

FOLLOWING JESUS

A STUDY IN THE GOSPEL OF MARK

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"Jesus then left that place and went into the region of Judea and across the Jordan. Again crowds of people came to him, and as was his custom, he taught them.² Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"³ "What did Moses command you?" he replied.⁴ They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away."⁵ "It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law," Jesus replied.⁶ "But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.'⁷ 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife,⁸ and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh.⁹ Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."¹⁰ When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this.¹¹ He answered, "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her.¹² And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery."
Mark 10:1-12

First Principles

1. If Jesus is _____, a disciple is someone who _____ and _____.
Mark 10:1; Matthew 7:24-27

2. If Jesus is _____, we _____ what He says.
Mark 10:3; Matthew 7:28-29, 12:8, 28:18

3. Jesus' way of _____ isn't just the _____ way it's the _____ way.
Matthew 11:28-30; John 10:10

Lessons from the Beginning

1. Marriage is God's _____.

2. Marriage at its core is about _____.

Marked by...

- _____ (Genesis 2:24)
- _____ (Genesis 2:25)
- _____ (Genesis 2:25)

3. Marriage is a _____ covenant that makes _____ people _____ new _____.
Genesis 2:24; Malachi 2:14; Mark 10:7; Ephesians 5:31

So What about Divorce?

1. Divorce is an _____ brought about by hard-heartedness.

Bottom Line

What God _____ and _____ God also _____ and _____.

MY NEXT STEP IS TO . . .

- ☐ Begin to follow Jesus as my Lord and Savior for the first time today
- ☐ Memorize Matthew 11:28-30
- ☐ Commit to doing what Jesus says in the area of _____
- ☐ Ask God to help me to become the companion my spouse deserve
- ☐ Get the most out of today's message by attending my LIFE group this week



What The Bible Says About Marriage And Divorce - Mark 10:1-12

"Jesus then left that place and went into the region of Judea and across the Jordan. Again crowds of people came to him, and as was his custom, he taught them.² Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"³ "What did Moses command you?" he replied.⁴ They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away."⁵ "It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law," Jesus replied.⁶ "But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.'⁷ 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife,⁸ and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh.⁹ Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."¹⁰ When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this.¹¹ He answered, "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her.¹² And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery."
 Mark 10:1-12

First Principles

1. If Jesus is **teacher**, a disciple is someone who **learns** and **does**.
 Mark 10:1; Matthew 7:24-27
2. If Jesus is **Lord**, we **do** what He says.
 Mark 10:3; Matthew 7:28-29, 12:8, 28:18
3. Jesus' way of **living** isn't just the **right** way it's the **best** way.
 Matthew 11:28-30; John 10:10

Lessons from the Beginning

1. Marriage is God's **good idea**.

2. Marriage at its core is about **companionship**.

Marked by...

- **Intimacy** (Genesis 2:24)
- **Vulnerability** (Genesis 2:25)
- **Support** (Genesis 2:25)

3. Marriage is a **lifelong** covenant that makes **two** people **one** new **reality**.

Genesis 2:24; Malachi 2:14; Mark 10:7; Ephesians 5:31

So What about Divorce?

1. Divorce is an **amputation** brought about by hard-heartedness

Bottom Line

What God **plans** and **purposes** God also **redeems** and **empowers**

MY NEXT STEP IS TO . . .

- ☐ Begin to follow Jesus as my Lord and Savior for the first time today
- ☐ Memorize Matthew 11:28-30
- ☐ Commit to doing what Jesus says in the area of _____
- ☐ Ask God to help me to become the companion my spouse deserve
- ☐ Get the most out of today's message by attending my LIFE group this week





Discussion Questions - Week #6

QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the weekend sermon, "What the Bible Says About Marriage and Divorce," Summarize the main point in a sentence or two.

Looking at your notes, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Do you plan to take any practical steps this week in response to the message?

GETTING STARTED

Is there a couple whose marriage you especially respect or admire? If so, what characteristics of their marriage stand out most?

When you think of how marriage was depicted on TV or in movies growing up, what show or couple comes to mind? What would you say was the general attitude toward marriage displayed?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. While this weekend's message focused on Jesus' words on marriage, we began by focusing on Jesus' identity as a teacher and our responsibility to do what He says. In Matthew 7:21-27, Jesus concludes the sermon on the mount with a parable about putting His teaching into action. Read the passage together. What stands out to you in this parable?

What does it look like to build your house on the rock?

Why do you think so many Christians behave like the foolish builder, hearing Jesus' words yet failing to put them into practice?

Do you think the people in your life can tell what you've built your foundation on? If so, how?

What words of Jesus do you find most challenging to put into practice?

2. Read Ephesians 5:1-2 & 18-33. What do you feel is the hardest thing about submission?

Why do you think some people might be inclined to react negatively toward Paul's instruction to wives?

How does God equip us to do what we are called to do in this text?

Several times, the passage reminds us to take loving actions towards our spouse, not based on what we feel but on what God has asked us to do. Why is that important?

How might following Christ's example in your marriage lead to greater oneness, unity, and respect?

FOR PRACTICE

While the bible doesn't say explicitly that husbands and wives should pray for one another, it seems like one of those apparent givens. Well, of course, you should pray for your spouse. And yet, many of us don't make a regular habit of praying for or with our significant other. Consider taking some time at the beginning of each week to ask your spouse, "How can I pray for you this week?" and then do it! Pray for your spouse and with your spouse, and your intimacy with them, and God will grow!

SHARE IT

Is there anything you heard or learned in the weekend message or Life Group this week that you want to share with someone you know?

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for ERBC and the churches in the Eagle Rock area to embrace our calling to reach our community with the good news of the gospel. Pray for passionate witnesses, open doors to share, and receptive hearts and minds in those to whom we witness.