



HOME POINT

ENGAGED – GETTING READY FOR MARRIAGE



ONE CHURCH WITH MULTIPLE CAMPUSES

Downtown Campus
222 NW 15 Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73103
(405) 232-1371
stlukesokc.org

Edmond Campus
900 N. Sooner Road
Edmond, OK 73034
(405) 285-2002
stlukesedmond.org

Asbury Campus
1320 SW 38th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73119
(405) 632-3378
asbury.stlukesokc.org



stlukesokc.org/homepoint

Engaged - Getting Ready for Marriage

Congratulations on this wonderful milestone. Few seasons in life are filled with as much joy and anticipation as the time spent preparing to get married. You've probably heard it said that as you plan your wedding, you shouldn't forget to plan your marriage. But it sounds so abstract to "plan a marriage" in the midst of the more tangible (and demanding) project of planning a wedding. How do you do it?

STEP ONE: Learn from others

Research demonstrates the long-term value of making time now for marriage education classes or premarital counseling. Those efforts go even further when you supplement them by spending time with an older married couple whose relationship you admire.

STEP TWO: Plan with patience

Couples often overlook the importance of using the wedding planning season as practical marriage preparation. You can intentionally set the tone for your marriage by the values you live out in planning your big day. The transformational process of "becoming one" can occur in everything from how you assemble your guest list to how you determine a honeymoon destination.

STEP THREE: Discover the purpose of marriage

A wedding is bigger than you as an individual and even bigger than you both as a couple. Ephesians 5 describes a couple laying down their lives for one another and becoming one as an icon of God's sacrificial love for His church. That's the counter-cultural call of Christian marriage.

STEP FOUR: Create a meaningful event

To focus on the sacred nature of marriage in the early church, couples often stood during the course of a weekly service to exchange their vows. Those weddings were a part of the community of faith's worship routine and a public vow within a church body.

They did not have anything resembling the grand ceremonies typical of modern weddings, focusing instead on the meaning and purpose of marriage. That's not to say big celebrations are out of order, but many risk making them so complex that they fail to honor God or the community they are uniting – both of which are the basis for a strong Christian marriage.

STEP FIVE: Pre-marital Counseling

This is a great way to start your life together on the right path. There are several options for pre-marital counseling, including time with a pastor. This is a great opportunity to intentionally discuss marriage and the work that it will involve to be successful.

