

- I. God made *_us_ _male_ and _female_*
- Matt 19:1-6;
Eph 3:17;
Gen 1:27; 2:19-24
- A. Because God made *_male_ and
female*, a *_man_ will _marry_*
- I Cor 7:1-9;
Eph 5:31-32
- B. When two are *_married_*,
they're *_joined_ by _God_*
- Judges 14:3; 21:23
- II. *_Divorce_* was not in God's *_original_*
plan
- A. God permitted *_divorce_*, He
doesn't *_want_ it*
- Gal 6:7; II Cor 5:10;
Mal 2:16a;
II Kings 20:1ff;
Num 15:40ff; 22:12
- B. *_Divorce_* reveals *_heart_ _hardness_*
- Deut 24:1-4;
Matt 24:12-13;
I Cor 15:33
- III. The Lord's *_heart_* has not *_changed_*
- Heb 13:8
- A. *_Divorce_ is _adultery_*
- Matt 5:48; 19:10
- B. Only God can *_wash_ and
change our _hearts_*
- I Cor 6:9-11;
Heb 4:7b;
Ps 95:6-8a;
Luke 1:37

³¹ "It has been said, 'Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.' ³² But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to become an adulteress, and anyone who marries the divorced woman commits adultery.

Care Group Questions

“But I Tell You #3”
Text: Matthew 5:31-32

Dave Bechtel

December 2, 2007

1. Do any of us have any experiences with the season of Advent? Do you remember what it as a season is supposed to be about? What do you think about it?
2. Have you given any thought to which of the classes you might attend of the “Jan Term” offerings? If you have chosen one or more, what made you select what you did?
3. In the Matthew 19 verses, the Pharisees ask Jesus about divorce hoping to “test” or “trap” him. Do you have some idea as to how questions about divorce might be a potential trap?
4. In His answer about divorce, Jesus takes His hearers back to the creation of man and woman. What are some of the truths from that account which He considers foundational as He teaches about divorce?
5. Even though divorce was not in God’s original plan, during the days of Moses, He permitted it. Does God permit things He doesn’t want? (If yes, any other examples?)
6. What was the reason in the Israelite culture, according to Jesus, that divorce was permitted during the days of Moses? What does it look like when that happens? What causes that to happen in people? What does that tell us about divorces now?
7. Has God’s heart changed about divorce during these days in which we live? What might lead someone to think it had?
8. Jesus says that divorce, except for one condition, is adultery. What was the Old Testament consequence for adultery? Why was it considered so serious?
9. What is God’s remedy for those who have divorced, committed adultery? (see I Corinthians 6:9-11 for help.) What is His hope for us who can’t meet His standard of perfection (Matthew 5:48)?
10. How, specifically, has the Spirit spoken to you about how to prepare your heart for the King? (If He hasn’t spoken, why might that be?)

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