

## Process For Becoming a Bethel Marriage Ministry Mentor Couple

### Steps to take:

1. Fill out Bethel Marriage Ministry Mentor Couple application.
2. Turn application in to the Bethel offices.
3. Applications will be reviewed by the Mentor Ministry Team.
4. Complete an interview with a couple from the Mentor Ministry Team
5. Potential Mentor Couple is approved by Mentor Ministry Team.
6. ~~New~~ Mentor Couple will attend Mentoring training occurring approximately once a quarter.
7. After successfully completing the training, the Mentor Couple will be assigned their Mentee Couple.
8. Mentor Couple reaches out to Mentee Couple and determines time and location of first meeting. This should be at a neutral, comfortable location with both couples having input.
9. At first meeting both couples read through the Suggested Boundaries form and returns to Mentor Ministry Team.
10. The mentoring period will be 4-8 weeks. This may be extended to 12 weeks if agreed by both couples and approved by a Mentor Ministry Team member. (Avoid co-dependency)
11. Mentor Couples will be assigned a Mentor Ministry Team Couple for support, encouragement, and accountability.
12. Couples will meet initially as couple to couple then determine if separate gender specific meetings are appropriate.
13. Mentees will be given "homework" assignments by the mentor couple and be accountable to them for completion.
14. Suggested "homework" includes books to read, prayer, tools taught, e.g. active listening, implement love language, budget, etc.

## Bethel Marriage Mentoring Ministry Mission Statement: (Purpose)

To create a safety net for couples in our church experiencing marriage challenges. It is a unique opportunity to support and strengthen couples love for and commitment to one another as well as providing tools to deepen the marriage relationship. (Definition: Marriage is a covenant union between one man and one woman.)

## Bethel Marriage Mentoring Ministry Team Member Responsibility:

- Meet on a regular basis as a team to plan trainings.
- Roles of Team Leader vs. Team Member
- Participate in First -Time Trainings.
- Participate in the matching process.
- Pray for and connect with those Mentor Couples assigned.

### Qualifications for Mentors:

- Know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.
- Members of Bethel Church.
- Completed the Art of Marriage class plus Marriage Oneness, Weekend to Remember or other training as approved by the Mentor Ministry Team.
- Have a love for other couples.
- Completed application and interview process.
- Experiencing a healthy marriage.
- Able to give timely advice and teach by example.
- Have many resources that they themselves have gone through.
- Able to volunteer for 4-8 week intervals.
- Accountable to a couple on the Bethel Marriage Mentoring Ministry Team.

Areas Mentors can assist Mentees: *(This is covered in Mentor Questionnaire)*

- Lifelong Commitment
- Shared spiritual intimacy
- Cherishing one another
- Healthy Conflict Management
- Building and sustaining a vibrant marriage
- Positive communication
- Spending enjoyable time together
- Shared Responsibility
- Mutually Satisfying Physical Intimacy
- Coping with change, stress, and crisis
- Community Minded
- Healthy Individuals

(Also fits with a tool for First-Time Mentor Training: resource available)

## Principles in Mentoring:

- Some think only those over a certain age can offer wisdom. Not true!
- Mentors are not perfect.
- Mentors don't have all the answers.
- There is no fixed curriculum for Mentors to use.
- A Mentor's focus is not just accountability.
- We can't change anyone but ourselves.
- Mentoring is not behavior modification.
- We must be constant learners ourselves.
- We can't give what we don't possess.