

Evaluation for *Creating a Gospel-Centered Marriage: Decision Making*

Each seminar in the Creating a Gospel-Centered Marriage series has an evaluation tool to help you assess your marital / pre-marital strengths and weaknesses. *Completing this evaluation before studying the material allows you to engage the content with greater self-awareness and intentionality about relational growth areas.*

Instructions: Read the following descriptive statements. Mark the answer that best fits your experience or beliefs.

- **If Married:** Consider how well each statement describes your experience or perspective on your marriage.
- **If Engaged:** Consider how well each statement describes your courtship experience or your beliefs about what you anticipate marriage should be (i.e., foreshadowing).
- **Please Note:** This is not a scientific instrument. It is a self-report survey that collates the data you provide into categories that correspond with this seminar. *It is meant for educational rather than diagnostic purposes.*

A self-scoring version of this evaluation is available at bradhambrick.com/GCMdecisionmaking.

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

1. We both want to honor God in all we do with our lives.	CD SD NS SA CA
2. We agree on what it means to honor God with our lives.	CD SD NS SA CA
3. We share a common vision of what “a successful life” would look like.	CD SD NS SA CA
4. We believe that ultimate fulfillment does not exist apart from a God-honoring life.	CD SD NS SA CA
5. We think about God’s heart for the world when we make decisions together.	CD SD NS SA CA
6. We talk about the dreams that we have for our marriage.	CD SD NS SA CA
7. I am aware of my strengths, weaknesses, and tendencies when making decisions.	CD SD NS SA CA
8. My personal-emotional struggles do not disproportionately influence my decision making.	CD SD NS SA CA
9. I can make decisions without fear or excessive “what if” thinking.	CD SD NS SA CA
10. I do not have a habit, hobby, or addiction that impedes wise decision making.	CD SD NS SA CA
11. I resist being impulsive in decisions that would be harmful to our marriage.	CD SD NS SA CA
12. When we disagree, I still appreciate the differences that attracted me to my partner.	CD SD NS SA CA
13. We pray together about significant decisions.	CD SD NS SA CA
14. We agree on how to use the Bible to guide our decision making.	CD SD NS SA CA
15. I humbly seek the guidance of others when making important decisions.	CD SD NS SA CA
16. My spouse/fiancé trusts those with whom I seek counsel in making decisions.	CD SD NS SA CA
17. I resist making decisions just to please others at the expense of my marriage.	CD SD NS SA CA
18. We evaluate significant decisions to learn how we can improve as decision makers.	CD SD NS SA CA
19. We are willing to live simply enough to give time to the things that really matter.	CD SD NS SA CA
20. When I make decisions, I consider how they will affect my spouse/fiancé.	CD SD NS SA CA
21. We can discuss decisions together without feeling like we are asking permission.	CD SD NS SA CA
22. We agree on the lesser priority things we tend to give undue weight to.	CD SD NS SA CA
23. We agree on the major variables to consider before making a decision.	CD SD NS SA CA
24. We make enough time for personal and corporate worship to remain spiritually healthy.	CD SD NS SA CA
25. We trust each other to value our relationship more than personal interests or gains.	CD SD NS SA CA
26. I do not believe that biblical headship means, “I am the husband and always get my way.”	CD SD NS SA CA
27. When we disagree, we give equal weight to each other’s preferences.	CD SD NS SA CA
28. A husband should seek to understand the “what” and “why” of his wife’s opinions.	CD SD NS SA CA
29. A wife should be supportive of her husband even when his decisions turn out poorly.	CD SD NS SA CA
30. When we make decisions together, we both feel like we have voice and influence.	CD SD NS SA CA
31. When my partner makes decisions, he/she considers how they will affect me.	CD SD NS SA CA
32. When we disagree, my partner can appreciate the differences that attracted him/her to me.	CD SD NS SA CA
33. My spouse/fiancé resists being impulsive in decisions that would be harmful to our marriage.	CD SD NS SA CA
34. I trust those with whom my spouse/fiancé seeks counsel in making decisions.	CD SD NS SA CA
35. My spouse/fiancé is willing to sacrifice his/her dreams for the betterment of our marriage.	CD SD NS SA CA
36. My spouse/fiancé seeks to make decisions succeed even if they weren’t his/her preference.	CD SD NS SA CA

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

Completely Disagree (CD) –	Negative 3 points	Somewhat Agree (SA) –	Positive 1 points
Somewhat Disagree (SD) –	Negative 2 points	Completely Agree (CA) –	Positive 2 points
Not Sure (NS) –	Negative 1 point		

If your total score...

...is **6 or higher**, then this is an area of strength.

...is **between 1 and 5**, then this area could use attention or refinement (unless you are an engaged couple who consistently answered NS because of a lack of experience in this area).

...is **a negative number**, then this area should be given immediate and concentrated attention.

➤ Questions 1-6: Total Score: _____

This set of questions examines the shared **decision making agenda** necessary for a unified, gospel-focused marriage. In order to consistently agree on the outcome for your decisions, you and your spouse/fiancé must agree on what you want out of life. **Lesson 2** in *GCM: Decision Making* helps you cultivate a shared objective for your various decision making processes.

➤ Questions 7-12: Total Score: _____

This set of questions examines the **temptations to be avoided in decision making**. We do not only make bad decisions because we want bad things (outcomes), but because we do not have good processes for decision making. We need self-awareness, humility, and good processes in order to arrive at good outcomes. **Lesson 3** in *GCM: Decision Making* helps you examine the common distractions and temptations you face in decision making.

➤ Questions 13-18: Total Score: _____

This set of questions examines the **process of personal decision making** that must undergird any healthy marital decision making. The quality of your joint decision making as a couple will never exceed the quality of your personal decision making as an individual. **Lesson 3** in *GCM: Decision Making* helps you consider the maturity of your personal decision making habits.

➤ Questions 19-24: Total Score: _____

This set of questions examines the **consensus decision making** that should comprise the vast majority of your marital decision making. In a healthy shared life, a couple should arrive at most of their decisions together. **Lesson 4** in *GCM: Decision Making* helps you develop the habits, concepts, and processes for consensus decision making.

➤ Questions 25-30: Total Score: _____

This set of questions examines **headship and submission decision making** in marriage. A couple will sometimes disagree, even on important decisions. There will be times when these decisions cannot be delayed until consensus can be reached. **Lesson 5** in *GCM: Decision Making* helps you understand how to implement headship and submission decision making in a way that cultivates trust and honor in your marriage.

➤ Questions 31-36: Total Score: _____

This set of questions examines how you **perceive mutual commitment**. Healthy marriages are relationships marked by mutual commitment. A perceived imbalance of commitment in a marriage is an indication that pursuing **marriage counseling** would be a wise step to take (for help finding a counselor: summitchurch.com/counseling in RDU or bradhambrick.com/findacounselor outside RDU).