



Pre-Marital Sessions Questions

1. Meaning of Your Marriage Commitment

A. Describe what commitment means to you as you make plans to walk down the aisle?

B. Of all of the persons in your life that you have met and could have married, why are you choosing your partner?

C. What attracted you to your partner initially and what do you believe your partner will help you become?

D. What do you expect to receive from marriage that you cannot have staying single?

E. Give some reasons why you want to marry your fiancé.

F. List any concerns you may have about marrying your fiancé.

2. Your Life Long Goals

A. What do you hope to achieve in the near future and the distant future in terms of your career?

B. How does your partner fit into that plan?

3. Your Mutual Expectations

A. What do you expect of a marital partner in terms of emotional support during exciting times, depressed times, periods of illness and job loss?

B. Is it important that you set aside one night just to be together alone to catch up with each other and have fun?

C. What plans do you have to keep your marriage fresh and alive?

D. What size house is important and in what kind of neighborhood do you hope to live in both now and in the future?

E. Are you both clear how much alone time the other needs?

F. How much time does your partner need to spend with friends separately and together?

G. Do you agree how much time is appropriate to give to work?

H. Do you both expect to support the family financially and will that be different when kids arrive?

I. Are you both comfortable with the salary differential between you?

4. Your Living Arrangements

A. What is your plan for living together?

B. Where will you live after the arrival of children?

C. How do you determine if a new career path or job is reason enough to move?

D. Do you hope to live in the same house or area for a long time?

E. Will you need to be close to your parents either now or as they get older?

5. Will you have children and if so how many?

A. When do you plan to start a family?

B. How far apart would you want your kids to be in age?

C. What kinds of philosophies did your parents have about child raising and do you agree or disagree?

D. How do each of you intend to shape your children's values

E. What kinds of punishment are appropriate or not appropriate?

F. Who will discipline your children? And how?

G. What kinds of expectations do you each have about money spent on toys, clothes etc.

6. Money

A. Will you have separate or joint checking accounts or both?

B. If you do have separate accounts, who will be responsible for which expenses?

C. Who will pay the bills?

D. Do you agree to have full financial disclosure about each of your own personal financial situation at all times?

E. How will strong disagreements about spending money be resolved?

F. Is there any debt that either partner has incurred before the marriage (ex. college or graduate school loans or credit card debt).

G. What amount of available money does each of you need to have to feel comfortable?

H. Will there be a savings plan?

I. Thoughts or plans for emergency funds?

J. How much credit card debt or home equity loan debt is acceptable?

K. Agreement about taking care of financial needs of parents if likely?

L. Do you plan to send your kids to private or parochial school?

M. What will be the plans for children's college education?

N. When do you hope to begin savings for retirement?

O. How will the taxes be handled?

7. Parents and In-laws

A. How much time does each of you need to spend with your parents and how much do you expect your partner to join you?

B. How do you plan to spend holidays?

C. What will be the holiday expectations of each of your parents and how will you deal with those expectations?

D. What kind of support do you expect from your partner when the parents are putting pressure on you?

E. Is it OK for either of you to talk with parents about the problems of the relationship?

F. What kind of relationship do you expect your kids to have with your parents?

G. Do you anticipate that you will ever want a parent to live with the two of you when you grow old

H. How do other members of your family feel about your fiancé?

I. How do you feel you are accepted by your fiancé's family?

J. How would you sum up your fiancé's family? And how are they different than your family?

8. Gender Role Expectations

A. What did your parents model for you in terms of who did what in the family?

B. Did you feel that was fair and do you expect something different?

C. If both of you do not want to do something in terms of children, household or yard maintenance, how will you divvy up these responsibilities?

D. Do both of you expect to work if you have children?

E. When the children get sick, how do you decide who stays home with them?

9. Do you agree on issues around Intimacy moments together?

A. How often do you want to enjoy an intimate evening with each other?

B. Scripture is clear sex shouldn't be used as a Weapon?

C. Do you understand that their needs to be respect for each other have needs and want as well as when they may not be in a mood for having intimacy?

D. Can you work out an agreement about how to deal with differences in sexual desire in terms of frequency?

E. Do you agree to talk about your sexual concerns at a time when you both are feeling creative and relaxed and not during sex?

10. How will you resolve heated conflicts?

A. How did your parents settle their differences?

B. How do you Act or React when Angry?

C. How do you respond to anger from someone else directed at you?

D. Can either of you ask for a time out to calm down and be creative in your problem solving?

E. What rituals will you develop to reach out to each other after a big fight?

11. Spiritual Life

A. How will your faith and relationship With Christ help you in your marriage?

B. What kind of participation do you expect in each other when it comes to being a part of a church family?

C. Will your children be expected to attend any regular services or religious education?

D. What are your thoughts on Eternal life?

E. Do you understand the importance of having Christ as the Center and foundation of your marriage?

F. One of the Reasons why Scripture say's God hates Divorce is because it is a picture of Christ & his Bride the Church.

12. Agreement about extramarital relationships

A. Do you want to establish from the beginning that affairs are not an option?

B. Do you agree that affairs of the heart are equal to a sexual affair?

C. Will you talk to your partner about someone that you feel drawn to as a colleague or erotically since this can build the bond between you and your partner rather than the outside person?

D. Will you commit to never talking to a person of the opposite sex (except a therapist or clergy) about your relationship with your partner since this builds a bond outside of your relationship?

E. Do you agree that from the very beginning you need to have the mindset that Divorce is not an option?