

Marriage

—a sacred covenant

Here at Faith Discovery Church, we take marriage very seriously.

We believe God instituted marriage:

- To reflect Christ's relationship with the Church.
- To serve as a foundation for all other societal institutions.
- To teach men and women how to truly love and serve others.
 - To conceive, nurture, and protect children

We believe God has revealed Himself to us in the Bible. The Bible teaches us that marriage is between a man and woman and it is a permanent covenant that is permanent for life.

Each person entering a marriage must understand that he must forsake all others. This relationship is second in priority only to their relationship with their Creator. It must be guarded and valued.

Because we value marriage, we believe weddings are strategically crucial.

Your wedding is one of the most important moments of your life and we want to help you to make it a

God-honoring, life nurturing choice.

WHO MAY GET MARRIED HERE?

While we do weddings from the community as part of our ministry, priority will be given to those who regularly attend and support the church and their children.

The Senior Pastor must approve all weddings done at the church by other ministers

Faith Discovery Church is part of the General Council of the Assemblies of God and the Pastor is an ordained Assemblies minister. Our denomination proscribes standards for marriages conducted in our church.

- Our Pastor may marry any man and woman who have never been married before.
- The Scriptures are clear that God hates divorce. Only two circumstances exist where God allows divorce. Only under those circumstances can a Believer move into another marriage Biblically.
 1. Our Pastors may remarry any divorcee who is considered the "innocent party" in their divorce. This means the individual seeking to be married here divorced their former spouse because of that person's refusal to be faithful to the marriage covenant. (Matthew 5:32).
 2. Our Pastors may remarry any divorcee whose unbelieving, former spouse has divorced, or deserted them, or who has already remarried. (1 Cor. 7:15). *If the unbelieving spouse desires to leave the believer is to let them.*

In addition, our Pastors may remarry any person whose former spouse is dead. Romans 7:2 and 1 Cor. 7:39 make it clear that death dissolves the marriage relationship.

There are three other special situation that need to be mentioned:

- Mark 10:11-12 specifically forbid any believer to obtain a divorce for the express purpose of marrying someone else. *Our Pastors will not perform a ceremony under those conditions.*
- Our Pastor will strongly encourage a couple who is currently cohabitating, prior to marriage, to honor the Scripture's guide- lines about sexuality. This obedience is a way to enjoy God's blessings in the future.
- 2 Cor. 6:14 teaches that a Christian should not be yoked together with non-believer. Our Pastor will not knowingly perform a wedding where one partner is a professing Christian and the other is not.

Finally, any couple who wishes to be married by an FDC Pastor must plan on completing 4 to 6 pre-marital counseling sessions.

These are to prepare the couple for Marriage and will include work assignments to be completed by the couple prior to each session.

None of these statements should keep a couple who desires to be married from making an inquiry with the church and/or pastor of Faith Discovery Church.

WHAT ABOUT COSTS?

For normal church weddings the following are regular fees for use of the church.

For weddings of a small scale or for those with demonstrated need, fees may be waived on request.

For official Members or their children:

- Use of Sanctuary No Fee
- Cleaning Fee (required) \$ 50
- Sound Techs (required) \$ 50

For those who attend or their children:

- Use of Sanctuary \$75
- Cleaning Fee (required) \$ 50
- Sound Techs (required) \$ 50

For friends from our community:

- Use of Sanctuary \$250
- Cleaning Fee (required) \$ 50
- Sound Techs (required) \$ 50

Fees are due at the rehearsal and may be included in a single check payable to Faith Discovery Church

WHAT ABOUT THE CEREMONY?

The flavor of the ceremony is largely up to the Bride and Groom. The Pastor will work with the couple in putting together a service that reflects their unique styles and tastes, always recognizing this is a sacred ceremony.

Use of secular music that is devoid of Biblical values is discouraged.

It needs to be remembered a church wedding is a ceremony done before God and should be done with an attitude of seeking His favor and bringing glory to Him.

HOW DO WE GET STARTED?

Contact the church office during normal business hours.

Your request will be passed along to the Pastor. He will call to arrange a person to person meeting with you to determine times and dates for the wedding. At that time he'll also schedule the first counseling session.



33 Brass Castle Road
Washington, NJ 07882

Phone: 908-689-7777

Email: pastor@FaithDiscovery.com

