New Beginnings Christian Fellowship Pre-Marital Counseling Application

(see all 4 pages)

'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, 'and the two shall become one flesh'; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh. "Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

~Mark 10:7-9

Dear Couple,

New Beginnings Christian Fellowship senior leadership believes marriage is the second most important decision of our lives, second only to our decision to receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

With this in mind, we have established some very important Biblical prerequisites:

- 1. Both individuals must be born again believers in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
- 2. Both individuals must be in regular attendance at New Beginnings Christian Fellowship or another Bible-believing fellowship.
- 3. *Both individuals must commit to sexual purity and abstain from sexual relations and must not live together before marriage (see article below titled: is it wrong for a couple to live together before marriage).
- 4. Both individuals must desire that Jesus Christ be the foundation of their marriage and invest time preparing for marriage by learning the boundaries and guidelines Scripture reveals regarding this relationship with each other.

We commit to fulfilling the previously stated Biblical requirements before attending counseling sessions.

To begin this process, fill out this Pre-Marital Counseling Application return these forms electronically to info@nbcfellowship.org or by mail to New Beginnings Christian Fellowship 7397 Ridge Road W. Brockport, New York 14420.

We will contact you with detailed information regarding dates and times available for pre-marital counseling. Prior to our first counseling appointment you will receive a packet of materials to read and complete. Your commitment to these counseling assignments is very

important. We care about you and your future and view the Pre-marital process as a vehicle through which God is able to ratify or refute the relationship. Please be open to hear the voice of the Lord, even if He says "no!" or "wait!" Put your relationship on the altar, and trust God to verify if He is in this relationship. You will be eternally grateful and thankful.

We believe our time together will give you a head start in your upcoming marriage. Our objective is to assist you in identifying and developing your strengths so you can enter into a lifetime commitment of marriage based upon a strong biblical foundation. We consider it an honor to join couples together in the Lord, and it is our fervent prayer that Our Lord will use us to assist you in your marriage plans. As we stand before the Lord and give an account for each couple, we want to be certain that we have been faithful with this responsibility.

May the rich blessings of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and the full power of the Holy Spirit guide you in all your ways!

*Question: "Is it wrong for a couple to live together before marriage?"

Answer: The answer to this question depends somewhat on what is meant by "living together." If it means having sexual relations, it is definitely wrong. Premarital sex is repeatedly condemned in Scripture, along with all other forms of sexual immorality (Acts 15:20; Romans 1:29; 1 Corinthians 5:1; 6:13, 18; 7:2; 10:8; 2 Corinthians 12:21; Galatians 5:19; Ephesians 5:3; Colossians 3:5; 1 Thessalonians 4:3; Jude 7). The Bible promotes complete abstinence outside of (and before) marriage. Sex before marriage is just as wrong as adultery and other forms of sexual immorality, because they all involve having sex with someone you are not married to.

If "living together" means living in the same house, that is perhaps a different issue. Ultimately, there is nothing wrong with a man and a woman living in the same house—if there is nothing immoral taking place. However, the problem arises in that there is still the appearance of immorality (1 Thessalonians 5:22; Ephesians 5:3), and it could be a tremendous temptation for immorality. The Bible tells us to flee immorality, not expose ourselves to constant temptations to immorality (1 Corinthians 6:18). Then there is the problem of appearances. A couple who is living together is assumed to be sleeping together—that is just the nature of things. Even though living in the same house is not sinful in and of itself, the appearance of sin is there. The Bible tells us to avoid the appearance of evil (1 Thessalonians 5:22; Ephesians 5:3), to flee from immorality, and not to cause anyone to stumble or be offended. As a result, it is not honoring to God for a man and a woman to live together outside of marriage.

WEDDING INFORMATION: Tentative Wedding Date (if any): _		
Location of wedding (if known):		
PERSONAL INFORMATION:	GROOM TO BE	
Name:		
Address:		
City: State:	Zip:	
Phone: Home	_ Work	_ Cell
E-mail:		
Your age:		
FAMILY INFORMATION:		
How long have you been engaged	?	
How long have you known each of	ther?	
Have you been married or engage	d previously?	
Do you have children?		
SPIRITUAL INFORMATION:		
sins.		to save them and forgive them of their
Have you received Jesus ClIf yes, when?	hrist as your Savior: Ye	s / No / Uncertain
3. Is New Beginnings ChristiaHow Long?	n Fellowship your hom	e church?
Availability to meet for marriage	counseling:	
Days and Times:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

BRIDE TO BE

PERSO	ONAL INFORMATION	:			
Name	:				
Addre	ess:				
City: _		State: Zip:		_	
Phone	e: Home	Work	Cell		_
E-mai	l:				
Your	age:				
	LY INFORMATION: ong have you been e	ngaged?			
How I	ong have you known	each other?			
Have	you been married or	engaged previously	?		
Do yo	u have children?				
1.	TUAL INFORMATION A Christian is one wasins. Have you received If yes, when?	ho has trusted in Je		_	hem of their
3.	Is New Beginnings • How Long?	•	your home churc	h?	
Availa	ability to meet for ma	arriage counseling:			
Days a	and Times:				