

Questionnaire: Marriage & Intimacy

Please write out your own thoughts privately before sharing them with your future spouse.

1. How will we engage in all 4 types of intimacy in our future marriage?

2. What have I always thought the meaning and purpose of sex to be? Did I think it was more about getting something or giving something?

3. What are the two main results that sexual intercourse has for couples? What could that look like in our marriage?

4. What does the phrase "total gift of self" mean to me?

5. Am I ready to make a "total gift" of myself to my future spouse? Does this scare me? Is there a part of myself that I am holding back and unwilling to let go of? Why?

6. The Church talks about "openness to life"...What does being open mean to me?

7. While the Church at no time validates the use of artificial barriers to prevent conception, it acknowledges that there may be times when serious conditions require married couples to regulate family size through appropriate natural means. This is what is meant by "Responsible Parenthood." (see page 67 for more information on Responsible Parenthood) What do I consider "serious conditions" to be? How will we make sure that we are regularly reviewing our circumstances?

8. Does being open to life or practicing responsible parenthood scare me? Why or why not?

9. The Catechism of the Catholic Church calls children the "supreme gift of marriage" and its "crowning glory" and that they (children) "contribute greatly to the good of the parents themselves." (CCC 1652) Why do I suppose the Church asserts this claim? Do I agree? Why or why not?

10. Did I hear anything new today?