

Questionnaire on Expectations for Married Couples

Complete the questionnaire separately. Then compare your answers and discuss any differences calmly and honestly, with reasonableness and care.

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Who currently takes out the trash? Is this arrangement working well?

2. What does “taking out the trash” include?

3. Who currently does the laundry? Is this arrangement working well?

4. What does doing the laundry include?

5. Who currently does the bulk of the housework? Is this arrangement fair and workable?

6. What specific household tasks should each spouse do?

7. How should tasks be divided when expecting company?

8. Who takes care of insurance matters?

9. How often should we call or visit our parents?

10. Should we do this individually or together?

11. Who should address parents or relatives who overstep appropriate boundaries through communication, advice, or demands?

12. Who sends birthday cards or greetings to relatives?

13. Who usually initiates lovemaking? Are we both comfortable with this pattern?

14. What steps will we take to make each other's intimacy needs a priority?

15. Are we content with where we live? If not, where would we prefer to live?

16. What circumstances would lead us to consider moving?

17. Who mows the lawn or handles comparable outdoor responsibilities?

18. Who keeps up with the home repair and maintenance list?

19. Who buys the groceries?

20. Who manages the finances and pays the bills or sets up automatic drafts? Is this arrangement working well?

21. Who arranges maintenance and service for the automobiles?

22. What are our agreements about television, cable, and on-demand or streaming services?

23. How do we decide what we will watch?

24. Where and how often should we go on vacations?

25. Does visiting family constitute a vacation?

26. Will we try to attend church when vacationing over a weekend?

27. Who usually gets up first in the morning? Does this create any expectations for the other spouse?

28. If we desire additional children, when would we hope to have them?

29. How should responsibility for discipling and mentoring our children be shared?

30. Are you talking with your children and getting to their hearts if they are older than 13? If so, how can you plan to spend quality time with them with the goal of getting to know them as they grow into adulthood?

31. Where should computers be located in our home?

32. How much time should we spend online?

33. What agreements should we have about smartphones, tablets, and other internet-enabled devices?

a. Are there times or places where we should not use internet-enabled devices?

b. What steps will we take to remain accountable to each other for our online habits, including filters, passwords, and freedom to check each other's devices?

34. How often should we attend church services and other church activities?

35. Are we committed to active membership in a local church?

a. What qualities should characterize the church and congregation in which we serve? What is negotiable? What is non-negotiable?

36. What kind of schooling are we comfortable with for our children: public school, homeschool, Christian school, or another private school?

37. How should we spend our evenings and free time?

38. Under what circumstances, if any, will we borrow money? For what purposes, for how long, and from whom?

a. Will we use credit cards?

b. If so, for what purposes, and how soon should balances be paid?

c. Are we satisfied with our present banking arrangement, whether joint, separate, or a combination?
