

THE CHALLENGE OF IMPROPER MARRIAGE SOLEMNIZATION IN BADAGRY
REDEMPTION BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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ABSTRACT

The topic is a problem because of the challenges associated with the marriages not properly solemnized. Such challenges include lack of peace, lack of joy, quarreling, several kinds of fight that make the children to have learnt negative ways of relationship in the family, the church and the society in such a way that the couples could not present the proper way of living to the children as responsible members of the family, the church and the society at large. Out of the populations of married individuals in the churches within the Badagry Redemption Baptist Association eleven married individuals were interviewed. Findings include the facts that about twenty percent of the married in this area conduct their wedding in the Church, ten percent have theirs in the Registry and seventy percent of couples came together without the consent of their parents. On the basis of the findings on the research conducted recommendations were made. These include: The single youths should seek towards preparing to pattern their marriage toward glorifying God by making sure that the consent of their parents was made, their pastor are carried along immediately the agreement is made to be husband and wife, the pre-marital counseling should be taken as serious so as to prevent the likely problems that may arise in marriage, and that they should have their wedding in the church where God's servant would bless their home and join them together in holy matrimony. The Pastors should take seriously the teaching of singles on the proper way of marriage that may prevent them of the problems associated with the improperly solemnization of marriage either in the general worship or organizing workshop, seminar, etc for them. The pastors should take pre-marital counseling seriously before wedding day and encourage the family member in the churches to be of help to future homes.

5.2 Conclusion

This research work was conducted to establish the fact that there are challenges being faced with the people of Badagry Area on the practices of improper marriage that has being observed that is going on in this area.

This examines the concept of Christian marriage as the basis for proper marriage and the dignity of the proper marriage that has been disregarded by the people. The life of the people in such marriage and the implications were looked into. The implications on the life of the couples that do not marry properly, on the children, on the family, on the Church and on the society at large were also examined. What should be the paradigm shift of the people in the area to better live their life should be the desire purpose to achieve so that there will be reduction in the problems being faced by the people that they ought not to face if they have done it right from the beginning – marrying right.

5.3 Recommendations

From the research work and the preceding observations, the researcher is hereby making these recommendations:

That the single youth of Badagry Redemption Baptist Association churches should seek towards proper way of marriage; the marriage between one man one woman that is patterned toward the fulfillment of God's purpose. The intended couples should follow the two processes such as allowing their marriage to be sanctioned by the government by registering their marriage in the Local Government Registry, celebrate it in the Church by allowing the servant of God to join and bless them at the altar.

The single youths planning to wed should seek the consent of their parents through the proper way of introducing themselves and allow them to sanction their marriage before moving forward. This is because African marriage is more of family issue and should be rightfully embraced.

The intended couple should carry their pastor along in journey of marriage right from the beginning of their courtship till the day of their marriage. This will allow them to pass through pre-marital counseling, learn the ways of living a joyful life in a home through practical ways and protect their marriage from any temptations that lead to pre-marital sex.

Premarital Counseling should be taken seriously because it goes a long way in sustaining the likely problems that may arise in marriage they are planning to start. No one is an island of knowledge, no matter what they know about themselves, the need for experienced people in that area is essential therefore the period of pre-marital counseling should not be played with.

The intended couple should make sure that they prayerfully seek to receive the blessing of God through His servant at the altar in the Church where they will be joined together in holy matrimony. The couple should also trust God for the future and refused to be brain washed by anyone on what happens to people in marriage after they have been joined together, such as people who do not have pregnancy before entering into marriage.

The Pastors should seek towards teaching of singles on the proper way of marriage that may prevent them of the problems associated with the improperly solemnization of marriage. They could carry out this teaching process through general worship or organizing workshop, seminar, etc.

The pastors should also take pre-marital counseling for the intended couples seriously before the wedding day. The pastor should not join the couples that have not been counseled and certified that they have the understanding of what marriage is all about.