



Two Churches, One Marriage

Religious Affiliation: To Change or Not to Change



Application

Using the following worksheet, please rate how important the following factors are to each of you in deciding whether or not to change religious affiliation. For each item, rate how important the factor is to you on a scale from one to ten, with one being not important at all, to 10, extremely important. Feel free to add additional factors to the list of considerations.

After you have completed the worksheet, share your answers with your partner. Are the lists consistent with what each of you expected your partner to say, or were there surprises? It is recommended that you share with your partner why some factors are rated more highly than others.

Name: _____

For each item, rate how important the factor is to you on a scale from one to ten, with one being not important at all, to 10, extremely important.

Possible reasons to change religious affiliation:	Importance (1-10)
1. I prefer my partner's denomination to my own.	
2. I believe going to one church will make our marriage or family stronger.	
3. I desire to worship together with my partner.	
4. I fear raising children in more than one religious tradition will confuse them.	
5. I believe that both of us should change affiliation rather than just one partner.	
6. I feel that I need to change affiliation to keep my partner happy.	
7. I feel that I need to change to keep peace in the extended family.	
8.	



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Possible reasons NOT to change religious affiliation:	Importance (1-10)
1. I have a difficult time accepting the beliefs of my partner's church.	
2. I value or cherish the traditions and practices in my current denomination.	
3. My current denominational identity is very strong.	
4. I'm reluctant to change religious affiliation out of concern for my family's reaction.	
5.	