

# Stonebriar Community Church

## MarriageCore Frequently Asked Questions

### **Where does MarriageCore meet?**

MarriageCore meets every Tuesday evening from 6:30 pm at Stonebriar Community Church in room B241/242. We recommend you use the main church entrance facing Legendary Drive and Hunt Middle School. This entrance leads directly into building B.

### **What is the origin of MarriageCore?**

MarriageCore was written by Dr. Chip Dickens, the Chair of the Counseling Department at Dallas Theological Seminary.

### **What does a typical night at MarriageCore look like?**

Each Tuesday begins with a large group meeting, which typically includes a time of snacks and fellowship followed by either a brief talk on growing a stronger marriage or a personal marriage story. Following the large group, attendees can elect to participate in ongoing open group meetings or join a small group going through the MarriageCore curriculum together.

### **Will I be asked a lot of personal questions at MarriageCore?**

There is no personal sharing during the large group meeting. Any personal sharing during the small group meetings is voluntary.

### **How do I know that what I share at MarriageCore will be kept confidential? Will it be a safe place to share?**

There are small group guidelines that will be reviewed and discussed with all couples joining a small group. Confidentiality is covered during that review.

### **Can I be honest with people about what is going on in our marriage?**

We pray that you will feel safe to do this within your small group. We find that the more authentic and transparent couples can be with others, the more they find hope and healing within their marriage.

### **Is MarriageCore marriage counseling?**

No, MarriageCore is not marriage counseling and the leaders are facilitators, not counselors. They are also growing in their own marriages. As a group everyone is on the journey to oneness in marriage together. However, we believe that being open and honest in a small group community using this curriculum will lead to real change in marriages.

### **Do you provide child care?**

Yes, a children's program for age's birth through 12 is provided at no charge until 8:30 p.m. Please register for child care on the MarriageCore webpage.

### **Can I just come and visit, or do I have to commit to something?**

Yes, you can come and visit as many times as you like without committing to a small group, and your marriage can benefit. However, attending the large group meeting and open groups each week will not afford you the same rewards as committing to a small group does.

### **How much time each week outside of the meeting is required to be part of MarriageCore?**

There is no commitment required to join the large group meeting each week or any of the ongoing open group meetings. However, joining a small group requires a commitment to complete the weekly curriculum of approximately 15-20 minutes each week. The time required will vary, but it is designed for minimal time commitment.

### **What commitment do I have to make?**

Once you join a small group, working through the MarriageCore will require a 6-7 month commitment in order to allow time for the group to complete the curriculum together.

### **What if I'd like to visit MarriageCore, but my spouse does not?**

We believe the MarriageCore experience will be beneficial to your marriage, even if your spouse does not/cannot attend. You are welcome to attend the large group and the open group but cannot join a small group as a single.

### **I don't know if I'll have a marriage by the end of the month. Is MarriageCore a good place for us?**

Absolutely! We have had many couples in similar circumstances attend MarriageCore. While the outcome is based on the work each individual is willing to do to save their marriage, the platform provides a safe place to focus on what a healthy marriage should look like, and it provides some tools to help grow toward this goal.

### **My spouse and I have already separated. Can we both still come?**

Yes. In fact, we highly suggest you attend together. However, even if only one of you is willing to take part in the program, it may improve your marriage.

**We don't like spending time with each other anymore. Will we have to interact together?**

While you will be in a small group together, each of you will be sharing about what you learn personally each week. However, there are some exercises that may require you to interact with each other throughout the process.

**I have no hope anymore. Is this a place where we can find hope?**

Our prayer is that you will find hope that can come through allowing God to do a mighty work within your marriage.

**My marriage is doing well. Can we benefit by attending MarriageCore?**

Yes, MarriageCore is the place for all married couples. There is always room for improvement and growth in marriage. If you are just aiming for a good marriage you are aiming to low, go for greatness!!!

**We have only been married for 6 months. Can we still come?**

Absolutely! In fact participating in MarriageCore at this stage in your marriage is a great idea! The program will provide a strong foundation for your marriage.

**We are thinking of getting married (or are engaged). Is this ministry for us?**

We suggest you choose to attend our pre-marital class called Marriage Foundations. For more information please go to [www.stonebriar.org](http://www.stonebriar.org) (keyword marriage foundations).