FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ACADEMY

GUIDELINES FOR WEDDINGS

First Baptist Church of Academy (FBCA) is a Bible-believing church who believes marriage is a sacred relationship not to be entered into lightly or without prayer. FBCA believes a Christian marriage is the uniting of two believers, one male and one female, together as one for life. (Genesis 2:21-25, Matthew 19:4-6, 2 Corinthians 6:14-16)

The following guidelines are set forth to be pleasing to God and to be of the greatest benefit to a couple considering being married at FBCA.

- 1. A couple desiring to be married at FBCA will contact the Pastor at least <u>four</u> months prior to the wedding date. The Pastor will then set a time for an initial interview with the couple.
- 2. A couple desiring to be married at FBCA will agree to complete a Biblical pre-marital counseling course with the Pastor. If a couple has already attended Biblical pre-marital counseling, then the couple will provide a letter from the Pastor of a Bible-believing church stating the fact, the material covered, and how long the counseling took place. The Pastor of FBCA will then determine if further counseling is needed. (Proverbs 11:14)
- 3. A couple desiring to be married at FBCA will be actively involved in an evangelical Christian church for the purpose of continued spiritual growth. (Acts 2:40-47, Hebrews 10:23-25)
- 4. A couple desiring to be married at FBCA will practice sexual abstinence until they are married. If cohabiting, the couple needs to discuss this further with the Pastor seeking to repent of this sin. (1 Thessalonians 4:3-8, Hebrews 13:4)
- 5. Marriages of formerly married persons will be allowed only after the Pastor determines whether the planned marriage is Biblical.

Before a wedding can be placed on the church calendar, the couple must agree to the above guidelines.

Signature of Bride	
Signature of Groom	
Signature of Pastor	