



Evaluation:

Character and Role Expectations

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 have a regular time of reading from the Bible	CD SD NS SA CA
2. My spouse has a regular time of reading from the Bible.	CD SD NS SA CA
3. I regularly share with my spouse what I learn in my time of Bible study.	CD SD NS SA CA
4. My spouse regularly shares with me what he/she is learning in Bible study.	CD SD NS SA CA
5. I pray for my spouse regularly, my spouse knows it, and asks me to pray for specific things.	CD SD NS SA CA
6. My spouse prays for me regularly and I ask him/her to pray for specific things.	CD SD NS SA CA
7. We agree on the importance and frequency of church attendance for our marriage.	CD SD NS SA CA
8. We agree on the importance and frequency of small group attendance.	CD SD NS SA CA
9. We agree on the moral principles by which we ought to live.	CD SD NS SA CA
10. We agree on the major doctrines of the Christian faith.	CD SD NS SA CA
11. I actively strive to be mature and exemplify the fruit of the Spirit.	CD SD NS SA CA
12. My spouse actively strives to be mature and exemplify the fruit of the Spirit.	CD SD NS SA CA
13. I seek to bless my spouse by obeying the “one another” commands towards him/her.	CD SD NS SA CA
14. My spouse seeks to bless me by obeying the “one another” commands towards me.	CD SD NS SA CA
15. We agree on what it means and looks like to be a Christian family.	CD SD NS SA CA
16. I believe my spouse’s friends are a positive influence and a blessing to our marriage.	CD SD NS SA CA
17. I believe my friends are a positive influence and a blessing to our marriage.	CD SD NS SA CA
18. We have couple friends who model and actively pursue a healthy marriage.	CD SD NS SA CA
19. I have seen my relationship with God grow over the course of our marriage.	CD SD NS SA CA
20. I have seen my spouse’s relationship with God grow over the course of our marriage.	CD SD NS SA CA
21. I enjoy and agree with how we have divided the responsibilities of managing our home.	CD SD NS SA CA
22. I consistently fulfill my household responsibilities as we have agreed.	CD SD NS SA CA
23. My spouse consistently fulfills their household responsibilities as we have agreed.	CD SD NS SA CA
24. We are able to peacefully talk about new responsibilities when they emerge.	CD SD NS SA CA
25. I agree with my spouse about what it means for a husband to lead his family.	CD SD NS SA CA
26. I agree with my spouse about what it means for a wife to submit to her husband.	CD SD NS SA CA
27. Our marriage is free from negative gender role influences from his home of origin.	CD SD NS SA CA
28. Our marriage is free from negative gender role influences from her home of origin.	CD SD NS SA CA
29. I believe that a healthy marriage is the essential foundation for being good parents.	CD SD NS SA CA
30. My spouse believes that a healthy marriage is the foundation for being good parents.	CD SD NS SA CA
31. I trust my spouse to be a spiritual leader and teacher for our children.	CD SD NS SA CA
32. I trust my spouse to be a disciplinarian for our children.	CD SD NS SA CA
33. I trust my spouse to be an example of Christ for our children.	CD SD NS SA CA
34. I trust my spouse to teach our children to enjoy life and how to relate to people.	CD SD NS SA CA
35. We agree that parenting should not become more important than our marriage.	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 1-20: (Total: _____ in 20 questions)

This set of questions examines the “**character**” necessary for a gospel-centered marriage. We are not strong, wise, or loving enough to create a healthy lasting marriage on our own. Unless we recognize our dependence on God to transform our character through marriage, our sinful human nature will eat away at what we most want to preserve and cherish.

Recommended Resources: *Sacred Marriage* by Gary Thomas; *Marriage Matters* by Winston Smith.

➤ Questions 21-35: (Total: _____ in 15 questions)

This set of questions examines the “**role expectations**” involved in a gospel-centered marriage. Any ongoing relationship that is going to cooperatively manage time, money, emotion, ambitions, children, and “life” as a marriage must have agreed upon responsibilities and roles to function well.

Recommended Resources: *Each for the Other* by Bryan Chapell (chapters 1-6); *This Momentary Marriage* by John Piper (chapters 6-8).

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, 11, 13, 16, 19, 22, and 29.

_____ **My Spouse’s Score** – Using the same scoring system as above add together the score for questions 2, 4, 6, 12, 14, 17, 20, 23, and 30.