

SPONSOR COUPLE PROGRAM - SESSION FOUR

OUR MARRIAGE - A CELEBRATION OF LIFE AND LOVE

The following questions can be helpful in clarifying and sharing what you expect of your future life together. First, complete the statements and answer the questions as thoughtfully as you can. After that, you and your fiancé will spend time together comparing your answers. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers. Simply express what you really think and feel.

FAITH RELATIONSHIP

1. Do my fiancé and I ever discuss our relationship with God?

If so, what have I gained from this sharing?

If I have not experienced this kind of sharing, what prevents me?

2. How well do I express this faith relationship to others? i.e., service, good works?

3. The religious attitudes or perceptions that my fiancé has that are important to me are:

4. Do we have an equal respect for each other's faith? (This question applies even if you are of the same religious denomination.)

5. Do we both have the same degree of commitment to our religious beliefs?

If this commitment differs, how do I deal with my fiancé's stronger/weaker faith commitment?

6. What effect will our respect and commitment have on our marriage when it comes to Sunday worship and participation in parish events?

PRAYER

1. How do I like to pray best?

2. How does prayer affect my life?

3. Would I like us to pray together as a married couple?

How do I see this occurring for us?

4. How do I think marriage will change my spiritual growth?

FAMILY LIFE

1. "Parents are the primary educators of their children." What does that statement mean to me?

2. “Your home is your domestic church.” How will you live your faith at home?

3. What priority do I believe the teachings of the church should take in our marriage and family life?

4. We are choosing to marry within a particular Christian tradition. Why this particular tradition?

5. How do my religious beliefs affect my attitudes toward church stewardship? i.e., the giving of my/our time, talent and/or treasure to the church community?

CHECKLIST - THE RELIGIOUS SIDE OF OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Please check the following list as honestly as you can. Then share your responses with your fiancé.

<u>I consider the following:</u>	<u>Very Important</u>	<u>Somewhat Important</u>	<u>Not Important</u>
Having inner peace	_____	_____	_____
Having our marriage in the Church	_____	_____	_____
Being a loyal Church member	_____	_____	_____
Serving others	_____	_____	_____
Praying together as a couple	_____	_____	_____
Being a peace with others	_____	_____	_____
Having children	_____	_____	_____
Living by the Gospel	_____	_____	_____
Learning about the church	_____	_____	_____
Influencing society with Christian values	_____	_____	_____
Going to Church each Sunday	_____	_____	_____
Being active in our parish	_____	_____	_____
Talking together about our relationship with God	_____	_____	_____
Registering as members of our parish	_____	_____	_____
Praying by myself	_____	_____	_____
Growing in our love for each other	_____	_____	_____

From the above list, about which three do you feel the strongest? Share with each other why you feel this way.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

CAR QUESTION

How can we, by worshiping and participating in the Sacraments together, build our sacramental relationship?