

Covenant Marriage Movement Messages



Celebrate Covenant Marriage Sunday February 16, 2003

The third Sunday of February has been established as Covenant Marriage Sunday.

We encourage you to begin planning ways to celebrate the covenant of marriage in your worship time on Sunday, February 16, 2003.

The Congregational Kit includes resources that will help you celebrate Covenant Marriage Sunday and is available through the Covenant Marriage Movement Office for \$39.95 + S/H.

Suggestions for ways to celebrate covenant marriage in worship:

♥ Develop a visual presentation celebrating the marriages in your congregation. This could be in the form of a power point or video presentation to run prior to or at some point during the actual service.

♥ Have the message focus on the covenant of marriage.

(sermon helps in kit)

♥ Provide bulletin inserts on the sanctity of marriage. *(50 inserts in kit)*

♥ Ask a couple in the congregation married over 50 years to give a testimony. *(personally or via pre-taped message)*

♥ Ask couples to be involved with the special music for the service.

♥ Present a live drama sketch or video that addresses some aspect of marriage or the stages of marriage. *(Go to the CMM website for video option.)*

♥ Acknowledge the widowed in the congregation. (Include pictures from their wedding in the visual presentation.)

Perhaps have the Deacons present each widow present with a corsage or rose.

♥ Include a time for couples to have the opportunity to publicly commit themselves to a Covenant Marriage. A brief ceremony is available in the congregational kit along with 25 commitment cards to be used in conjunction with the ceremony.

♥ Recognition of Married Couples in Attendance:

oldest, youngest, married the longest and shortest period of time.

♥ Include a time of thanksgiving and intercessory prayer. Include thanksgiving to God for those couples that have been a part of the congregation in the past. Include a time of intercession for those whose spouses have died or have abandoned them.

Pray for those who are newly married and are beginning their journey together, for those whose marriages are strong and growing, and for those whose marriages are struggling.

Next Steps to Consider

You have heard the old adage, "After all is said and done, more is said than done." We want to encourage you to take the next steps to provide ongoing support to the couples who have affirmed their belief in marriage as a covenant relationship and have committed themselves to living out their relationship with one another according to this belief.

♥ Begin a small-group study on marriage as God intends it to be. *(Contact the CMM office if you need suggestions of studies)*

♥ Ask those couples who feel lead to help develop a ministry to married couples to sign up following the service.

♥ Begin a prayer ministry focused on marriage.

♥ Consider taking the appropriate steps to initiate a comprehensive ministry to married couples in your church.



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