

Pacific Crossroads Church – Marriage Ceremony Guidelines

Please read the following information carefully if you are planning on having a Pacific Crossroads pastor officiate at your wedding.

1. Contacting a Pastor

You should contact the pastor as early as possible to ensure that he is available for your wedding date. He will be able to confirm with certainty that he will perform the wedding after he has an initial meeting with you as a couple. In that meeting, you can expect him to ask you about your Christian faith: when you became a Christian, what you understand it to mean to be a Christian, and the place that your faith has in your life. A questionnaire is available beforehand upon request.

Also, expect to him to ask you about your relationship with each other: What is the history of your relationship? How do your friends and family feel about it? What do you perceive to be the greatest strengths and greatest weaknesses of the relationship? What about past sexual involvement? Are you striving to keep your relationship sexually pure?

2. Pre-Marriage Seminar

Whenever possible, each couple is urged to attend the Pacific Crossroads Pre-Marriage Seminar. This is a six-hour, Saturday course offered twice a year that is team-taught by four married couples and is designed to be supplemented by couple counseling with members of the Crossroads Pre- Marriage Team, pastors or professional counselors where recommended.

3. Out-of-Town Weddings

If you are to be married out-of-town, contact the pastor as early as possible to see if he is available for such a wedding. You should plan to pay for the pastor's traveling expenses and accommodations, in addition to the honorarium. Suggested honorarium is \$250 – \$500.

4. Wedding Rehearsal and Reception

The pastor will generally conduct the wedding rehearsal at the agreed upon rehearsal time. Our pastors are not always able to attend rehearsal dinners or receptions. It is their hope that such an inability might never be taken as a personal offense.

5. The Wedding

Often a final meeting with the pastor is helpful to discuss the actual details of the wedding service. All time arrangements should be finalized then and everything should be emailed to the pastor.

You are responsible for obtaining and ensuring the correct processing of necessary marriage documents and licenses.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve you!