



Evaluation:

“We” Identity and Leave & Cleave

Note: Each major section of the Creating a Gospel-Centered Marriage series will have a brief evaluation tool to help you assess your marital strengths and weaknesses before reading the material. It is also helpful to review the assessment again after completing each section to learn how accurate your initial self-assessment was.

Instructions: Read the following descriptive statements. Consider how well they describe your experience or perspective on your marriage. If you are engaged, consider how well they describe your courtship experience or your beliefs about what you think your coming marriage should be. Mark the answer that best fits how you respond:

(CD) Completely Disagree, (SD) Somewhat Disagree, (NS) Not Sure, (SA) Somewhat Agree, or (CA) Completely Agree

1. I enjoy becoming more of the kind of person who can be used by God to bless my spouse.	CD SD NS SA CA
2. My spouse enjoys becoming the kind of person God can use to bless me.	CD SD NS SA CA
3. I regularly and intentionally seek to be used by God to enrich the life of my spouse.	CD SD NS SA CA
4. My spouse regularly and intentionally seeks to be used by God to enrich my life.	CD SD NS SA CA
5. I spend time thinking about how we can realize my spouse's dreams and ambitions.	CD SD NS SA CA
6. My spouse spends time thinking about how we can realize my dreams and ambitions.	CD SD NS SA CA
7. I do not feel like I have to compete with anyone in my spouse's life.	CD SD NS SA CA
8. My spouse does not feel like he/she has to compete with anyone in my life.	CD SD NS SA CA
9. I voluntarily abstained from habits or practices that make my spouse fearful or upset.	CD SD NS SA CA
10. My spouse has voluntarily abstained from habits or practices that cause me fear or upset.	CD SD NS SA CA
11. I have made the changes that marriage necessitates without resentment or bitterness.	CD SD NS SA CA
12. My spouse has made the changes marriage necessitates without resentment or bitterness.	CD SD NS SA CA
13. I honor my spouse in my interactions with members of the opposite sex.	CD SD NS SA CA
14. My spouse honors me in his/her interactions with members of the opposite sex.	CD SD NS SA CA
15. We have a set of traditions and customs that we enjoy and give us a sense of family identity.	CD SD NS SA CA
16. God has enriched my life through the experience of being married.	CD SD NS SA CA
17. I naturally think of consulting my spouse when making plans or spending money.	CD SD NS SA CA
18. My spouse naturally thinks of consulting me when making plans or spending money.	CD SD NS SA CA
19. We are creating a home that represents us more than recreates our parents.	CD SD NS SA CA
20. We have a good relationship with our extended families.	CD SD NS SA CA
21. I have healthy separation from my family and allegiance to our marriage.	CD SD NS SA CA
22. My spouse has a healthy separation from his/her family and allegiance to our marriage.	CD SD NS SA CA
23. I am free from any bitterness towards my parents or family.	CD SD NS SA CA
24. My spouse is free from any bitterness towards his/her parents or family.	CD SD NS SA CA
25. My spouse's perspective and values means more to me than my parents.	CD SD NS SA CA
26. My perspective and values mean more to my spouse than their parents.	CD SD NS SA CA
27. We are able to make plans without seeking the permission or approval of parents.	CD SD NS SA CA
28. Our parents have accepted that their opinion is no longer authoritative in our lives.	CD SD NS SA CA
29. I put the benefit of my marriage ahead of my family's expectations.	CD SD NS SA CA
30. My spouse puts the benefit of our marriage ahead of his/her family's expectations.	CD SD NS SA CA



Key to Survey Scoring: For each set of questions tabulate your score using the following numerical values. The scoring is weighted with the “neutral” NS answer being a negative score, because if you have not defined or pursued important aspects of your marriage relationship it will negatively impact the marriage.

CD	–	Negative 3 points	SA	–	Positive 1 points
SD	–	Negative 2 points	CA	–	Positive 2 points
NS	–	Negative 1 point			

If your total score...

- ...**matches or exceeds the total number of questions**, then this area of marriage is an area of strength.
- ...**is less than the total number of questions**, then this area of marriage could use attention or refinement.
- ...**is a negative number**, then this area of marriage should be given immediate and concentrated attention.

➤ Questions 1-18: (Total: _____ in 18 questions)

This set of questions examines the “**sharing a ‘we’ identity**” created by a gospel-centered marriage. When you marry you are no longer primarily a “me” but a “we.” This is part of the truth that married couples become “one flesh.” Thinking primarily as an individual will harm a marriage.

Recommended Resources: *Marriage Matters* by Winston Smith (especially chapter 18); *Each for the Other* by Bryan Chappell

➤ Questions 19-30: (Total: _____ in 12 questions)

This set of questions examines the “**leave and cleave**” aspect of a gospel-centered marriage. Marriage is a relationship that changes our identity and, thereby, changes (to a greater or lesser degree) all our other relationships. Scripture particularly emphasizes how this change affects our relationship to our parents.

Recommended Resources: *Strengthening Your Marriage* by Wayne Mack (Unit 1)

Sometimes within a marriage the problem is not one specific area or issue, but an overall imbalance in the effort, skill, thoughtfulness, and awareness being put into the marriage. Below is a list of questions that reveal your perspective on your effort and your spouse’s effort in the marriage. Use the same numerical scoring system as you used above. In this case, the closer your scores are to another, the more mutual (and typically healthy) the marriage.

_____ **My Score** – Using the same scoring system as above add together the score for questions 1, 3, 5, 9, 11, 13, 17, 21, 23, 25, and 29.

_____ **My Spouse’s Score** – Using the same scoring system as above add together the score for questions 2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 14, 18, 22, 24, 26, and 30.