



*Premarital discipleship designed for engaged and seriously dating couples. It's a chance to seek wisdom and receive counsel about marriage in a safe, fun, and authentic environment.*

## **What to expect:**

- **Large Group:** Every week begins in a large setting, where you will hear stories of hope from other married couples.
- **Small Group:** After meeting as a large group, participants will break into smaller groups, with each group led by a facilitator couple. Together, you and your small group will work through the 8 week curriculum that addresses common questions and challenges from a biblical perspective.
- **8 Week Commitment:** Couples will meet weekly for 8 weeks to work through the curriculum.

## FAQs:

**What's the meaning behind the name?** Merge helps couples explore what marriage really means in a safe and informative environment. Often for the first time, couples get to see the practicalities of merging together two very different lives. Two sets of expectations, now merging together. Two bank accounts, now merging together. Two pairs of in-laws, now merging together. The name Merge came about because that is what marriage is: the joining together of what was previously separate.

**What does a typical Merge session look like?** Pre-married couples arrive for large group time in the Student Center at 6:30PM for some brief fellowship followed by a marriage testimony. At approximately 7:10PM you'll go to your small group to discuss that week's lesson until 8:30PM. A few times in the class we may split into men and women for gender-specific teaching and conversation.

**What do you mean by seriously dating?** Seriously dating couples are those moving towards engagement. Seriously dating couples tend to be more open handed and are more willing to discuss hard questions before they spend money on a ring or start wedding planning.

**Do I have to register?** Typically, yes. Pre-registration allows for the small groups to be assigned based on age, life-stage, and couple demographics.

**Does it cost anything to attend?** No, but premarital counseling is a requirement to be married at TJC.

**Do I have to attend every session?** We know life happens but to get the most out of the process you need to be there every week.