

Marital Purity

Our daughter, Amber, was married in 2003 to a great young man, Ed Marroquin. Pastor Tony Scott and I had the privilege of performing the ceremony. What was cool was a special act in the ceremony. Eight years earlier as youth pastors there in Sylvania, we had led the youth on an eight week teaching regarding the Blessings of Purity. At the end of this teaching, we held a parent/ youth banquet, where we culminated the teaching and offered a Covenant of Purity for the students and their parents to sign with each other. Also, we had requested that each parent present some type of physical remembrance for the youth to wear as a token and reminder of their pledge to remain sexually pure until marriage. We presented a purity ring to Amber as did Ed's parents to him. On this special day (July 12), Amber & Ed, on their own and as a part of their wedding vows, returned their purity rings to the parents, reminding of us of their covenant commitment and assuring us of their honoring of that pledge. This was most awesome, not only as a parent (but especially so) but also as both of their former youth pastor, to see young people, (then 21 and 24) stand by their commitment to Christ and their parents. We will assure you, there are a lot of godly kids out there ... and I just wanted to stand up for two of them.

Pastors Cheri and Jim Garrett