



— *Retreat Overview* —

WinShape Marriage's Missionary R&R is a four night/five-day retreat that exists for international missionary couples to nourish their soul and strengthen their marriage, equipping them to thrive in all God has entrusted to them.

We celebrate the intentionality and investment in your marriage and relationship with God by pursuing this retreat. Please note the submission of an application doesn't guarantee a spot. A reservation specialist will follow up with you to confirm registration and payment. All areas are required.

The cost of the retreat is \$150.

Once this application is completed, please email to reservations@winshape.org. You can also call our Reservations Team at 706-368-6801 with any questions.

If someone else will be contributing towards this retreat for you financially, please let us know. We recommend acquiring the payment from that party in order to complete your payment to WinShape Marriage.

— *Personal Information* —

Name:

Spouse Name:

Missions Organization:

Title/Role:

Current/Active Location of Service:

Name, Location, Date of Last Retreat attended:

Name/Date of Last WinShape Event attended:

— *Additional Information* —

Please know the following questions have no bearing on qualifying for the retreat and are confidential. We simply desire to get a gauge for the state of couples arriving. Answer as honestly and comfortably as possible.

How long have you been married?

Why do you want to attend this retreat?

How satisfied are you with your marriage currently?

How satisfied are you in your relationship with God?

What is your hope in attending this retreat?

Are you interested in receiving individual or couple's soul care during the week? (For reference on further information about this resource, please see FAQ's link)

Is there anything you'd like us to be aware of for you as an individual, your marriage, or relationship with God coming into this experience?

— *Letter of Affirmation* —

Greetings!

WinShape Marriage would like to partner with you in supporting this couple to attend our Missionary R&R Retreat. Pulling away from active ministry requires intentionality and support. The purpose of this document is to indicate support and affirmation of your church/organization's missionary entering into this week of rest and renewal.

Through your thoughtful support, you are actively blessing your brother and sister in Christ by sending them into a sabbath week. (John 20:21)

The retreat is designed for those who have served two years of consecutive missionary ministry in the last three years. Couples will enjoy a spacious yet intentional program structure that helps them fellowship with the Lord in the beautiful, private, sequestered setting of WinShape Retreat. This experience is intended to nourish the soul of their marriage and strengthen their relationship with God so they can thrive in their God-given calling.

By signing this document, you are committing to support them before, during, and after their retreat. Tangibly this is through means of prayer, encouragement and debrief, and potentially fiscally as the Lord leads.

Please join us as we pray for and bless

_____ and _____'s

week of resting, spending time with the Lord and one another.

Partnering with you,

The WinShape Marriage Team

Name, Title, & Date

— *Qualifications* —

Member of a recognized Christian Missions Organization

Actively served internationally in the field 2 out of the last 3 years

Full application completed with endorsement from sending organization/church body

\$150 to register per couple

– *FAQ's* –

WHY DO WE ASK FOR ENDORSEMENTS?

WinShape Marriage believes in the transforming power of community through the work of the Holy Spirit. Missionaries need more than permission to receive care and rest from their church or organization. They need intentional support and the empowerment of their communities to see this as a vital movement in the well-being of their marriage and relationship with God. The endorsement acknowledges this participation in blessing and sending them into a week of sabbath.

IF I SIGN UP AND HAVE TO CANCEL, WILL I GET A REFUND?

We understand that unforeseen circumstances arise that may cause you to change your plans. For a refund, cancellations must be made prior to the event drop date. In this case, 30 days prior to the date of the event. Please note that there is often a substantial wait list for Missionary R+R events. We appreciate your respect and consideration for those who would be eager to attend.

WHAT IS OUR ITINERARY FOR THE WEEK?

Upon arrival, each couple will receive a schedule for the week. Small group sessions will happen in the evenings. Individual and couple's soul care will be available for sign-ups during the days. The programming portion is intentionally light to align with our intended outcome of renewal and rest.

THE PROGRAM IS LOOSELY SCHEDULED, CAN WE GO OFFSITE?

The retreat is intentionally laid out to thoughtfully engage the space and a slower pace of life. Heading offsite can be a distraction from what God's purpose is for you and your spouse in the week. If guests desire to take an offsite excursion, we strongly encourage that they plan those before or after the retreat.

WHAT IS SOUL CARE?

One of the greatest commandments is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. (Matthew 22:37)

Soul care is intentionally growing our awareness of what's happening within our soul so we can learn to love God with more of it. One form of soul care that is practiced during the missionary and pastors retreat is the opportunity to receive the ministry of spiritual direction.

WHY SHOULD I TRY SPIRITUAL DIRECTION OR SOUL CARE?

Just as food is important for the body to stay healthy and strong, spiritual direction and soul care is nutrition for your spiritual faith, alongside other spiritual practices such as reading Scripture and prayer they provide a rich diet for a healthy relationship with God and your spouse. The title

in John Ortberg's book says it all, "*Soul Keeping: Caring for the most important part of you.*" As marriage expert and WinShape veteran Gary Thomas often says, "It is only out of a healthy soul that we can build a healthy marriage."

HOW DO I KNOW IF SPIRITUAL DIRECTION OR SOUL CARE IS GOOD FIT FOR ME IN MY CURRENT SEASON?

This ministry will be great if...

- 1. You have a desire to grow in your relationship with God**
- 2. You are in a time of transition, confusion or loss**
- 3. God seems distant**
- 4. Life feels overwhelming**
- 5. You are experiencing a crisis of faith**
- 6. You desire to cultivate a life of prayer**
- 7. You desire to identify the movements of your own soul and the season you are in**