



10 Things You Need to Know Before You Even Think About Getting Married

Expectations _____

1. Marriage is formation, not infatuation

- a. Infatuation (graph)
- b. Marriage (upheaval/renewal)

2. Your self-awareness is vital to your vitality

- a. What temptations threaten your true identity?
 - i. What others say about you
 - ii. What you have accomplished
 - iii. What you possess
 - iv. What are you trying to prove?
 - v. Who are you trying to prove it to?
 - vi. Why are you trying to prove it?

3. Know your F.O.O. or your F.O.O. will own you

- a. How was affection shown?
- b. How were disagreements handled?
- c. How was money viewed?
- d. Were the relationships close or cordial?
- e. PAC (patterns)

4. You are your own worst enemy

- a. What are some ways we are self-protective?
- b. Take some time and write our your conflict style and any self-protection mechanisms
- c. How do you resolve conflict?

5. Sexuality is about 'sect's, not sex

- a. How are you developing each of these different types of intimacy?
- b. What are some characteristics of False Intimacy (virtual relationships)?

RESOURCES

Changes that Heal, by Cloud and Townsend

TrueFaced: Trust God and Others With Who You Really Are, by Bill Thrall, John Lynch, and Bruce McNicol

The Gift of Being Yourself, by David Benner

Lies Women Believe: And the Truth that Sets Them Free, by Nancy Leigh DeMoss

Boundaries, by Cloud and Townsend

Sex God, by Rob Bell

The Book of Romance, by Tommy Nelson

Sacred Marriage, by Gary Thomas

The Beautiful Fight, by Gary Thomas

What I Wish I'd Known Before I Got Married, by Kay Coles James

Sex, Love and Lasting Relationships, by Chip Ingram

Sexual Struggles

Faithful & True, by Mark Laaser

False Intimacy, by Harry W. Schaumburg

Every Man's [Woman's] Battle, by Stephen Arterburn

Pure Desire, by Ted Roberts

Further Questions?

Email ScottWildley@DIVEintoFLOOD.com

6. Sex is good, not god

- a. If God looked at nothing but my sexuality, would I look like a truster of Jesus?
- b. What is your spontaneous reaction to what the world's values vs. what God values?
 - i. **Guides:** Any regrets if you were to break up w/ this person?
 - ii. Anything that would be difficult to tell a future mate?
 - iii. Do you feel guilty about any actions?
 - iv. Do you have to rationalize to friends, family, pastors?
 - v. How does your behavior match up to Paul's definition?

7. Love is learned, not fallen into

- a. How can I discover opportunities to learn more about God in my friendships?
- b. What one thing do you really like about me?
- c. What would you change about me?

8. Living holy will lead to happiness

- a. 2 Definitions of Happiness
- b. Do you have any friend(s) you have covenanted with?
- c. Are you loving your friends 'as they are' now—Exhibiting 1 Cor. 13:4-7?

9. Do what you 'value' OR value what you actually do

- a. What are your personal 10 commandments?
 - i. What would cause you to stop dating a person?
 - ii. Are you a better person and follower of Jesus?
 - iii. What do your strongest Christian friends think ?
- b. *You are ready to date and marry when...*
 - i. You do not have to compromise any aspect of your relationship with God in order to be with the person to whom you are attracted.
 - ii. You are willing to be single than make a bad choice of a marriage partner.

10. Spouse to the type of spouse you desire

- a. Who are You Looking For?
- b. Who are You Becoming?
- c. Is this list the same?