

Pre-Marital Education & Wedding Ceremony Officiant

Pastor Josh Robinson, M. Div.

josh@hopeaustin.org www.facebook.com/RevJoshi53/ 512-258-9117



Introduction

I am Pastor Josh Robinson a bow-tie wearing, ordained Presbyterian Minister. I am a certified Facilitator for *Prepare/Enrich*, a registered provider for *Together in Texas* and a personal Finance Coach.

I take marriage and worship very seriously. When talking about marriage you are talking about a life-long commitment to each other in God's name after all! So, I promise you that we will have fun exploring the various depths of God's purpose for Christian marriage.

The following is my standard wedding agreement and premarital education outline. My fee of \$300 covers time well spent in premarital sessions (\$200 for educational services only), the assessment tool, worship preparation, wedding rehearsal, and the wedding.

**Texas Couples will receive a \$60 discount on their marriage license fees after premarital education with me.*



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Pre-Marital Education (Counseling)

The Six F's

Sometimes Counseling has a negative connotation, but think about it like strength conditioning. Instead of conditioning for your physical body, it is for your relationship. For the couples I marry, I require six premarital sessions to discuss what I like to call "The Six F's."

Familiarity (1.5 hours)

Getting to know You, You, and "You"

During this session, I get to know YOU as a fiancé (bride) and YOU as a fiancé (groom) and YOU as an engaged couple. In advance of this meeting, you will complete an online assessment tool which will help me prepare questions and facilitate our conversation. It will produce a comprehensive report that I will provide to help you know your areas of strengths and areas of growth.

Faith (1.5 hours)

Marriage is a life-long commitment to each other in God's name. I believe that marriage is ordained by God, celebrated by the Church, and that marriage is a covenant between two people, the Church and God. Since marriage is a binding and lasting covenant, I offer counseling regarding your Christian commitment and responsibility to one another, to God, and to the community.

Finances (1.5 hours)

One of the leading causes of divorce is failure to communicate, and talking about money is the primary topic avoided by many couples. Personal finance is one of my specialities. I have facilitated six Financial Peace University classes over the past six years. In addition, I have been trained as a Financial Coach. I work with families on budgeting, planning, and getting out of debt.

Family (1.5 hours)

What does it mean to be a "family"? Well, fact of the matter is that when two people begin a relationship, their answer to this question makes a significant impact on their future health. Additionally, the expectations of family members have a way of adding strain on marriages. In this session, we will talk about boundaries, expectations, and disagreements.

Friends (1 hour)

In marriage, two people are called to a new way of life. Transitioning from being a fiancé into spouse means taking on a new role with priorities and responsibilities. Managing the relationships with friends has a tendency to create friction and disappointment. In this session, we will discuss how to be healthy in our new role and how to sustain friendships.

Finally! The Wedding Ceremony Itself (1 hour)

We plan the worship service together, talk through the various pieces, what they mean, why we do what we do, when to move and where to stand. We will also explore what it means to exchange vows.



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Wedding Agreement

We recognize that we are inviting the Rev. Joshua Robinson (Pastor Josh) to perform the rite of marriage:

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

VENUE: _____

CITY & STATE: _____

- We agree to pay the amount of \$ _____ **no later than 14 days prior to the wedding.** This fee covers time spent in pre-marital sessions, worship preparation, wedding rehearsal and wedding.
- We agree to pay/reimburse for travel expenses beyond a one hour drive (\$0.54 per mile). If an overnight stay is required, we agree to pay/reimburse for lodging expenses up to two nights.
- We understand that we are to meet with Pastor Josh for no less than **four sessions** concluding no later than **14 days prior to the day of the wedding**
- Cash or check will be accepted. **Please make checks payable to Josh Robinson.**
- We also understand that it is our responsibility to possess a valid marriage license in the state where the wedding ceremony will take place and that **the marriage license must be submitted to Pastor Josh no later than 14 days prior to the day of the wedding.** We understand that failure to have these legal documents means that Pastor Josh cannot legally perform the ceremony. We will consult with our local court/clerk to find the exact requirements in our area.
- Pastor Josh reserves the right to *not* officiate the wedding based on the following, but not limited to: lack of commitment/communication on our part, his determination of our fit for marriage, other extenuating circumstances. Should he not officiate the wedding, there will be no fee.
- We reserve the right to hire another pastor to officiate our wedding based on the following but not limited to: lack of commitment/communication on his part, determination of his fit for our wedding, other extenuating circumstances. **We agree to pay the amount of \$150** if we cancel after meeting with Josh for two sessions.

Signature Groom _____ Date _____

Groom Printed Name _____

Signature Bride _____ Date _____

Bride Printed Name _____

I agree to the terms of this agreement and have officially reserved the date and specified time

Rev. Joshua S Robinson, M. Div.

Date Signed

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Resources:

Hope Presbyterian Church
11518 Olson Drive
Austin, TX 78750
512-258-9117

Personal Finance Coach:
<http://daveramsey.com/coaching>

Certified Facilitator for Prepare/Enrich:
<https://www.prepare-enrich.com>

Registered Provider for Twogether in Texas:
<http://twogetherintexas.com>

Pastor Josh Robinson Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/RevJosh53/>

Hope Presbyterian Church Webpage:
<http://hopeaustin.org>

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Notes:

