



There are a lot of things you need to know about the person you may want to marry, so it's best for both people if the relationship is taken s-l-o-w-l-y! (*Proverbs 19:2*)

Some people may not have what it takes to be a good, faithful, or reliable spouse. Researchers have found that in most cases, people who are similar have happier marriages than those who are different. (*2 Corinthians 6:14*)

✓ Spend time talking and asking questions, not “making out.” This will keep the relationship moving at a slower pace.

✓ Some of the questions you should ask do not necessarily have “right” or “wrong” answers, but are asked to help you know one another better. (*Proverbs 12:26*)

✓ Ask questions even if you think you know the answers! Pay attention to the explanations and see if they make sense.

✓ You should be willing to share the same if you are asked. After all, you want someone who knows your personality and genuinely loves you, and not someone who just wants to have sex. (*1 Thessalonians 4:3-6*)

✓ Journal frequently. Write down anything that doesn't make sense. Strange behaviors are always worth writing down and discussing with a parent or mature Christian friend. Don't show your journal to the person you think about marrying. You need to keep your mind clear. (*1 Peter 4:7*)

✓ Although it may be difficult and painful to break up with someone, it's far more painful to be married to someone who isn't right for you. (*Proverbs 12:4; Proverbs 19:13, 14; Proverbs 21:9; Proverbs 31:10*)

✓ Pray for wisdom. Pray for guidance. God will give it. Follow it! (*Matthew 21:22; Luke 11:9; 1 Peter 3:12a; James 1:5*)



1. What is his/her first and last name?
2. Do you have this person's home phone number and address? Does this person still live at home? Why?
3. Where does he/she work or go to school?
4. Does this person have a similar background to yours?
5. How long has he/she lived in this state and town? Does he/she change addresses often?
6. Where was he/she raised?
7. How long has this person attended his/her church or group?
8. Are his/her parents alive, married, widowed, or divorced?
9. How many brothers and sisters does he/she have? Where do they live?
10. Does this person get along with other people in his/her family? Do they like being together?
11. How often does his/her family get together?
12. What is his/her mother like? Father?
13. How does this person feel about his/her parents?

14. How does he/she feel about his/her childhood?

15. Does he/she talk about past relationships often?

16. What does this person do for a living? Is he/she happy doing this? If not, why not?

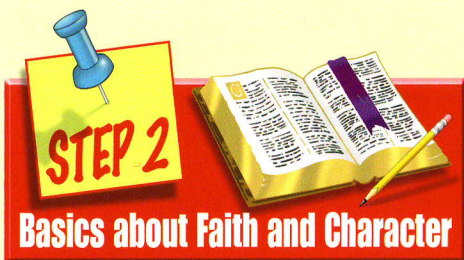
17. Does he/she change jobs frequently?

18. Does this person have allergies to pets, food, or medicines?

19. Is he/she married, widowed, divorced or separated? If divorced, why did it take place and is it final yet?

20. Does he/she have children? Where are the children now? How often does he/she see them? Do you like them? Do they accept you?





21. How long has this person been a Christian? How did he/she come to know Christ?
22. Is he/she active in Bible studies or church groups?
23. Does this person seem to have a vital relationship with God or does he/she just say religious things? (2 Timothy 3:5; 1 John 2:3-6)
24. Does this person do kind and loving things for others without being asked? Does this person do helpful things only for those who will give him/her something in return (another favor, good grades, a higher raise, or public praise)?
25. Does he/she joke or brag about doing wrong things? (Proverbs 10:23a)
26. Does he/she laugh about other people's misfortunes? (Romans 12:15)
27. Does this person make wise decisions? (Proverbs 13:14a)
28. Does he/she seem to be courteous? Responsible? (1 Peter 3:8)
29. Does this person make choices based on what God wants, or based mainly on his/her own wants and desires? (Matthew 26:39)

30. Does he/she apologize for misbehavior? If the behavior continues, is this OK with you?

31. Do the same things happen over and over, or does he/she change?

32. When this person makes promises does he/she always keep them or make excuses? (James 5:12; Matthew 5:37)

33. Does he/she forget birthdays, anniversaries, or other important dates?

34. Is this person usually running late to church, school, and/or meetings? (Ecclesiastes 5:4, 5)

35. Is this person nosy, gossipy, or unable to keep a secret about others? (Proverbs 11:13)

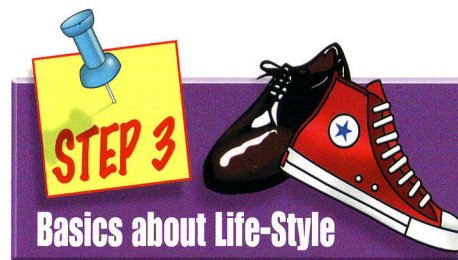
36. Are you proud to be seen with this person when you are around people you respect?

37. Does this person flirt with others or treat you with disrespect? Is he/she rude to you? (1 Corinthians 13)

38. How does he/she drive? Courteous? Hostile? Takes chances? Risks others lives? Laughs at your fear? (Proverbs 14:29; James 1:19, 20)

39. Does he/she have any addictions (work, hobbies, drugs, alcohol, pornography, internet)?

40. Does this person have a criminal record? (Proverbs 10:23; 5:22, 23; Psalm 37:12-21)



41. Have you met his/her friends? What are they like? (People pick friends like themselves.)

42. Does this person like your friends? Do you respect his/her friends? Have you met this person's parents? What are they like? Do you respect them? Do they respect you?

43. Does this person have consistent trouble paying his/her bills? How much is this caused by irresponsibility or poor decisions? (Psalm 37:21)

44. Does this person outspend his/her income? Does he/she try to borrow money often? Does this person repay loans quickly? (Proverbs 22:26, 27)

45. Has this person filed for bankruptcy or is he/she in debt? If so, why? How much in debt? (Romans 13:7, 8)

46. What does he/she do with free time?

47. What are this person's hobbies?

48. How much time and energy does he/she put into interests and hobbies? Politics? Sports? TV? Shopping? Socializing? If it never changed, could you live with it without complaining?

49. What does he/she study in school? Is he/she excited about the topic? If not, why not?

50. Do other men like him? Do other women like her? (Same-sex friendships are important to have.)

51. If this person has children, how much time is spent with them?

52. Does this person have odd opinions, poor manners, or trouble keeping friends? Does he/she brag or boast about himself? (1 Corinthians 13:4, 5)

53. What are his/her goals and dreams for life? Does he/she want to have children?

54. Do you think his/her goals and dreams are realistic? Is he/she making steps toward them? (Proverbs 20:4)

55. Has he/she had premarital sex? (Ephesians 5:3; Colossians 3:5; Hebrews 13:4)

56. Is his/her taste in music and clothing acceptable? (Galatians 5:16-18)

57. Is this person good at making others feel comfortable? (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

58. Is he/she well-liked and well-respected by people who you really like and respect? (Proverbs 31:23; Philippians 4:8, 9)

59. Do you know anyone who has known him/her well for more than five years? If not, why not?

60. Is there anything about him/her that you would not want your parents or friends to know?



61. Does this person have high energy or low energy?
62. Is he/she achievement-oriented or relaxed? Overly neat or overly messy?
63. Is this person similar to you in intellect and ability?
64. Does he/she seem to be optimistic or pessimistic?
65. Who decides what to do on a date? Is it always the same person?
66. What kind of temper does this person have? Has he/she ever broken things or injured anyone in anger? (*Ephesians 4:26-32; Proverbs 29:11*)
67. Does he/she tease or mock you? Control you? (*Proverbs 22:10*)
68. Does he/she make excuses for behavior that is strange, odd, or unusual?
69. Does this person demand that you change?
70. Is he/she irritable, unforgiving, stubborn, or looking for an opportunity to take revenge? (*Matthew 5:38, 39; Romans 12:16-19*)
71. Do you find yourself apologizing for his/her behavior?
72. Do you feel that he/she is very

misunderstood, and that you are the only one on his/her side?

73. Have your parents or any of your friends tried to warn you about him or her? (They never tell you the worst thing first. Accept the first piece of information calmly. Then ask if there's anything else you should know. There is more to every story.) (*Proverbs 23:22, 23; 11:14; 15:22; 24: 6*)
74. Does he/she seem to resent his/her teachers, bosses, parents, or co-workers? Why? (*Proverbs 23:22; Exodus 20:12*)
75. Does everything always seem to be someone else's fault, or does he/she take responsibility for mistakes and errors? (*Psalms 139:23, 24; Proverbs 10:9*)
76. If you were a boss, would you hire this person?
77. Does he/she seem to think about sex constantly? (Or the opposite: repulsed by the idea of sex?) (*Matthew 5:28; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5; Hebrews 13:4a*)
78. Can he/she be honest about his/her own strengths, weaknesses, or mistakes? Willing to work on them?
79. Do you have a patient-therapist relationship with this person, or are you both emotionally strong?
80. Does this person have to know where you are all the time?



81. Has he/she ever asked you to keep a "bad" secret about addictions, health, habits, or actions?
82. Does he/she call you names that degrade you when he/she is talking to you or about you? (*Matthew 5:22, 23*)
83. Is this person jealous about your time with friends and family? (*Proverbs 27:4*)
84. Does he/she make insensitive or embarrassing comments? (*Proverbs 4:23*)
85. Has he/she ever hit you, shoved you, or "accidentally" hurt you? (*James 1:19, 20*)
86. Does he/she hold you down and tickle you when it is no longer fun?
87. Has this person ever put you down in front of others? (*James 4:11*)
88. Does this person care about your wants and desires, or does this person usually get his/her own way? (*Galatians 5:19-21*)
89. When you say you are waiting until marriage to have sex, will he/she reject you? If so, it's for the best. (*1 Corinthians 6:18-20; Hebrews 13:4*)
90. Does this person hope you will solve some serious problem in his/her life such as finances, loneliness, stability, parenting,

trouble with parents, or depression? (*1 Peter 5:6, 7*)

91. Do you feel physical attraction for this person? If not, are you just dating this person to please your parents, to get married, or to achieve status? (*Proverbs 16:2*)
92. Does he/she have a history of mental health problems, such as addictions, manic-depression, depression, anxiety disorders, or panic attacks?
93. Does this person have any major medical problems including sexually transmitted diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, syphilis, herpes, or others?
94. Do you or this person intend to marry? Do either of you fear commitment? (*Matthew 19:5*)
95. Have you known each other more than a year? (*Proverbs 19:2*)
96. Is the person you are dating rebounding from another relationship?
97. Is one of you too young to get married this year?
98. Is one of you in a hurry to get married? (*Proverbs 14:29*)
99. Has one of you been engaged one or more times before?
100. Do you think this person will improve if he/she marries you? Do you think you can change this person? (It is not fair to marry a person expecting to change him/her.)

## Relationship Risk Quiz

Much of your happiness in marriage depends on having an honest, loving, responsible, and mature partner. The Bible says, "A wife of noble character... is worth far more than rubies." (Proverbs 31:10) "Each one of you must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband." (Ephesians 5:33) Marriage is a big commitment. Remember, in all things, commit your decision to the Lord in prayer.

**Circle the number that best applies to you and your relationship.**

### A. I am age:

1. 26 or over.
2. 23-25.
3. 22 or under.

### B. I live:

1. On my own and pay my own bills.
2. With my parents and pay my own bills.
3. With my parents; they pay my bills.

### C. My parents and I:

1. Have fun together.
2. Get along most of the time.
3. Don't get along most of the time.

### D. I have:

1. Many close friends.
2. At least one close friend.
3. No one I'd call a close friend.

### E. My friends:

1. Do not take advantage of me.
2. Sometimes take advantage of me.
3. Always take advantage of me.

### F. I want to be married:

1. When I meet the right person.
2. By age 25.
3. Desperately.

### G. I met the person I'm interested in:

1. More than two years ago.
2. One to two years ago.
3. Less than a year ago.

### H. I met him/her through:

1. Church, friends, or family.
2. Singles event, daily work, or school.
3. The internet or a party.

*(Continued on the next page)*

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## Breaking Up is Hard to Do

*What happens if you feel that you need to end a relationship?*

1. Pray. Ask God to give you wisdom. God will show you the best path, even if it is painful at first.
2. End the relationship sooner rather than later. If you are sure that you would not marry this person, stop dating immediately. This gives the person an opportunity to move on and find someone better for him/her.
3. Respect this person. Don't put him/her down to your friends or family.
4. Stay apart for a while to let the emotions cool down. A lot of couples try to be friends right after they break up. This does not work! Explain that you think it is best not to have contact for six months to a year. If you have to see each other at work or class, be polite but distant.
5. Realize that breaking up with this person may be the best favor you ever did for him/her and for yourself. This person may think he/she can't live without you, but in time may realize that someone else was better for him/her.
6. Use words such as... "I have thought about it a long time. I do not see any future for our relationship. I want you to be free to date others and to find someone who will truly cherish you. It would be best if we don't call or write to each other for at least six months."
7. Don't scream or make accusations. You do not need to give a long list of reasons why you are ending the relationship. If the person asks for the reason, be short but sweet.
8. If the other person begs you to stay in the relationship and promises to change, kindly say "no." Wait a long time, perhaps a year, to see if the change is real.
9. If you are breaking up with someone who is unstable, suicidal, or violent suggest that he/she get help from friends, family, a loving pastor, or a wise Christian. Find a trusted adult to give you advice, support, and prayer. Do not be manipulated by a suicidal person who threatens to take his/her life.
10. In the case of violence, you may have to go somewhere safe for a period of time. Contact your parents, pastor, or the police for information, help, and protection.

God has a good plan for you. Scoring well or poorly does not completely determine whether you are ready for marriage or not. Find the range of numbers in which your score falls and read your results.

