

What is Marriage Preparation?



Marriage preparation is preparation for the lifelong relationship which is marriage, in contrast to wedding preparation which is concerned with the very important first day of marriage. If every couple gave as much time to marriage preparation as to wedding preparation, there would be many more happy marriages!

We recommend that couples do a pre-marriage questionnaire together. This is offered by PREPARE/ENRICH www.prepare-enrich.co.uk. There is probably a PREPARE Facilitator near you. You each complete a questionnaire on line or on paper. Then you visit a Practitioner to receive the answers compared. This helps a couple to discuss a whole range of things they ought to think about before marriage. The cost is only £25 – a tremendously worthwhile investment.

Marriage preparation can be DIY through reading books about marriage, e.g. Sixty Minute Marriage by Rob Parsons, published by Hodder; Man to Man About Woman by James Dobson, published by Kingsway; The A-Z of Marriage by Mike and Katie Morris; Looking Up The Aisle by Dave and Joyce Ames of Mission to Marriage.

But it is even better to go on a marriage preparation weekend or weeknight course together. We particularly recommend The Marriage Preparation Course compiled by Holy Trinity Brompton, London, which is a course of five sessions. It is used by numbers of other churches throughout the world, as listed on the website. It contains its own pre-marriage questionnaire. www.relationshipcentral.org/marriage-preparation-course

Further details about marriage preparation courses can be found on the page Marriage Preparation 1 – How It Can Be Done on this website.

Marriage preparation is most enjoyable and hugely worthwhile. The expenditure involved is very small compared with the cost of an average wedding and is a very important investment for the future. Every couple needs it, however much in love they are.

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