

Ask the Tough Questions About Your Relationship

by Glenn Lutjens

Questions to Ask Yourself

1. Am I ready for a relationship? Are there issues I need to address in my own life first?
2. Have we shared enough varied experiences to know what each other is like? Have you seen him when he's hungry or tired?
3. What do family and friends say about our relationship? (This isn't foolproof, but being open to wise input is one of the smartest actions you can take into a relationship.)
4. Is there enough commonality in our relationship? (I'm not talking about differences in personality- often, opposites do attract. I'm talking about your faith, beliefs, commitments, and values.)
5. How does my friend relate to others? Is she respectful? Is he compassionate?
6. Is our relationship one sided- one always giving, one always taking?
7. Are there deeper issues in my friend's life that need to be addressed, but simply get avoided?
8. Am I romantically attracted to my friend?
9. Am I feeling pressured to move forward in our relationship by my friend, others or my own expectations?
10. Are there issues in our relationship that need to be resolved first if we are to move forward?
11. Do I stay in the relationship because I don't want to hurt my friend or myself? (Grief will certainly be felt if you brake off the relationship, but hurt is not the enemy of health.)
12. Am I trying to rescue my friend from a hurtful or painful life?
13. Do I marry simply because I'm in love?
14. Should we receive pre-engagement counseling? (Once a couple has decided to marry, especially if they have a wedding date set, each person may be a bit more guarded about sharing their weaknesses with a counselor.)
15. Could I be content if I were to remain single?

Give that last question some thought.