

# WALKING THROUGH THE MARRIAGE DECISION FRAMEWORK

Use this guide to reflect personally and discuss the various aspects of the Marriage Decision Framework. For each aspect, the most relevant portions of this booklet are referenced and linked along with a few reflection questions which can be discussed with parents, mentors, or church leadership.

## F - FOLLOW BIBLICAL TRUTH AND PRINCIPLES

**Relevant Resources:** Review *The Marriage Decision: Principles to Consider* (p. 49-52) as well as the Biblical Decision Making resources (p. 105).

### Reflection Questions:

- What spiritual practices do I have in place that guide my spiritual journey and shape my decisions.
  - On a scale of 1-5 (1 = not at all consistent, 5 = very consistent), how consistent am I in these practices? If I am closer to a 1, what habits do I need to develop to become more consistent in this area?
- What support do I have in place that helps me resist temptation and walk in spiritual maturity?
- Which Biblical Decision-Making principles do I find easier to follow? More difficult to follow?

## A - APPLY GODLY WISDOM

**Relevant Resources:** Review *The Marriage Decision: Approaching the Marriage Decision* (p.43-47).

### Reflection Questions:

- What has it looked like for you to apply Godly wisdom in decision making in the past?
- On a scale of 1-5 (1 = not well at all, 5 = very well), how well am I able to separate out my personal preferences in marriage decision making from biblical truth and the Holy Spirit's direction?
- What cultural pressures or common errors are influencing my marriage decision making (i.e. overly spiritualizing, overly relying on signs or feelings, overly influenced by comparison of others, etc.)?

## I - INVEST IN COUNSEL AND COMMUNITY

**Relevant Resources:** Go through the *A Guide for Self-Reflection* with a mentor (p.57-81).

### **Reflection Questions:**

- Who am I trusting to speak into my life right now? Who knows me well enough to see blind spots in my character or maturity?
  - On a scale of 1-5 (1 = not at all, 5 = very surrendered), how willing am I to hear “wait”, “not yet”, or “not the one” from mentors?
- What is my typical response when I hear hard truths spoken into my life?

## T - TRANSPARENT WITH LEADERSHIP

**Relevant Resources:** Review the *Guide to Seeking Marriage* (p.94-97).

### **Reflection Questions:**

- Have I invited leadership to provide input early, or am I only seeking their blessing after I’ve made my decision?
- On a scale of 1-5 (1 = not at all, 5 = completely), how transparent am I being with others around this decision? Are there areas where I am not being completely truthful?
- What stands in my way of seeking accountability from church leadership, my parents, or a mentor in my life?

## H - HEALTHY PERSPECTIVE OF MARRIAGE

**Relevant Resources:** Review *The Marriage Decision: What is Marriage?* (p.40-42) and *The Marriage Decision: Difficulties with the Marriage Decision* (p.53-55) as well as *Keeping a Balanced Perspective* (p. 82-88) & the *Marriage Decision Making* podcasts (p. 106).

### **Reflection Questions:**

- How have I found value in my season of singleness? Has it been a time of growth or a time of disappointment and discouragement? Are there issues remaining that will affect my biblical role in a marital relationship?
- What is my biblical view of the purpose of marriage?
- Is my perspective on marriage skewed to an extreme in any area(s)? Where do I need to seek a more balanced perspective?