

AM I IN THE RIGHT PLACE?

*Re|Engage is for any couple willing to make the commitment to work on their marriage**. Even couples who are separated or divorced can attend Re|Engage, if they desire to re-invest into their marriage relationship.

My spouse cannot or will not attend. Can I still do Re|Engage? Re|Engage is only for married couples to attend together. If you would like to explore other options for strengthening your marriage, please review the kinds of marriage building events and resources we make available at fbcbryan.org/marriage.

My marriage is doing well. Can we benefit by attending Re|Engage? Whether your marriage needs to be reignited, or is in need of a complete resurrection, Re|Engage is a safe place for couples to work on their marriage in whatever condition it is in.

We have kids, do you provide child care during Re|Engage? Yes, babies to High School seniors will participate in high-quality, age-specific programming throughout the duration of Re|Engage. Preschoolers and Children can be dropped off at the Preschool (1st floor) and Kids' check-in desks (2nd floor) at the East end of the building *no earlier* than 5:45 pm. They must be picked up *before* 8:10pm. Children are not permitted to come with you.

***We have only been married a little while. Can we still come?** Re|Engage is a great place to build marriage foundations for your young marriage. But Re|Engage is only for couples who are already married. If you'd like to discover marriage-building options outside of Re|Engage, please visit fbcbryan.org/marriage or contact our Families Pastor families@fbcbryan.org.

I have no hope anymore. Is this a place where we can find hope? Hope is powerful. The problem is that couples too often place their hope in things or persons unable to fulfill it. Re|Engage will encourage you to invite God to anchor your marriage to real and lasting hope that will not disappoint.

I don't know if I'll have a marriage by the end of the month. Is Re|Engage a good place for us? There are many separated or divorced couples who have attended Re|Engage. 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 provides tools to help grow toward this goal. Couples in crisis are encouraged to agree to delay permanent decisions until the completion of the semester.

WHAT IS RE|ENGAGE?

Re|Engage is a Christ-centered marriage-building program for couples to work on their marriage in community with a handful of couples and a mentor couple. However, you do not have to attend First Baptist Bryan or subscribe to any particular religious beliefs.

The program was launched at Watermark Community Church in Dallas and has since expanded to other churches nationwide. Its "DNA" is to guide couples to experience the freedom and joy in life and marriage that God makes available to everyone through Christ.

Is Re|Engage marriage counseling? Re|Engage is not marriage counseling and the mentors are marriage coaches, not Professional Counselors. They are also growing in their own marriages. Everyone in the group is on the journey to a better marriage. We believe that openness and honesty in a small group setting, using Biblically-based, Christ-centered curriculum exploring 16 marriage essentials, is where God works to grow and resurrect marriages.

WHAT COMMITMENT IS INVOLVED?

The benefits of Re|Engage to your marriage are proportional to your commitment and the work you put into learning, sharing with your spouse, sharing with your group, and applying what you learn progressively and consistently over time.

Every Spring or Fall semester, Re|Engage meets on Wednesday nights from 6:15-8:00pm in Room 264B (Loft B). There will be no Re|Engage on Spring Break, Fall Break, or Thanksgiving weeks.

Can I just come and go, like with other classes? No, Re|Engage is not like a class that you attend as often as you wish. MidWeek Open House is designed for you to “test drive” Re|Engage by reading this FAQ, and more importantly, completing the Test Drive Lesson. By the end of the week, you will be prepared to commit to Re|Engage for the semester. You’ll indicate that commitment by completing the Questionnaire & Registration Google Form found on fbcbryan.org/marriage. Or, you can decide that this semester isn’t for you.

What does a typical Wednesday night at Re|Engage “look like”?

- **6:00pm – 6:15pm** – Snackage & Chill Time
- **6:15pm-6:30** – Large Group
- **6:30-8:00ish*** – Small Groups (kids’ pickup no later than 8:10)

How much time between Re|Engage nights is required? Completion of the essential curriculum will take approximately 15-30 minutes each week. Another 30 - 60 minutes or so is required for discussion with your spouse. The time required will vary, but it is designed for a minimal time commitment each week to interact with the material, followed by enough time with your spouse to engage the discussion sufficiently. Extra resources are available online for individuals who want to explore weekly topics more thoroughly. Simply put, Re|Engage requires **2+2 hours per week** — **about 2 hours at home and 2 hours at FBC each week.**

What commitment do I have to make? To join a Mentor Group, you will need to commit to working through the Re|Engage curriculum over 16 weeks with the group. Like joining any athletics team, your commitment for the duration of the semester is important to the group’s success. The financial cost is \$40/couple for learning materials and other semester costs. Couples are expected to attend on-time every week, as the group is affected by the absence or tardiness of others. Group mentors will work with couples who are unable to attend on particular nights. Couples who are unsure of their ability to attend at least 12 (75%) nights should wait until another semester before committing to a Mentor Group when they can secure those nights in their schedules.

HOW TRANSPARENT DO I HAVE TO BE?

Will I be asked a lot of personal questions at Re|Engage? There is no personal sharing required during the Large Group meeting. And you won’t be singled out to answer specific questions in Small Group. Hearing how other couples are working through things is a very important element in the Re|Engage ministry model. We therefore encourage every individual to come prepared every week willing to share at least one thing from their work at home for the benefit of everyone in their Small Group. Share your own issues, not your spouse’s.

Can I be honest with people about what is going on in our marriage? Yes! And your personal and marriage growth depends on it. Our prayer is that you will feel safe to share within your Small Group. We find that the more authentic and transparent couples are with others, the more they find hope and healing within their marriage. Over the course of several weeks, trust builds and couples become more willing to open up to each other. What you get out of Re|Engage depends largely on the amount of honesty you are willing to bring into it.

How do I know what I share at Re|Engage will be kept confidential? Will it be a safe place to share? We ask and coach all participants and mentors to keep in confidence anything that is discussed in Small Groups. We have never had a problem with this. Everyone in a Small Group is highly motivated by their own sharing to keep the confidence of others. Hypothetically, anyone who violates this trust will be brought into a process of grace-filled accountability with the group. However, if abuse and neglect of a child or vulnerable adult, imminent threats to self or others, or other legally mandatory reporting issue is reported in Small Group, mentors are instructed to share that with the Families Pastor of First Baptist Church, who will, with his supervisor, respond biblically and per legal requirements.