SmartLoving Engaged | www.SmartLoving.org





Activity: **spiritual strengths**

The characteristics listed below are known as virtues. These are spiritual qualities or strengths which Christians are called to develop in themselves.

- 1. For each strength below, think about to what extent you display it. Circle the number that best illustrates where you see yourself on each one.
 - 0 = no evidence of strength
 - 1 = display a little of this strength
 - 2 = strength is developing
 - 3 = a well/fully developed strength
- 2. Swap books and on your fiance's book mark with an 'X' where you see them on each strength. Try to ignore their answers and think about how much of each strength you have witnessed or experienced.

On initary		
Spiritual Strength		Reference
wisdom	0123	1 Kgs 4:28
knowledge	0123	Lk 1:76-77
humility	0123	Lk 7:6-7
self value	0123	Ps 139:1-18
courage	0123	Dt 31:5-6
perseverance	0123	Lk 18:1-6
work ethic	0123	Hb 6:9-12
honesty	0123	Lev 19:36
kindness	0123	Rm 11:22-23
gentleness	0123	Ph 4:5
generosity	0123	2 Cor 9:11
justice	0123	Dt 16:20
self-control	0123	Tit 2:11-13
patience	0123	Jm 5:7-8
selflessness	0123	Jm 3:14-16
gratitude	0123	Col 3:16-17
hope	0123	Job 11:17-18
faith	0123	Lk 11:9-10
compassion	0123	Mk 1:40-42
mercy	0123	Lk 6:36-37
joyfulness	0123	Jn 15:11
enthusiasm	0123	Jn 10:10

- 3. Return your books and reflect on the results:
 - a) Open area: This includes any strength on which you and your fiancé were in rough agreement, that is the 'X' and 'O' were the same. These include active strengths and areas for growth.

List your Active Strengths, that is those strengths where both you and your fiancé gave a score of 3.

e.g. patience

0....1....2....3

List your Growth Areas, that is those strengths where both you and your fiancé gave you a score of 0 or 1.

e.g. gentleness (0)....2....3



b) Blind area: These are the strengths that you have trouble seeing in yourself. List any strength where your fiancé gave you a score that was 2 or more points than your own score.

e.g. wisdom

c) Hidden area: These are your strengths that your fiancé doesn't see. List the Hidden strengths (where your fiancé gave you a score more than 2 points lower than you did yourself.)

e.g. prayerful



- 4. Discuss together:
 - a) What strengths did you see in your fiancé that they didn't recognise in themself (i.e. their **Blind** area)? Give some examples of times you've experienced these strengths.
 - b) For your Hidden area strengths: Are you willing to let your fiancé experience these? Explain your answer.
 - c) Choose one of your Growth area strengths. Read the corresponding scripture passage together. Reflect on someoneyou know who displays this strength. Discuss how you might develop this strength in yourself. Agree to support each other by encouraging one another as you attempt this.