

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

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|--|----------------|
| 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).