

## Pre-Marital Covenant Agreement

**“For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.” Gen 2:24 (NASB)**

We are excited that the two of you want to start your marriage with God at the center. Here at Houston's First Baptist Church we believe in the biblical perspective of marriage. We ask that you prayerfully consider the following statements on marriage and sign the document if you agree with the statements. If there are any parts of the statement that you do not agree with, we ask that you schedule a meeting with one of our ministers to discuss the points of disagreement or to clarify any questions that you may have.

*We believe marriage is a covenant with God between one man and one woman before God and man. Marriage with someone of the same sex is not a biblical view of marriage. We also believe that the Bible teaches sexual abstinence before marriage. If you have fallen in this area, we do not believe that you are disqualified for marriage. However, to honor God and your future marriage we ask that you abstain from any sexual contact until after the wedding. A sexual relationship within a covenant marriage is God's design and is better than what can be experienced outside of it. God created sex and intends for it to be enjoyed within a covenant marriage. Society has embraced the idea of co-habitation. We believe that is in conflict with God's desire for the way a marriage should start as it puts each other in roles that are intended to be experienced within the covenant of marriage. We ask that if you are living together that you find accommodations to live separately until after your wedding. In cases involving divorce and remarriage, we encourage you to seek counseling, if you have not already, to address the issues that led to the end of your previous relationship and the possible issues of blending families. We desire to see your marriage succeed and to deal with past issues before they affect this relationship. Marriage is a wonderful and beautiful relationship and the church wants to walk with you in community to help you get a healthy start for this great journey. We encourage each of you to have accountability partners in your life to make sure that you are pursuing a godly approach to this marriage.*

By signing this document, you agree to the above terms and failing to fulfill any of them may be cause for declining your use of the church.

Groom-To-Be: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Bride-To-Be: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Minister: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are planning on getting married at Houston's First Baptist Church we have a great Life Bible Study class designed for those in their first year of marriage. In this class, you can journey with other couples who are facing the same joys and struggles you are facing.

Please visit our website at <http://houstonfirst.org/the-loop/ministries/married-young-adults> for more information about a Life Bible Study class that best fits you.