

MARRIAGE To Marry or Not To Marry

The following questionnaire is a good discussion starter on the subject of marriage. Print it up and give the group enough time to think through their

answers. Then discuss each question, trying to come up with a group consensus. Encourage everybody to give answers that honestly reflect their

personal opinions, rather than answering them the way the church, or their parents, or tradition would want them to answer.

1. I think everyone should get married (put an "x" on the continuum).

DEFINITELY YES _____ DEFINITELY NO _____

2. If a person decides to marry, I think the best age for marriage would be: (check the age)

Girls

- 16 20 24 28
 17 21 25 29
 18 22 26 30
 19 23 27 Over 30

Boys

- 16 20 24 28
 17 21 25 29
 18 22 26 30
 19 23 27 Over 30

3. When you are married, are you considered an adult regardless of age? (check one) YES NO

4. God has made one special person in the world for you to marry. (Put an "x" on the continuum)

STRONGLY AGREE _____ STRONGLY DISAGREE _____

5. Marriage is: (order these from 1 to 5 according to which phrase you think is the most important description of marriage)

- ___ A legal statement
 ___ A social custom
 ___ God ordained
 ___ A religious ceremony
 ___ A parent pleaser
 ___ Other: _____

6. Most people get married because: (rank these from 1 to 5)

- ___ They have to
 ___ They want to have kids
 ___ They love each other
 ___ Tax benefits
 ___ Sex
 ___ Other: _____

7. Our concept of marriage is most influenced by: (pick top three)

- ___ Friends ___ Television
 ___ Movies ___ Other Adults
 ___ Parents ___ Church
 ___ Books ___ Celebrities
 ___ Tradition
 ___ Other: _____

8. What are the top priorities in marriage: (rank from 1 to 10)

- ___ Children
 ___ Sex
 ___ Communication
 ___ Mutual Trust/Confidence in the other person
 ___ Religion/Faith
 ___ Mutual interests
 ___ Finances/Security
 ___ In-law relationships
 ___ Faithfulness
 ___ Romantic Love
 ___ Other: _____

9. Divorce is wrong: (choose the best answer or answers)

- Always (no exceptions)
 Except when adultery is involved
 Except when both are incompatible
 Except when you don't love each other any more
 Other: _____

10. Divorce is: (choose the best answer or answers)

- Better than living together when you hate each other
 A necessary evil
 A possibility for any one of us
 A cop out
 Never okay when children are involved
 Sin
 Other: _____

11. Living together (not married) is: (put an "x" on the continuum)

WRONG (ALWAYS) _____ OKAY (ALWAYS)

12. Living together (not married) is: (choose best answer or answers)

- Better than the traditional custom of dating
 The best way to determine if marriage will last
 Is not the same as marriage
 Is more acceptable than marriage
 Is the best alternative to marriage
 None of the above
 Other: _____