

## Supplemental Scriptures

Malachi 2:13-16 Another thing you do: You flood the Lord's altar with tears. You weep and wail because he no longer looks with favor on your offerings or accepts them with pleasure from your hands. You ask, "Why?" It is because the Lord is the witness between you and the wife of your youth. You have been unfaithful to her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant. Has not the one God made you? You belong to him in body and spirit. And what does the one God seek? Godly offspring. So be on your guard, and do not be unfaithful to the wife of your youth. "The man who hates and divorces his wife," says the Lord, the God of Israel, "does violence to the one he should protect," says the Lord Almighty.

Matthew 19:3-9 Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?" "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." "Why then," they asked, "did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?" Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

1 Corinthians 7:10-16 To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband. But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife. To the rest I say this (I, not the Lord): If any brother has a wife who is not a believer and she is willing to live with him, he must not divorce her. And if a woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to live with her, she must not divorce him. For the unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been sanctified through her believing husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy. But if the unbeliever leaves, let it be so. The brother or the sister is not bound in such circumstances; God has called us to live in peace. How do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or, how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife?

Jeremiah 3:8 I gave faithless Israel her certificate of divorce and sent her away because of all her adulteries. Yet I saw that her unfaithful sister Judah had no fear; she also went out and committed adultery.

## Uncensored — Ron Marsh

October 24, 2021

### Divorce and Remarriage: Matthew 10:3-9

How did Jesus respond to the question; "Can I divorce for any reason"?

God designed your marriage to be \_\_\_\_\_ and intimate.

Your broken vows and hard \_\_\_\_\_ kill the covenant.

God does not command divorce, but He does \_\_\_\_\_ it.

God hates the \_\_\_\_\_ divorce causes when it's used for personal gain.

When is it ok to divorce?

Death, \_\_\_\_\_, sexual Immorality, a hard heart.

Divorce is a radical step only to be taken to save the \_\_\_\_\_ in the marriage.

How do I stay in a difficult marriage?

Eliminate divisive \_\_\_\_\_ and rest in God's grace.

Seek help and remain faithful.

Allow God to work on \_\_\_\_\_ your heart and the heart of your spouse.

When can I remarry?

Give God the time to \_\_\_\_\_ your previous marriage.

Stay single if you can and be sure to heal your \_\_\_\_\_.

Seek wise godly counsel.

Divorce recovery starts at the \_\_\_\_\_.

## Life Group Ice Breaker

1. Share your reaction to the last time something broke or stopped working in your car/house/body?

## Discussion Questions

2. Regarding this sermon, is there any truth that stands out as being particularly helpful, insightful, or difficult to understand?
3. We've all be impacted by divorce. What are some of the negative/positive effects of divorce? Why do people seek biblical approval regarding their reason to divorce?
4. Read Matthew 19:3-9. What did Jesus say are the grounds for divorce? In your experience, what has the church traditionally taught are grounds for divorce?

5. Read Jeremiah 3:7-10. How does this passage influence your view on divorce?

6. Marriage is hard but divorce is destructive. What factors lead to the erosion of the marriage covenant? What factors reinforce the covenant?

## Application Questions & Prayer

7. Those struggling with the weight and pain of divorce need forgiveness, love, and encouragement. What can you do to help yourself or someone you know heal?
8. Consider dividing the group between men and women. Give your group an honest "status check" regarding the stage of your life (married/single). Share a current joy/struggle/trial or victory. Then pray for each other.