



Premarital Counseling Questionnaire

Each Partner is to answer the questions separately, and the Counselor will review the answers together with the Partners.

Therefore, a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. (Genesis 2:24)



For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her. (Ephesians 5:25)



The success or failure of your marriage relationship depends on how well you both handle several personal issues. From the relationship itself, financial decisions, children, and intimacy, you both must know what to expect.

A marriage is a commitment between two people who may have differing views on certain issues. Numerous research studies have proven that talking about these things before your wedding day can significantly affect the success of your marriage. That's why premarital counseling often involves some very common, but very important, questions that dive into the heart of a healthy marriage.

By knowing what you each expect from your life together, you both will be better prepared to handle these situations as your relationship grows. It's a good idea to review these questions with each other periodically.

This questionnaire covers these Topics:

- Relationship Goals
- Personal Habits
- Spiritual Beliefs
- Finances
- Children
- Family
- Intimacy
- Conflict and Communication

Relationship Goals

These first questions may be the most important. If you don't know why you're getting married or have different views of where you'll be in a few decades, this could cause problems down the road. Ask yourself:



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| Why do I think we are getting married? |
| What do I think that we, as a couple, want out of life? |
| Do I think our relationship will change after we are married? |
| What do I think we'll be doing in 30 or 40 years? |
| How would I describe myself as a marriage partner? |
| How do I think my partner sees me? |

Personal Habits

If you have not lived with your partner before marriage, sharing a home can be surprising. Sometimes it's the seemingly insignificant things that can get under your skin and cause bigger problems than expected. Think about:



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| Is important to know one another's physical and mental health histories? |
| Do I indulge in alcohol, drugs? |
| Have I ever hit someone? |
| Do I have a criminal record? |
| Will I clean the toilet? |
| How are we going to divide up the household chores? |



Spiritual Beliefs

While religion and spiritual beliefs may be taboo topics for polite society, they can play a big role in your marriage. Consider these questions:

faith

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| Does religion play an important part in my life? |
| Do I think faith and spirituality are important in a marriage? |
| What is my image of God? |

Finances

Money can cause a lot of stress in a family, and studies show that finances are one of the leading causes of divorce. You don't necessarily have to agree on everything and maybe one of you is better at certain aspects of it than others. As a partnership, dealing with your financial future together and understanding short-and long-term goals is a wise move. Think about these issues:



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| Can I talk about money with my partner? |
| Am I a saver or spender? |
| How much do we owe in debts and what are our assets? |
| Do I want us to have a budget? |
| What are our financial goals? |
| Should we have a joint checking account, separate accounts, or both? |
| Who is going to be responsible for making sure the bills are paid on time? |
| Is going to the movies and having a vacation every year a necessity or a luxury? |
| Do I have any outstanding fines or debts? |
| What are our plans for purchasing a home? |
| Do we both know where our important financial documents are located? |

Children

Not every couple wants to have children, but it's a good idea to keep an open dialogue about it. These questions lay a foundation for continuing this conversation later:



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| Do I want to have children? |
| Do we want to have children? |
| If we decide we do, how many children do we want to have? |
| How long should we be married before having children? |
| What kind of parents do you think we will be? |
| What is my parenting philosophy? |
| Will one of us stay home after we have children? |
| What type of birth control should we use if we want to postpone or prevent parenthood? |
| How do I feel about adoption? |
| Do either of us have any children already? |

Family

Every family is different, so understanding how your future spouse grew up and their relationship with parents and siblings today will be very helpful. After all, you're each marrying into a new family so it's best to try and understand your partner's family. Talk about:



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| What was my childhood like? |
| Was my family an affectionate one? |
| Do I think we will have problems with my family? |
| Do I think we will have problems with my partner's family? |
| What family values do I want to bring into our marriage? |
| What do I like and dislike about my family? |
| What do I like and dislike about my partner's family? |
| What do I like and dislike about my parents' marriage? |
| What do I think my partner likes and dislikes about my family? |
| What do I like and dislike about my partner's parents' marriage? |
| How much time will we spend with our in-laws? |



Intimacy

No relationship can survive on sex alone, and intimacy is just as important. While you might think you know a lot about your partner's views on either, it's wise to have a serious conversation about it before marriage.



Some of these questions get into topics like jealousy, loyalty, and self-esteem. As a supportive partner, you'll find them to be beneficial reminders for what your spouse may be going through emotionally. Consider these questions about physical intimacy:

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| Can I talk about sex with my partner? |
| Should we talk about sex? |
| Am I comfortable discussing my sexual likes and dislikes? |
| What are my expectations of our sexual relationship? |
| Am I a jealous person? |
| Do I have trust issues or feel insecure? |
| How important are affirmations to me? |
| Do I handle compliments well? |
| What is my love language? |
| Do I think we listen to one another well? |
| Do I think it is important to be faithful to one another? |
| How do I want to spend our days off? |
| What are my expectations about how we will spend our free time? |
| Do I believe that we should be doing everything together? |



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| Do I think we each can pursue our own interests? |
| Do I need time alone? |
| How would my partner feel if I want a night out with my friends now and then? |
| How will we make sure we have quality time together? |

Conflict and Communication

You've probably heard that communication is key to a good marriage, and it's true. Your life together will be filled with important decisions, trying times, and some conflict. It's a natural part of spending your life with another person. You can start your marriage off right by talking about how you'll handle these situations when they come up:



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| How do I think we should make decisions together? |
| Am I willing to face difficult situations or do I try to avoid conflict? |
| Do I think we have problems in our relationship that we need to deal with before the wedding? |
| Do I handle conflict well? |
| Do I think my partner handles conflict well? How are we different? |
| Do I think our differences will create problems in our marriage? |
| Do I expect my partner to change? Do I think my partner wants me to change? |
| Can I forgive? Do I think my partner can forgive? |
| Am I willing to work on my communication skills? |
| Am I willing to share intimately and honestly with my partner? |



My Comments

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