

# 10 QUESTIONS TO ASK EACH OTHER BEFORE PLANNING YOUR WEDDING

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Three years after her wedding, a bride tracked me down. She wanted me to know that she had a two-year-old son—and that she was getting a divorce. The night she conceived, she knew that her marriage wouldn't last because she and her husband never talked.

She was afraid to ask anything of her husband for fear of arguing. She thought that a baby would force them to talk. The baby didn't—a baby doesn't have that kind of power.

The philosopher Nietzsche claimed that in its essence, marriage is *one long, grand conversation*.

**If marriage is a conversation, do you and your partner enjoy talking with each other? What do you talk about?**

When I meet with couples as they create their wedding ceremony, I give them this list of questions—some of which they've never asked of each other. Perhaps a few of these will spark a new conversation between you and your partner.

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1. Who are your role models for marriage? Why are they models? How realistic a model are they?
2. What three words do you want people to use when they describe your wedding? What three words do you not want them to say?
3. Is your wedding day a *beginning* or a *touch point* in your life together?
4. What was the most moving, most joyful wedding you've attended? What do you want to be the most joyful moment of your wedding?
5. Is your partner your *life* or does your partner *give you life*?
6. What makes your partner worthy of your love? What makes you worthy of your partner's love?
7. What are your expectations for each other? Do your expectations make each of you the best person you're capable of being?
8. What is your biggest fear for your life together?
9. What is your definition of *success*? As an individual? As a couple?
10. On your 25th wedding anniversary, what would you like your life to look like?

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