Marriage Policy
Calvary Grace Brethren Church

Congratulations on your engagement! At Calvary Grace Brethren Church, we are excited to start the journey of preparing for marriage with you. For your understanding and acknowledgment, this document represents the belief, practice and policy of Calvary Grace Brethren Church regarding marriage and marriage ceremonies. This document should be presented to you during an interview with a Calvary Grace Brethren Church pastor, after the initial *"Marriage Request Form"* is submitted. This interview will determine whether a Calvary Grace Brethren Church pastor will be able to pursue the officiation of your wedding based on the requirements determined by Calvary Grace Brethren Church.

Definition of Marriage for Calvary Grace Brethren Church:
All marriages performed at Calvary Grace Brethren Church and/or with a Calvary Grace Brethren Church pastor must meet our definition of marriage. The definition below represents the single belief and practice of Calvary Grace Brethren Church.

> We believe that the term *"marriage"* has only one, legitimate meaning, and that is marriage sanctioned by God, which joins one man and one woman in a single, covenantal union, as delineated by Scripture. Marriage ceremonies performed in the facilities owned, leased, rented or borrowed by Calvary Grace Brethren Church will only be those ceremonies sanctioned by God, joining one man and one woman as that gender was determined at birth. Whenever there is a conflict between the church's position and any new legal standard for marriage, the church's statement of faith, doctrines and biblical positions will govern. (Genesis 2:24; Romans 7:2; I Corinthians 7:10; Ephesians 5:22-23)

Requirements for Marriage:
In addition to the Definition of Marriage for Calvary Grace Brethren Church, couples who are married at the church and/or require the officiation of their wedding to be performed by a Calvary Grace Brethren Church pastor need to meet the following requirements:

1. After assigning a pastor to your wedding service, you will be asked to complete a premarital assessment and connect with a mentor couple and/or your officiating pastor. In preparation for marriage, you are required to complete Calvary Grace Brethren Church's premarital mentorship program with an approved mentor and/or pastor as well as any personal appointments required by the pastor officiating the ceremony. The premarital mentorship program will likely be comprised of 5 or 6 meetings along with various homework assignments. We also ask that premarital mentoring occur preferably 5 to 6 months prior to the ceremony.

2. Engaged couples are asked to attend Calvary Grace Brethren Church services regularly during the mentoring period and prior to the wedding. We perform weddings at Calvary Grace Brethren Church and with our pastors as a ministry to couples and not just as *"a service"*. Therefore, through regular attendance, a couple will be able to benefit from all areas of our ministry as they pursue marriage.

3. You, as a couple, must be *"equally yoked"* spiritually. A pastor will explain how we define this phrase at Calvary Grace Brethren Church. (2 Corinthians 6:14)

4. In preparation for marriage, engaged couples are asked to strive for sexual purity. We recognize that living together can be a significant sexual temptation and therefore ask that each partner not live together prior to your wedding.

5. Marriages involving the man and/or woman having a previous divorce will be left to the discretion of the pastor.

Agreement

Please sign this agreement **after you have completed your pastoral interview.*

I have carefully read & understand the marriage policy. By signing this document, I am agreeing to follow the stated policy.

(**Groom**) Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

(**Bride**) Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name of Pastor Conducting Pastoral Interview: _____

Adopted by the Church Council on April 20, 2026