

Preparing for Marriage: Level 2 Blessing Workshop Right After BCSF at UTS

Crescentia DeGoede

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Dear Blessed Families,

On August 12-14, right after the Blessed Culture and Sports Festival (BCSF) at UTS in Barrytown, NY the national Blessing and Family Ministry will be hosting a Preparing for Marriage: Level 2 Blessing Workshop. The early bird workshop fee is \$125 per participant. To obtain the early bird rate, participants must register and pay by this Monday, July 23. To register, fill out the registration form on the BFM website.

This program is intended for Blessed Children and Jacob Generation 18 and older and First Generation Unification Church members of one year or more who are preparing to begin the matching process. The workshop is required in order to become a matching candidate and attend the Marriage Blessing Ceremony.

The workshop begins with self-reflection: “How prepared am I, and what am I bringing to the table?” It deepens participants’ understanding of healthy relationships, and introduces the value of lineage and the Blessing. It introduces The Family Matching Handbook, and Finding the One: a Guide to Matching and Blessing in the Unification Tradition, which provide clear, step-by-step guidance for beginning and following through with the matching process successfully. It includes these four presentations:

- What Do I Bring to the Table?
- Matching Smarts
- Understanding the Matching Process
- My Heritage and Legacy

This will be the only Level 2 Blessing Workshop offered on a national level this year. However, a curriculum package for hosting a Level 2 Blessing workshop / small group study locally is available for purchase on the BFM website, so communities can organize Level 2 Blessing education locally.

I. WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Blessed Children and Jacob Generation 18 and older
- First Generation Unificationists with at least one year of membership
- BCSF participants who meet the criteria above
- Parents of Blessed Children or Jacob Generation are encouraged to attend this workshop, so that they can learn the same content in preparation for discussions as a family.

- Certified Matching Supporters are also encouraged to attend to support and assist candidates at the workshop.

II. WORKSHOP SCHEDULE AND LOCATION

The program will begin at UTS on Sunday, August 12 (right after the BCSF). Registration begins at 4:30 PM. Dinner is at 6:00 PM, and the official program begins at 7:00 PM. The workshop will conclude at 3:00 PM on Tuesday, August 14. UTS is located at 30 Seminary Drive, Barrytown, NY 12507.

III. REGISTRATION AND DEADLINES

The early bird workshop fee is \$125 per participant (to cover costs) and can be paid at the time of registration online for the workshop. To register, fill out the registration form on the BFM website. Participants must pre-register no later than July 23 to obtain the early bird price. The fee for those who register after July 23, is \$140.

The registration fee covers meals and 2-nights' dormitory-style accommodations. The dorms provide sheets and pillows. Please bring a sleeping bag or other comfortable bedding, a towel, toiletries, casual comfortable clothing, and light jacket (the weather will be warm).

Matching Supporters can register for \$75 to support and assist candidates at the workshop.

IV. TRANSPORTATION

The best way to reach UTS is by car and ample parking is available. In addition, there is Amtrak train service from Penn Station in Manhattan to the Rhinecliff/Kingston station near Barrytown. We will provide transportation from the train station to UTS at a nominal cost. The Albany, NY airport is just over a 1-hour drive from Barrytown and often has low cost flights available from around the country.

For questions or registration assistance, contact the national BFM team at: BFMadmin@unification.org or (212) 997-0055.

God Bless you and your family!

Sincerely,



Crescentia DeGoede
Director, Blessing and Family Ministry