

Doug's Policy on Officiating Marriage Covenant Ceremonies

4/2/2014

BECAUSE Scripture warns against adultery and defines it as a sin.

But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to become an adulteress, and anyone who marries the divorced woman commits adultery. Matt 5:32

AND BECAUSE from the beginning of time God intended one man for one woman until death:

But at the beginning of creation God made them male and female. 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate. Mark 10:6-9

AND BECAUSE marriage is to be honored by all, and adulterers and the sexually immoral will be judged:

Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. Hebrews 13:4

AND BECAUSE sexual sin is uniquely damaging to the human body, and the marriage institution:

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. 1 Cor. 6:18

I THEREFORE, in the case of adultery or sexual immorality will officiate a wedding ceremony only where there is clear evidence of repentance.

AND THEREFORE, I will officiate a wedding ceremony only when a Christian is marrying a Christian, and at least one is a member of Timber Lake Christian Church. (Faith, repentance, confession, baptism, and faithfulness in church attendance will be the standard for evaluation.)

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- If either candidate is clearly not a virgin, the wedding colors of pure white should not be used.
- Respect for the sacredness of the marriage vows is of utmost importance. Modesty and propriety in dress, decorations, and special music is to be taken seriously. Special music words should be submitted to the minister by the second counseling sessions for approval.
- I require at least six months notice and six one-hour counseling sessions before I can officiate at a ceremony.