

Marriage Mentor Information/Application Packet

grace
couples



> **The Marriage Ministry of
Grace Community Church**

159 Rochester Hill Road – Rochester, NH 03867



Hello potential marriage mentor couple,

I first want to say thank you for your willingness to consider investing in the life of others through a mentoring relationship.

We believe that the most significant life change occurs in the context of meaningful relationships. The mission of our Marriage Mentoring Ministry is to *lovingly invest in the preparation, maximization and restoration of lifelong marriages by walking alongside couples who are less experienced than their mentors*. This is patterned after the model in 2 Timothy 2:2 where the Apostle Paul says, "And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others."

Regardless of whether you are interested in working with engaged couples or married couples who have "less marriage mileage" than you have, please be assured we are not looking for those with a perfect marriage, for we know there is no such thing. We are simply looking for couples who have relied on Christ to grow them through the challenges of married life, and who are willing to allow God to use those life experiences as a tool in His hand.

Thank you again for your interest in partnering with us in our efforts to support and promote biblical marriages for God's glory.

Blessings,

Willie Batson

Marriage Ministry Pastor

Email: wbatson@familybuilders.net

Office Phone: 603-692-4895



NEXT STEPS FOR POTENTIAL MARRIAGE MENTORS

1. **Read the Mentoring Mission Statement and the Marriage Mentors Job Description.** These items are included in the packet. If you meet the qualifications as listed and are in agreement with the mission and expectations of this ministry, proceed to complete the application forms.
2. **Submit the marriage mentor applications.** Two copies are included in this packet. The application forms can be submitted via one of the following methods:
 - a. **FAX:** 603-692-4896
 - b. **MAIL:** Rev. Willie Batson, 159 Rochester Hill Road, Rochester, NH 03867
 - c. **DROP OFF:** Drop it off at the Church Office
3. **Complete the online ENRICH Marital Inventory.** Once your application is received, you will be contacted about how to complete the online ENRICH inventory that every mentor couple is required to take. The cost is \$29.95 per couple. We are asking our marriage mentors to pay for this as an investment in the ministry. There is no other financial cost involved in becoming a marriage mentor. If this presents a financial hardship, please contact Willie Batson (603-692-4895). The inventory report will be viewed by Willie, who will then meet with you to go over the report. The ENRICH inventory is not a psychological test. It is simply a snapshot of your marital strengths and growth areas. The report will be used to help evaluate your readiness to be marriage mentors and it will show you how it will be used in our marriage mentoring ministry.
4. **Attend the day-long Marriage Mentor Training Seminar.** This is where you will learn how to use effective mentoring skills with other couples. We will also introduce you to how the GCC Marriage Mentoring Ministry will operate.
5. **Make the final decision to participate in the GCC Marriage Mentoring Ministry.** After completing the initial training, you will be asked to prayerfully consider a one-year commitment to this ministry. You may renew that commitment annually.
6. **Attend the Marriage Mentor Ongoing Training and Support meetings.** These very helpful meetings will be held approximately every 4-6 weeks.

If you have questions, or would like additional information, please contact Willie Batson at wbatson@familybuilders.net or 603-692-4895.



Grace Community Church Marriage Ministry Mentoring Mission Statement

The Mission of the Grace Marriage Mentoring Ministry is:

To lovingly invest in the preparation, maximization and restoration of lifelong marriages by walking alongside couples who are less experienced than their mentors. We will address three relationship seasons: *preparing* for marriage, *maximizing* a good marriage, and *repairing* a damaged marriage.

Preparing:

Provide an opportunity for all couples considering marriage to join with a mentor couple to assess their readiness for marriage and to learn biblical interpersonal skills critical to healthy relationships.

Maximizing:

Provide the opportunity for any couple wanting to enhance their marriage to walk alongside a more mature couple for the purpose of strengthening their interpersonal skills and biblical understanding of a healthy marriage relationship. Offer periodic opportunities for couples to gather with other couples for marriage enrichment activities such as retreats and seminars.

Repairing:

Provide relationship assistance to couples experiencing marital difficulties, assisting them in redirecting energy toward reconciliation and restoration rather than aggression.



Grace Community Church Marriage Ministry Marriage Mentors Job Description

Description: Marriage Mentors serve as encouragers, discussion facilitators, and prayer partners for a married couple who is seeking to either maximize or rebuild their marriage.

