

Individual Interview Questions- During Engagement

Below is a list of potential questions an elder may review with an engaged couple individually. These questions can usually be discussed in about 20 minutes. The questions are intended to help elders monitor the growth of the engaged couple's relationship to ensure they are moving in a positive direction. This can help the elder determine if there are concerns which need to be addressed. It is expected that factors such as how well the elder knows each individual, the elder's preferences, etc. will lead to modifications of these questions.

1. "On a scale from 0 to 10, how certain are you of your desire for the relationship to move forward to marriage?" (Ratings in the 8-10 range are usually expected if things in the relationship are going well.)
2. "How do you feel about the communication between you and your fiancé? Do you feel like he/she listens well and understands your perspective? Are you able to express yourself freely in the relationship?"
3. "What are some of your fiancé's best attributes? What is your biggest concern about your fiancé?"
4. "What do you feel you are contributing to the relationship? What do you think your fiancé's biggest concern is about you?"
5. "Do you have any fears about the relationship or about your future spouse?" (Note any responses that indicate a person feels unloved, disrespected, or controlled in the relationship.)
6. "How are things going in your relationship with your fiancé's family? Your family?"
7. "How are you feeling about marital sexuality?" (Note if the individual has a positive outlook or normal apprehension or if he or she has concerns and fears. If concerns are expressed, find out if they need additional information or help.)
8. "How are you feeling about your ability to communicate with your fiancé on spiritual matters?"
9. "Have you started discussing the roles you will each take in the marriage? Do you feel that you both have similar views on a husband's duty to be a spiritual leader and a wife's role to be submissive?"
10. "Is there anything you have not shared with your fiancé that you are either waiting to share until later, after marriage, or not planning on sharing at all?" (Express your willingness to help the person determine if he/she needs to bring something into the open with his/her fiancé or if they need to consider something as "passed away.")

