

Marital Preparation – Frequently Asked Questions

• We're engaged! How do we sign up for ONE&ALL's Premarital Services?

- 1. Go online to oneandallchurch.com/care.
- 2. Under the Premarital Ministry section, choose [TAKE SURVEY] and fill in the blanks.

You will be contacted via email to start the process with a "Meet & Greet" appointment with a **ONE&ALL** pastor. Contact our premarital coordinator, <u>mary-anne.bunda@oneandall.church</u> with any questions.

• What happens after I meet with a ONE&ALL Pastor?

After your initial meeting, the ONE&ALL pastor you met with will forward your signed "ONE&ALL Marriage Ceremony and Service Guidelines" form to our Care Department. Our premarital coordinator will then contact you about next steps (i.e. premarital registration, testing, counseling, other requests, etc.).

If ONE&ALL's values and your values are very different, you may consider other possibilities to proceed FORWARD. Our objective is to make sure this is the best place for such a meaningful step in your life, and our objective is to make sure this is THE BEST option for you. If our values are not aligned, we will attempt to provide you with several referrals.

• How long does it take to get started with the premarital counseling? The time can vary depending on your wedding date, your availability and promptness with completing registration and filling out the assessment online. Generally, it can take approximately 2-4 weeks to start the counseling/coaching sessions but we may be able to accommodate requests for quicker turnaround times (determined on a case-by-case basis). We strongly encourage couples to sign up at least 5-6 months before the wedding date if possible, so that we can avoid rushing through this vital part of the process at the last minute.

What does the premarital coaching/counseling consist of?

This is a Christian program that offers wise marital preparation counsel based on Biblical principles and other practical tools. After you register, you and your partner will take a comprehensive, online personality survey (called "Prepare Enrich") that will highlight your relationship strengths and growth areas. The results of the survey will be incorporated into your sessions with a coach or counselor. Topics for discussion will include, but are not limited to: Communication, Conflict Resolution, Personality Inventory, Managing Your Finances Together, Family Dynamics – Past and Future, In-Laws, Blended Families, Spiritual Roles in Marriage, Intimacy and Sex, etc.!

Counseling/coaching is generally completed in 6 sessions depending on each couple's circumstances. Each session is approximately 1-hour long.

Who does the premarital counseling/coaching?

The counseling/coaching will either be done by one of our Associate Marriage and Family Therapists, trainees, or our specially trained Premarital Coaches. They will provide you with the materials you will need for your sessions (a couple's report with a summary of the survey results, and a couple's workbook with Biblical references which may be used for homework).

Counselors and coaches are assigned based on availability and many other factors. We will always try to accommodate any special requests or preferences you may have, however, this may result in assignment delays and we cannot guarantee that your preference will be available.

• Can I request a specific pastor/officiant to perform our wedding?

Definitely. Your input is so appreciated! Our main campus pastors tend to have very busy travel and preaching schedules which prevent them from being able to officiate many weddings, however, we have many other pastors available at ONE&ALL. We will always check first with the person you request and if they are not available, we will then find other available pastors for you.

• What is the cost for premarital counseling/coaching at ONE&ALL?



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The total cost for ONE&ALL's premarital program will be \$235. This covers the counseling/coaching sessions with one of our counselors/coaches, the Prepare-Enrich assessments, copies of your test results, and a couples' workbook with biblical references. The fee is broken up into two separate payments:

- \$200 is payable online to ONE&ALL for premarital registration after you meet with a ONE&ALL pastor.
- o \$35 is payable online to the Prepare-Enrich organization for your online assessments.

What is the total cost to have our wedding at ONE&ALL?

Total costs will vary based on what services you will need.

- o Premarital testing and counseling/coaching fees: \$235 (as stated above).
- To be married by a ONE&ALL Pastor, there is no charge for a pastor to perform your wedding; however, we recommend that you offer an honorarium* to the Pastor, plus reimbursement of any travel, lodging, parking, etc. expenses he/she may have incurred from your wedding. (*suggested honorarium is \$250 this is not tax-deductible).
- To get married at a ONE&ALL venue, you can contact our San Dimas Campus Event Coordinator (<u>megan.magnuson@oneandall.church</u>) who will be able to provide availability, reservation and pricing information.

What if I want to give a donation to the church or a gift to individuals helping at our wedding?

- **Donations** to the church (or Care ministry) are welcome, and are <u>tax-deductible</u>. Donations should be made payable to "ONE&ALL Church".
- *Honorariums to individuals are not tax-deductible (i.e. wedding pastor/officiant, technicians, musicians, reception hosts, etc.). These gifts should be made payable directly to the individual(s).

Is there a possibility ONE&ALL may not be the best program for us?

Yes... if ONE&ALL values and your values are very different, you may consider proceeding forward with other possibilities. Our objective is to make sure this is the BEST place for such a meaningful step in your life, and the BEST option for you. If our values are not aligned, we would be happy to provide you with other referrals or recommendations.

• We did premarital counseling before, do we still need to do it at ONE&ALL?

This depends on the length of time since it was completed, as well as how much has changed since then. The Prepare-Enrich assessments are required but determinations will be made by our Care Department on a case-by-case basis.

Can we get married at ONE&ALL if we are living together?

We understand there are many situations that a couple ends up living together before marriage. If you are ready to make your union official by state regulations, we are happy to discuss "next steps". Fill out the marital preparation survey to get started and we will contact you.

We were married in a civil ceremony and now want to get married in the church. How do we proceed?

We do everything we can to help you take "next steps". We can help you plan a meaningful and God-honoring ceremony to celebrate this commitment before God and others. Fill out the marital preparation survey to get started and we will contact you.