# Nine Essential Conversations Before You Say Do

Getting married is a big decision. It's a decision that should not be made lightly. Before you say "I do," there are some important conversations you need to have with your partner.



### Nine Essential Conversations before You Say I Do

by Gary Thomas

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These conversations will help you get to know each other better and make sure that you're on the same page about the important things in life. They will also help you avoid potential problems down the road.

Here are the nine essential conversations you need to have before you say "I do":

#### 1. Finances

Money is one of the leading causes of divorce. It's important to talk about your finances before you get married so that you can avoid any surprises

down the road.

Some of the financial topics you should discuss include:

- Your income and expenses
- Your debt
- Your savings and investments
- Your financial goals

#### 2. Children

If you're planning on having children, it's important to talk about your expectations and goals for parenting.

Some of the topics you should discuss include:

- How many children do you want?
- When do you want to have children?
- How will you divide the childcare responsibilities?
- What are your values and beliefs about parenting?

# 3. Religion

If you and your partner have different religious beliefs, it's important to talk about how you will handle this difference.

Some of the topics you should discuss include:

How important is religion to you?

- How will you raise your children?
- What are your expectations for each other's religious practices?

#### 4. Sex

Sex is an important part of a healthy relationship. It's important to talk about your sexual expectations and needs before you get married.

Some of the topics you should discuss include:

- How often do you want to have sex?
- What are your turn-ons and turn-offs?
- Are you comfortable with experimenting?

#### 5. Communication

Communication is key to any healthy relationship. It's important to talk about your communication styles and expectations before you get married.

Some of the topics you should discuss include:

- How do you prefer to communicate?
- How often do you want to communicate?
- What are your expectations for each other's communication?

#### 6. Conflict resolution

Conflict is a normal part of any relationship. It's important to talk about how you will handle conflict before you get married.

Some of the topics you should discuss include:

- What are your conflict resolution styles?
- How do you want to handle disagreements?
- What are your expectations for each other's behavior during conflict?

#### 7. Goals and dreams

It's important to talk about your goals and dreams for the future before you get married.

Some of the topics you should discuss include:

- What are your career goals?
- What are your financial goals?
- What are your family goals?
- What are your travel goals?

#### 8. Values

Your values are the core beliefs that guide your life. It's important to talk about your values before you get married so that you can make sure that you're on the same page.

Some of the topics you should discuss include:

- What are your most important values?
- How do your values affect your decisions?

What are your expectations for each other's values?

# 9. Intimacy

Intimacy is a key part of any healthy relationship. It's important to talk about your expectations for intimacy before you get married.

Some of the topics you should discuss include:

- What is your definition of intimacy?
- How important is intimacy to you?
- What are your expectations for each other's intimacy?

These are just a few of the essential conversations you need to have before you say "I do." Talking about these topics will help you get to know each other better and make sure that you're on the same page about the important things in life.

If you're not sure how to start these conversations, there are many resources available to help you. You can talk to a therapist, read a book, or find a workbook that can help you guide the conversation.

Having these conversations before you get married is one of the best ways to ensure that your marriage is successful.



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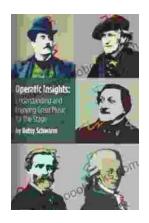
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