



A REFLECTION GUIDE

What You're Choosing

Honest Questions for the Bride, Before You Marry



*“Whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy
people shall be my people, and thy God my God.”*

RUTH 1:16 — KJV

DSW

DAYTON SIMPLE WEDDINGS • FRANK WYATT, OFFICIANT

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Before You Say Yes

I have been marrying couples since 1993. In all that time, I have learned one thing over and over again: a wedding day is easy to plan. A marriage is not. The dress, the flowers, the vows — all of that can come together in an afternoon. But the marriage itself is something you build for the rest of your life, and it deserves more than excitement. It deserves honesty.

This guide is not meant to scare you off or talk you out of anything. It is meant to help you walk into marriage with your eyes open and your heart ready — so that the vows you say on your wedding day are ones you are truly prepared to keep, not just for the day, but for the years that follow.

How to use this guide

Find somewhere quiet. Sit with each question honestly before you answer it — for yourself first, before you ever discuss it with him. There is no wrong answer here, only an honest one.

Write your answers in your own hand, because the thing you write down is the thing you actually wrestle with.

If a question is hard to answer, that is not a red flag — that is exactly the point. The women who make the best wives are not the ones with no doubts. They are the ones willing to be honest about them before the wedding day, not after.

Seven Questions to Sit With

I Am I Marrying Him, or the Wedding Day?

It is easy to fall in love with the idea of a wedding — the dress, the day, the attention — and lose sight of the man you are actually promising your life to.

If the wedding were small and plain, would I still be just as sure about him?

Am I choosing this specific man, or am I choosing the idea of being someone's bride?

2 Can I Trust Him — and Can He Trust Me?

A marriage cannot run on control in either direction. It runs on two people who have earned each other's trust, and who keep earning it.

Do I trust him with my whole self — my fears, my finances, my future — or only with the parts that feel safe?

Have I given him the same honesty I am hoping to receive from him?

3 Have I Dealt With My Own Past?

Old wounds, old relationships, and things you have never talked about with anyone do not disappear on your wedding day. They come into the marriage with you, whether you deal with them or not.

Is there anything from my past — grief, a past relationship, a habit — that I have never truly worked through?

Am I bringing healing into this marriage, or am I hoping marriage will fix what I have not?

4 Can I Communicate, Even When It's Hard?

Every other part of a marriage depends on this one. If you cannot talk honestly and listen well, everything else becomes harder than it needs to be.

When something bothers me, do I say it honestly, or do I expect him to simply know?

Can he disagree with me without me shutting down or trying to win?

5 Am I Ready to Put Him First?

Marriage means his needs are no longer someone else's concern. They are yours now, as much as your own.

Do I make decisions with him in mind, or do I still think mostly of myself?

Am I ready for him to become the most important relationship in my life, above friends, career, and even, in its proper place, my own family of origin?

6 What Kind of Wife — and Mother — Do I Want to Be?

The habits you build now are the ones your marriage — and someday your children — will live inside of.

If I am honest, am I becoming the kind of wife I would want my son to marry?

What do I want to be different in my home than what I grew up around — and am I actually doing the work to make that true?

7 Why Do I Want to Marry Him?

Not the wedding. Not the timing. Him — specifically.

Am I choosing him freely, or am I choosing the idea of being married?

When I picture hard seasons — sickness, loss, financial strain — can I still see myself choosing him, on purpose, every day?

NOTES TO MYSELF

A BLESSING

A Prayer for the Woman Preparing to Marry

“Father, thank You for the man You have brought into my life. Make me the kind of woman who loves without keeping score, who speaks honestly instead of staying silent, and who chooses him truthfully, every day, not just on the day I say ‘I do.’ Heal what I have not yet healed, and give me the courage to be honest before I make this promise. In Jesus' name, amen.”

“Love suffereth long, and is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up... beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.”

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4, 7 — KJV



Want to Talk It Through?

Working through this guide alone is a good start — but some things are easier to be honest about with another person in the room. I offer one-on-one Premarital Guidance Sessions, where we walk through these questions and more together, at your pace. Like my life coaching, it's sliding-scale — cost should never be the reason you go into marriage without the support you need.

Whether you'd like to set up a Premarital Guidance Session, talk any of this through, or you're looking for a simple, meaningful couples-only ceremony, I would love to hear from you.

Call or Text 937-732-5868 frank@daytonsimpleweddings.com daytonsimpleweddings.com

Written by Frank Wyatt — ordained minister since 1993 and officiant at Dayton Simple Weddings. You are free to share this guide with anyone, at no charge. May it bless your marriage.