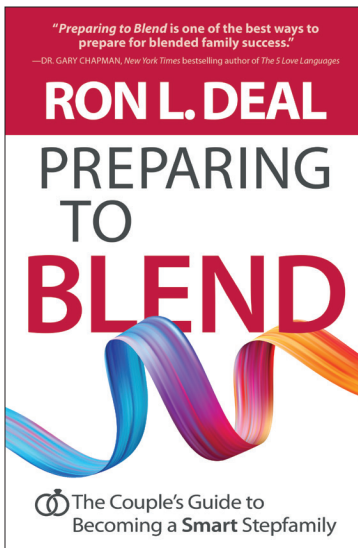




SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Preparing to Blend
The Couple's Guide to Becoming a Smart Stepfamily
by Ron L. Deal



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1. Over the years, there have been dozens of premarital resources created for couples and community and ministry leaders. What makes this resource unique?
2. Ron, you've identified a "premarital counseling gap" for pre-stepfamily couples. What is that, and how should marriage coaches, counselors, and pastors address this?
3. This book helps couples create a digital map of their blended family. How can this map help couples navigate the transition of uniting two families?
4. What kinds of things do pre-blended couples need their eyes opened to?
5. You try to recalibrate the expectations of couples in this book. One common expectation is that marriage will "repair what has been lost." Can you talk a bit about that and address how couples should be thinking instead?
6. The book includes what you call "growth activities" for couples and children. What is the purpose of those activities?
7. One growth activity is centered around helping couples and children anticipate what will change after the wedding. Why is that an important conversation for parents and children to have together?
8. In your experience, couples underestimate the importance of including children in their wedding planning. Why is this important to the children?
9. Finding unity in parenting can be challenging in blended families. Why is that, and what can couples do about it?
10. You've included a chapter on merging money and estate planning because most couples don't discuss this in-depth before marriage. Why is this financial discussion so important?
11. Thank you for joining us today. Where can our listeners connect with you and get their own copy of *Preparing to Blend*?

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