourself, more about the one you desire to marry, and more about yourselves as a couple.

PRE-MARITAL EDUCATION GROWTH SESSIONS

In the materials you read, and in our time together, you will be exposed to a combination of the latest techniques and skills in relationship development, with the age-old principles for healthy relationships that have proven themselves throughout the generations. As a Christian, I place high value on the principles of the Bible, a book about relationships that has guidelines on marriage that cannot be overlooked. In fact, modern day research on relationships and marriage unintentionally support and uphold these ideals. With this said, I respect your rights to grow in the spiritual path you have chosen for yourself.

We will use *Before "I Do" – Preparing for the Full Marriage Experience* by K. Jason Krafsky. The workbook is designed to maximize personal introspection and couple interaction. It covers all of the crucial issues and topics you and your mate need to prepare you to live the *Full Marriage Experience*: a vision for marriage, conflict resolution, budgeting, spiritual issues, communication, and sex and intimacy. In addition, each of you will also complete the PREPARE Inventory from Life Innovations, which will help me coach you in our time together.

In all, there are ten sessions, nine before the wedding and one after the wedding (around your first anniversary).

CONFIDENTIALITY

Confidentiality is a vital element of our times together. Your identity and work together in building a stronger relationship with your partner will be kept in strict confidentiality with the following exceptions:

- (1) State law requires suspected child abuse (physical or sexual) to be reported to Child Protective Services or law enforcement officials;
- (2) Threat of harm to others or self (suicidal or homicidal statements) may be reported to family and/or appropriate mental health or law enforcement professionals;
- (3) Case records and testimony may be subpoenaed by court order;
- (4) Professional consultation and/or supervision.

FEES AND PAYMENT OF FEES

The fee for one pre-marital interview, one relationship inventory, eight pre-marital education sessions, and one post-marital session including all necessary materials is \$XOX (ten 60-75 minute sessions at \$XO per session plus \$XO fee for PREPARE inventory). Additional sessions are \$XO per 60-minute session.

Three methods of payment are available:

- (1) Session-to-Session with payment due no later than the day of the session.
- (2) Monthly Payment Plan with the full amount divided by an agreed upon number of months.
- (3) Pay the full amount at the first session (this option discounts overall price to \$XOX).

Fees for the PREPARE inventory are due the day the inventory is given. Monthly statement will be provided if there is a balance due.

Appointments are made on a regular basis. Appointment times are not automatically held open for you. It is your responsibility to reschedule at the end of the session. In the event you are unable to keep an appointment, a 24-hour notice is required for cancellations. Except for unseen circumstances, you will be charged full fee for a “no show” by one or both of you and a late cancel fee for a cancellation without a 24-hour notice. Failure to complete homework prior to our session will be viewed as a “no show”.

Any telephone consultations, reports, letters written will be prorated at the same session rate as above. Special services including out of office sessions, legal testimony, and legal preparation time will be charged at a higher rate (fee will not exceed twice the rate mentioned above).

Openness and flexibility are necessary when determining a couple’s financial obligation and I invite you to discuss your fee and/or services with me at any time during this relationship.

COUPLE’S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

By signing this disclosure and consent statement, the couple acknowledges having been informed of their rights and responsibilities under regulatory laws for counselors in our state. In addition, the couple acknowledges they have read and understand the administrative policies. If unable to meet the financial obligations, the couple will notify me to make necessary arrangements. You have the right to end our sessions together at any time without moral, legal or financial obligations other than those accrued.

I am an independent, private relationship educator, and my work is solely my responsibility and does not necessarily reflect the views of ABC Church.

Please sign below to indicate that

1. We understand we are clients of Pastor John Doe, and have no connection with ABC Church.
2. We have read, understand and agree to the terms described above.

Name	Name	
Signature	Signature	Date
Signature of John Doe		Date