

INTERFAITH MARRIAGE

Similarities often draw people together, but differences enable us to grow! Rather than battle over differences, see them as possibilities for growth. Three guidelines for dealing with differences are to acknowledge them, seek to understand them and use them as bridges rather than barriers. If you are in an interfaith marriage, complete the exercise below to help you appreciate the faith of your future spouse.

1. What do you value most about your religious traditions? _____

2. What do you value most about your future spouse's religious traditions? _____

3. How have you handled religious differences in the past? _____

4. What are the specific differences in your religious traditions? Be as specific as possible.

5. What questions would you like to ask your future spouse about his/her religious traditions?

6. Do you plan to weave together both of your religious practices? If so how? Be specific in detailing strategies for blending or celebrating your faith convictions in an honest, ecumenical manner.

7. How might your religious differences put stress on your relationship? _____

8. How might your religious differences strengthen your relationship? _____