**GREEN (14 – 23 Points)**  
 Proceed slowly! Low Risk.  
 If you received a green score, you may be on your way to having a marriage centered in Christ. Pray for wisdom and guidance.

**YELLOW (24 – 32 Points)**  
 Watch Out! Moderate Risk.  
 If you received a yellow score, there are a few things you still need to address. It doesn't hurt to take time. Stop and pray.

**RED (33 – 42 Points)**  
 DANGER! High Risk.  
 If you received a red score, stop, pray, and discern where this relationship is going. Things may change.

### I. The person I'm interested in:

1. Has a serious relationship with Christ.
2. Is a Christian and attends church.
3. Isn't a Christian or doesn't attend church.

### J. My family and friends:

1. Encourage a growing relationship.
2. Try to stay neutral.
3. Discourage our relationship.

### K. This person:

1. Gladly does or gives more than his/her share.
2. Does or gives only as much as he/she has to.
3. Does whatever he/she feels like doing.

### L. We:

1. Keep passions under control.
2. "Make out" often.
3. Have pre-marital sex.

### M. He/She:

1. Says "I'm sorry. Please forgive me," and changes.
2. Says "I may be wrong."
3. Says "It's not my fault."

### N. The person I'm interested in is:

1. Single with no children.
2. Divorced with no children.
3. Divorced with children.

## Scoring your Quiz

Add up all the numbers you circled and enter your number here: \_\_\_\_\_

This quiz is meant to stimulate thought and is not a scientific tool. Some of the ratings are based on statistics. Talk to your pastor or to another wise Christian.

## Filling the Void After a Recent Break Up

Read each scripture verse (NIV) and fill in what you have learned in each sentence.

1. Put your hope in the Lord because an earthly relationship can not give you \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (Psalm 130:7)
2. After a recent "break up," you can feel alone, but remember God is \_\_\_\_\_. (Psalm 73:23-25)
3. If someone recently "broke up" with you and you thought that the relationship was really meant to be, maybe you weren't \_\_\_\_\_ for the right thing. (James 4:2, 3)
4. If you have recently broken up with someone and feel like there is no \_\_\_\_\_ for a future with anyone else, the Lord declares that he has \_\_\_\_\_ for you. (Jeremiah 29:11)
5. If you can not understand why the break up happened, trust in the Lord with all your heart, and he will make your \_\_\_\_\_. (Proverbs 3:5, 6)
6. After a break up you can feel like nothing good can come out of the experience, but God comforts us so that we can \_\_\_\_\_ other people in \_\_\_\_\_. (2 Corinthians 1:4)
7. Sometimes when you just break up with someone you worry that you will never find someone else. God tells us to not \_\_\_\_\_ about \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ will \_\_\_\_\_ about itself. (Matthew 6:34)
8. At times, after a break up you might want to bounce right back and start dating someone else. The Bible tells us to not be \_\_\_\_\_ or we will \_\_\_\_\_ the way that God is calling us. (Proverbs 19:2)
9. When you break up with someone and you don't know where to turn, remember that God tells us not to worry and in all things by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, bring your \_\_\_\_\_ to God. (Philippians 4:6)

ANSWERS: 1. unending love, full redemption 2. always with you 3. asking 4. hope, plans 5. paths straight 6. comfort, trouble 7. worry, tomorrow, tomorrow, worry 8. hasty, miss 9. prayer, petition, requests

## 10 Key Scripture Verses For Courtship and Marriage

*"Each of you should know that finding a husband or wife for yourself is to be done in a holy and honorable way, not in the passionate, lustful way of people who don't know God. No one should take advantage of or exploit other believers that way. The Lord is the one who punishes people for all these things."*

— 1 Thessalonians 4:4-6a (God's Word for the Nations)

### 1. Slow Down and Learn Proverbs 19:2

It is not good to have zeal without knowledge, nor to be hasty and miss the way.

### 2. Don't Marry a Non-Christian 2 Corinthians 6:14

Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?

### 3. Ask, Seek, and Knock Luke 11:9

So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

### 4. Walk as Jesus Did 1 John 2:3-6

We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. The man who says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.

### 5. Listen and Slow Down James 1:19, 20

My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires.

### 6. Love is Patient 1 Corinthians 13:4, 5

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does

not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

### 7. Think about Pure Things Philippians 4:8, 9

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

### 8. Be Financially Responsible Proverbs 22:26, 27

Do not be a man who strikes hands in pledge or puts up security for debts; if you lack the means to pay, your very bed will be snatched from under you.

### 9. Flee from Sin Galatians 5:19-21

The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

### 10. Be Faithful Hebrews 13:4

Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.