



Evaluation: Corporate Decision Making

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. Complete the evaluation before reading the material, then review the assessment again after completing each section to learn the accuracy of your initial self-assessment.

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. We trust each other to value the marriage more than personal interests or gains.	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
2. We define each other's position clearly and fairly when we disagree on a decision.	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
3. When we disagree we are patient and wait (when possible) to make a decision.	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
4. When we disagree and cannot wait we first agree on how decisions will be made.	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
5. We set aside time to discuss major decisions.	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
6. We follow through on getting needed information and resuming conversations.	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
7. I (husband) do not believe that biblical headship means, "I always get my way."	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
8. I (wife) do not believe that submission means, "I should never disagree with my husband."	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
9. I (husband) give my wife's preferences as much weight as my own when we disagree.	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
10. I (wife) believe he gives my preferences as much weight as my own when we disagree.	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
11. I (husband) seek to understand not only "what" my wife thinks but "why."	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
12. I (wife) trust my husband to make wise decisions for our family even when we disagree.	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
13. I (husband) am willing to make hard decisions without being avoidant or harsh.	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
14. I (wife) am willing to be supportive of my husband even when his decisions turn out poorly.	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
15. When we make decisions together I feel like I have a voice and influence.	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
16. When we make decisions together my spouse feels like he/she has a voice and influence.	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
17. I give full effort to making decisions succeed/enjoyable even if they weren't my preference.	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
18. My spouse seeks to make decisions succeed/enjoyable even if they weren't his/her preference.	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
19. When we disagree I can still appreciate the differences that originally attracted me to my spouse.	CD	SD	NS	SA	CA
20. When we disagree my spouse can still appreciate my difference that attracted his/her to me.	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 SD – Negative 2 points NS – Negative 1 point
CA – Positive 2 points SA – Positive 1 points

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 1-10: (Total: _____ in 10 questions)

This set of questions examines the "**corporate decision making**" necessary in a gospel-centered marriage. A couple will disagree, even on important decisions. There will be times when these decisions cannot be delayed until consensus can be reached. Honor, trust, and support in these moments is a powerful part of maintaining a gospel-centered marriage.

Recommended Resources: *Marriage Matters* (ch. 14) by Winston Smith; *This Momentary Marriage* (ch. 6-8) by John Piper

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 score the questions for your gender.

_____ **Spouse's Score** – Using the same scoring system as above score the questions for your gender.