Length of Commitment: 12 months

Marriage Length Requirement: 10+ years

QUALIFICATIONS

- Mentor couples are to be married 10 years or longer.
- Mentor couples will be those who have put their faith in Christ and are seeking to have a life-long marriage based on biblical principles.
- Mentor couples will be members of Grace Community Church who are committed to the church's vision, mission, and doctrine.

MENTOR EXPECTATIONS

- Meet with the mentoree couple every 4-6 weeks for a period of 10-12 months.
- Pray for the couple(s) you are mentoring.
- Display a desire to expand their knowledge of relationship skills by attending ongoing skill building and support meetings.
- Assess the specific marital growth needs of each couple and develop a reasonable growth plan for those areas. (We will provide you with tools and exercises to do this.)
- Encourage the couples to become fully devoted followers of Christ who connect, grow, serve and share.
- Provide guidance in relational skills including but not limited to better communication, conflict resolution, negotiation and decision making and building spiritual, emotional and physical intimacy.
- Commit to attending the monthly Marriage Mentor Ongoing Training & Support meetings.

Caution Flags for Marriage Mentors

This list is by no means exhaustive. It is simply a beginning place to consider what might keep you from being ready to be marriage mentors.

(Please check all that apply.)

- You are currently battling any kind of addiction (gambling, pornography, drugs, alcohol, etc.).
- You have uncontrollable emotional outbursts that you have not yet managed.
- You have recently suffered a significant setback (financial, emotional, etc.).
- Your marriage is not stable or is fraught with frequent conflict.
- You have suffered serious emotional wounds from some kind of abuse in your life and you are still trying to find healing.
- You are struggling with significant financial debt.
- One of you is far more motivated to become a marriage mentor than the other.
- You do not have a sense of meaning and purpose in your life.
- You are pessimistic about marriage in general.
- You avoid personal responsibility for problems in your life.
- You are not content and at peace with your life and your marriage.
- You are not living your life by submitting to biblical principles.
- You are primarily motivated to be marriage mentors to help your own marriage.
- You have been told by others that you may not be in a good place to be marriage mentors right now.

Marriage Mentoring Self-Test

For each statement below, indicate the response that best identifies your beliefs and attitudes. Keep in mind that the "right" answer is the one that best expresses your thoughts at this time. Use the following code:

- 5 = I strongly agree
- 4 = I agree
- 3 = I am undecided
- 2 = I disagree
- 1 = I strongly disagree

1. Giving advice has little to do with good mentoring. _____
2. I can accept and respect people who disagree with me. _____
3. I can make a mistake and admit it. _____
4. I look at everybody's side of a disagreement before I make a decision. _____
5. I tend to trust my intuition even when I'm unsure of the outcome. _____
6. I don't need to see immediate and concrete results in order to know progress is occurring. _____
7. Who you are in mentoring is more important than what you do. _____
8. My presence frees others from the threat of external evaluation. _____
9. In a tense emotional situation I tend to remain calm. _____
10. I know my limits when it comes to helping others. _____

Total Score (add your answers to questions 1-10) SCORING: _____

- 40-50 You are well on your way to being an effective mentor; take special care to maintain the qualities you have.
- 30-39 You have what it takes to be effective, but you will need to exert special attention to grooming the traits described above.
- Below 30 Seek out advice and counsel to assess your strengths and to pinpoint which characteristics you need to develop further.

(Source: *The Complete Guide to Marriage Mentoring*. Drs. Les & Leslie Parrott. Zondervan, 2005, p. 41)

Marriage Mentor Application
Grace Community Church – Rochester, NH
 (Each spouse should complete this application individually.)



Name		Date Submitted	
Spouse's Name		Year of Birth	
Address		Year of Marriage	
City, State, Zip		Names & ages of children (if applicable)	
Home Phone		Area(s) of Interest	<i>Mentoring engaged couples</i> <i>Mentoring married couples</i> <i>Undecided</i>
Cell Phone			
E-mail			

1.	<p>Are you a member of Grace Community Church? Yes No</p> <p>Which GCC service do you attend?</p> <p>How frequently do you attend?</p>
2.	<p>Briefly describe your spiritual journey and how you came to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.</p>

3. What are the primary areas of growth you have experienced in your marriage?

4. Why would you like to serve as a mentor?

Signature:

Date:

Please submit this form to Willie Batson via one of the following methods:

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2. **MAIL:** Rev. Willie Batson, 159 Rochester Hill Road, Rochester, NH 03867
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Thank you!

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