Requirements for Performance of Marriage Ceremony by one of the pastors at Gospel Baptist Church.

Due to the public nature of wedding ceremonies, the reputations of the said pastors are a stake. For this reason, the following stipulations have been decided upon through many years of trial and error. There is no intent to cause any hard feelings or to insult anyone’s personal preferences. It has just become necessary to protect the reputation of Gospel Baptist Church’s pastors from misinterpretation.

The following will be guidelines for weddings held on the property of GBC.

1. No alcoholic beverages of any kind can be present at either the wedding or reception.
2. No rock music, in any form, will be allowed for the ceremony. All music must be approved by said pastors.
3. No ceremony can be performed for divorced individuals on either side.
4. A minimum of four hours of personal counseling and the reading of “The Rebuilders’ Guide” and “The Ministry of Marriage” by both parties is required prior to the ceremony.
5. It must be determined, by said pastors, that both parties are born again, Bible believers in fellowship with God.
6. Only members of Gospel Baptist Church will be married in the auditorium.
7. Traditional vows required; personal vows may be an addition in if so requested. Please note vows on next page.
8. All clothing worn by the Groom and Bride with all attendants is to be modest with shoulders covered and no open and bare skin. In other words, similar to the well known standards of the Church and School, with modest being defined by the marrying Pastor, if necessary. *These need to be approved before any purchases are made.

The following will be guidelines for weddings off GBC property.

1. The location of the wedding must be approved by the said pastor performing the ceremony.
2. The four hours of counseling is necessary and required by the state of Florida.
3. Though the people who are married by a pastor from GBC off of GBC property do not have to be members, they must be born again, Bible believers in fellowship with God.
4. No rock music, in any form (per the pastor’s definition), will be allowed at the wedding ceremony.
5. No alcoholic beverages of any kind can be present at the wedding ceremony. If you so desire the pastor to be present at the reception, there can be no alcoholic beverages served.

6. Traditional vows are required; personal vows may be used in addition if so requested.

TRADITIONAL VOWS (for sample purposes only)

(Man), do you take (woman) to be your lawful wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of Christian marriage? Will you love her, cherish her, comfort her, and protect her in and through all the changing scenes of life, and will you promise, in the presence of God, and these assembled witnesses, to forsake all others, and be faithful to her so long as you both shall live?

(Woman), do you take (man) to be lawful wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in holy estate of Christian marriage? Will you love him, honor him, cherish him, obey him and serve him in and through all the changing scenes of life, and will you promise, in the presence of God and these assembled witnesses, to forsake all others and be faithful unto him as long as you both shall live?

(Man) I (man) take thee, (woman), to be my true and lawful wife; to have and to hold from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love, cherish, honor and protect, till death do us part, according to God's holy ordinance, and thereto I pledge thee my faithfulness.

(Woman) I (woman, take thee, (man), to be my true and lawful husband; to have and to hold from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love, cherish, honor and obey, till death do us part, according to God's holy ordinance, and thereto I pledge thee my faithfulness.

Any question regarding the above should be directed to one of the pastors at GBC.