

Marriage Preparation Course (MPC) – Frequently Asked Questions

Covenant Evangelical Free Church (CEFC)

1. What are the requirements to sign up for MPC?

At least one of you would be a church member or working towards membership. For the latter, you should already be part of a Covenant Group. The aforesaid is helpful as we believe community is so vital for a healthy marriage preparation and post marriage journey. As our resources are limited, we seek your understanding that we will give first priority to church members or those who have decided to be members of our church.

2. What is the MPC journey like?

Per earlier write up, our MPC is conducted:

- In Groups of 1 MPC mentor couple to 2 applicant couples and your MPC journey begins when both the mentor-couple and 2 applicant couples are available. There are a total of 10 sessions comprising 9 sessions as a Group + 1 Prepare-Enrich (PE) Review session where the MPC mentor couple meets each applicant couple separately.
- Duration is over 4-6 months with each session lasting 2 to 2.5 hours. Each session happens usually fortnightly to monthly, depending on the availability of the MPC mentor couple and applicant couples.

We encourage you to apply early as such groups may take 1 to 3 months to form.

3. Will what we share remain confidential?

Yes. Every MPC journey is a SAFE place where all sharing during MPC are treated with confidentiality. Both mentors and mentees are expected not to disclose personal stories outside the group. This ensures an agreed space for open and honest conversations.

4. What level of commitment is expected?

The course is most fruitful when couples are consistent and intentional. We encourage you to commit to:

- Attending all sessions punctually (except in cases of emergency)
- Completing reflections or assignments as a couple
- Being open to learning, sharing, and growing together

5. How soon can we start MPC?

- After you submit your application, the MPC Center Coordinators will arrange a meetup.
- Starting MPC depends on mentor availability and pairing with another mentee couple.
- As matching can take between 1–3 months, we encourage early application.

6. What is CGL endorsement?

- We will require your Covenant Group Leader (CGL) to acknowledge your application via a short email endorsement confirming their awareness of your application.
- This email should be attached to your form submission.
- This is because we believe that your CGL is one of your spiritual leaders and they can minimally be praying for your MPC journey and choose to be more meaningfully involved if they and yourselves find it helpful for them to be so.

7. Is our participation in Discovery Weekend (DWE) mandatory?

It is not mandatory. However, we encourage all couples to attend DWE which is a one Saturday commitment. Many couples have found DWE helpful prior to starting their MPC as it helps lay a strong foundation for a healthy courtship/pre-marriage phase and allows couples to connect with other couples and facilitators.

8. Why is there a +6 session pre-school attachment a part of the MPC?

MPC incorporates 6 sessions of pre-school attachment (apart from the 10 session MPC small group sessions) as this gives couples the opportunity to serve together in the children's ministry and have a healthy experience of engaging children together and helps facilitate meaningful discussions regarding having children in the marriage.

9. Can we choose our mentor or fellow mentee couple?

- You may indicate your preference, and the team will try to accommodate.
- However, due to logistics and availability, matching cannot be guaranteed.

10. Can pre-believers join MPC?

We are generally open to consider requests on case-by-case basis as we view these as opportunities to share the Christian idea and basis of marriage and to share the gospel with the pre-believing partner or couple. Please submit a request to the church for such consideration.

11. Do we need to complete MPC before our wedding?

Yes. All MPC mentee couples should complete the course before their wedding.

12. Can Covenant pastors solemnise our wedding?

Yes. Covenant pastors are available to solemnise weddings when you have met the MPC requirements and both of you are baptized believers of Jesus Christ.

13. Can we hold our wedding in another church's premises?

Yes. If you choose to hold your wedding in another church, your hosting church will require a letter of recommendation from CEFC which we can provide.

14. Who can we contact about wedding matters?

For wedding-related matters, please email: weddings@cefc.org.sg