

Sermon Discussion Questions - February 16, 2020

Scripture Q's

Read the passage from Sunday's sermon to refresh your memory: Mark 10:1-12.

- What is the motive of the Pharisees in questioning Jesus about divorce?
- How does Jesus answer? What two things does he point to (v. 3 & v. 6)? Why?
- Why is divorce in the law? What does Jesus say about it in v. 5?
- What does Jesus say twice in v. 8? How does this further complicate matters when it comes to divorce?
- What is the logic behind Jesus' statement to his disciples that someone who divorces and remarries commits adultery?

Discussion Q's

How is the question, "what are the legitimate grounds for divorce?", similar to the question Christian young people may ask, "how far is too far when it comes to physical intimacy?"

- What is actually being sought in each case? What is missed / glossed over?
- How would Jesus respond to such questioning? How did he respond in this instance? (See the beginning of v. 6)

If legitimate grounds for divorce exist, should they be pursued? Why or why not?

- How could you come to a godly conclusion if you face this dilemma?

What can prevent someone from "hitting the eject button" too early in a marriage?

- How does having *hope for success, community, or faith* come into play?
- How can perseverance in marriage—or seeking reconciliation—be seen as a godly characteristic?

Referring to the mostly negative response he receives after preaching Jesus' extreme view on marriage, Andy Stanley stated, "*People get upset. Then they purchase the CD to give to their kids when they're old enough to get married.*"

- How does this reveal the church's true feelings about Jesus' hard teachings?
- How do *you* feel about Jesus' hard teachings?

Where are you in your current life situation with regards to singleness, marriage, divorce, etc? How can Jesus meet you “wherever you are” and lead you forward?

- Is there anything you need to confess? Surrender?
- Is there anywhere you think God is leading you? How can you know?
- How can your group pray for you?

Prayer

We've all been impacted by divorce in one way or another.

- Take some time to pray for each other, the church, and our community for healing and hope surrounding this complex issue