

# **CedarCreek Pre Marriage Mentoring Vision and Overview**

## **TEAM VISION**

Pre Marriage Mentoring exists to guide engaged couples toward a path of connection in their marriage: helping them to connect with each other, through learning to communicate and work through difficulties; to connect with our church body, as relationships and community lead to the full life God intends for us; and to connect with God, as they begin a journey of honoring Him with their marriage and following His will for their lives.

## **What is Pre Marriage Mentoring?**

It is Pre Marriage Mentoring Leaders guiding and supporting an engaged couple through our Pre Marriage Program, which includes the SYMBIS online marriage readiness assessment by Drs. Les and Leslie Parrott, along with their corresponding book and workbooks, "Saving Your Marriage Before it Starts" (8 meetings) or "Saving Your Second Marriage Before it Starts" (10 meetings). These are designed to:

- Prepare a good foundation for a Christ-centered marriage;
- Help them realize the importance of good communication;
- Discuss many subjects they would not otherwise talk about in hopes of heading off and/or successfully dealing with conflicts before and after they are married;
- Point out any "red flag" concerns that may derail their relationship and, if needed, to recommend professional counseling to resolve.

## **What it is not!**

- It is not counseling;
- It is not spending a lot of extra weeks to "iron out" all the red flags;
- It is not leading the couple to make decisions about their marriage/family according to the Mentoring Leaders' own preferences, experiences and beliefs.

## **Expectations for Pre Marriage Mentoring Leaders:**

Pre Marriage Mentoring Leaders are expected to have completed all CedarCreek Group Leaders' requirements, including:

- GrowthTrack (4 1-hour sessions)
- Group Leader Training (1 1-hour session)
- Signed Confidentiality Agreement
- CedarCreek Church Missional Membership (study to be completed within 6 months of beginning Pre Marriage Mentoring)

Additional requirements specific to Pre-Marriage Mentors are:

- Complete training to become a certified SYMBIS facilitator (3 hours online at own pace)
- Follow the adopted pre-marriage mentoring curriculum

- Share your life experiences and open your home to engaged couples for the duration of the mentoring sessions
- Accept coaching and assistance from Pre Marriage Mentoring Coaches