

A Lifelong Commitment: God's Heart for Marriage Mark 10:1-12

Man's search for loopholes to escape sin Mark 10:1-2

Mark 10:2 – “Some Pharisees came up to Jesus, **testing Him**, and began to question Him whether it was lawful for a man to divorce a wife.”

- The Perean ministry of Jesus and “the storm before the storm”
- The background on Herod Antipas and John the Baptist (Mark 6:14-32)

What does Moses have to say about divorce? Mark 10:3-4

Mark 10:4 – “They said, ‘Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away.’”

- A rabbinical interpretation and debate (Deuteronomy 24:1-4)
*Matthew 19:3 – “...and large crowds followed Him, and He healed them there. Some Pharisees came to Jesus, **testing Him** and asking, ‘Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife **for any reason at all?**’”*
- The schools of Rabbi Hillel and Rabbi Shammai
- Hardening of hearts that leads to rescuing abandoned women (Matthew 19:8; Mark 10:5)

What does God have to say about marriage? Mark 10:5-9

Mark 10:9 – “What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.”

- The original ideal for marriage from God's perspective (Genesis 1:27; 2:24)
 - A persistent Divine opposition to divorce (Malachi 2:16)
- Commands and concessions

The epilogue and upping the ante Mark 10:10-12

Mark 10:11-12 – “And He said to them, ‘Whoever divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her; and if she herself divorces her husband and marries another man, she is committing adultery.’”

- Three views on divorce and remarriage:
 - **View #1:** “divorce and remarriage” (D.A. Carson, John Feinberg, John MacArthur, John Stott)
 - **View #2:** “divorce, but no remarriage” (Robert Gundry, Andrew Cornes)
 - **View #3:** “no divorce, no remarriage” (F.F. Bruce, Dwight Pentecost, John Piper)

Our need for repentance and deliverance Jeremiah 3:1-18

Jeremiah 3:12 – “Return, faithless Israel,’ declares the Lord; ‘I will not look upon you in anger. For I am gracious,’ declares the Lord; ‘I will not be angry forever.’”

- Confusing **stringency with holiness** and **permissiveness with grace**
- The softening of our hearts toward one another

Digging Deeper + LifeGroup Discussion:

We want to grow. We want to soften our hearts. Below are some great onramps, beginnings, in this process. Use these resources to strengthen your theology and find resources for growth, healing and reconciliation.

Bible Passages on Marriage and Divorce: Genesis 1:27, 2:24; Exodus 21:10-11; Deuteronomy 24:1-4; Jeremiah 3:1-11; Isaiah 50:1; Malachi 2:10-16; Matthew 5:31-32, 19:1-12; Mark 10:1-12; Luke 16:18; Romans 7:2-3; 1 Corinthians 7

The Third Option: The Third Option is a skills based program that helps participants build stronger more fulfilling relationships. relationshipsoc.wordpress.com

Calvary Life Counseling Center: Biblically-based counseling, short-term, non-fee ministry, serving the people of Calvary Church, and the community. Learn more and find how to make an appointment at calvarylife.org/counseling

#adulting: Join us as we continue this Wednesday night series, working on growing up in our relationship with Jesus. This week will focus on dealing with our loneliness—as a single and within marriage. **Fellowship Hall, 7-8pm**

RightNow Media: This resource has literally thousands of amazing videos covering every aspect of life, and specifically many dealing with marriage and relationships. Sign up for free at calvarylife.org/rightnow

Teaching Pastor Connection: Join Pastor Matt today at 11:00am in the Worship Center to continue the conversation.

Next Steps:

TAKE A PACK OF GROCERY BAGS TO DISTRIBUTE TO YOUR NEIGHBORS: Calvary is partnering with the OC Rescue Mission this month to fill the food shortage in Orange County this Fall! Reach out and give grocery bags to your neighbors and bring back filled bags over the next three Sundays to the OC Rescue Mission Truck in the courtyard.

COME TO “THE ART OF NEIGHBORING”: What if Jesus meant that we should love our actual neighbors? Join this 6-week workshop on Sundays, October 14 - November 18, at 11:00am in A-205 for thought-provoking and practical discussions that could transform not only your life but also your community. calvarylife.org/sunday

ATTEND “IN DEFENSE OF CHRISTIANITY”: Come hear John Stewart share a 3-part workshop on The Case for God, the Gospels and Jesus on Sundays, October 14-28 at 11:00am in the Choir Room (SW Corner of Worship Center). John is a lawyer, Christian apologist, author, award-winning radio personality and co-founder of Intelligent Faith.

In Response:

COMMUNION: Communion is a “meal” for believers in Jesus Christ to help us give thanks and remember His death on the cross for the forgiveness of sins. The matzah bread represents the body of Christ given for us. The cup of juice represents the blood of Christ that was shed to pay the price for our sins. We are called to examine ourselves before taking communion (Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-34). We typically pass communion elements the first Sunday of the month. Most other weeks, communion is available at tables around the room after the sermon.

GIVING: The offering is received during each Sunday service. This is a way to express a wholehearted trust in God and worship Him through giving. It is also an act of obedience to God that helps free us from money having mastery over us. Tithing is a biblical command of 10% as a baseline of giving, but the New Testament calls us as followers of Jesus to give even more. Our prayer is that you plan ahead to give purposefully and joyfully to God, helping to further ministry locally and globally in Jesus’ name. Discover ways to give on the front of the bulletin or calvarylife.org/give

PRAYER POINTS: These locations at the front right and left of the Worship Center will have people available to pray with you during the time of singing after the sermon and after the service as well. These people are excited to pray with you about anything in your life, including praying to tell Jesus that you believe in Him as God and trust Him for salvation. They will also pray for any health needs, stresses, worries, family members, temptations or anything else.

PRAYER ROOM: The Prayer Room is located at the front right of the Worship Center Auditorium through the doorway behind the Prayer Point. This is a quiet space that you can go to at anytime during the service to be able to pray and reflect on what God is doing in your heart.