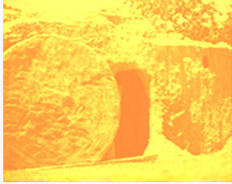


4 And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large.



the gospel of

MARK

1:1

THE SON OF GOD

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.



And they ate and were satisfied. And they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. 9 And there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away.



45 Immediately he made his disciples get 46 And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. 47 And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. 48 And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night[g] he came to them, walking on the sea.

8:29

YOU ARE
THE CHRIST

And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ."

And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"



15:39

TRULY, THIS
MAN WAS
THE SON OF
GOD



Marriage, Divorce, and the Gospel

Mark 10:1-12



“Your marriage can wear out. People change their values and lifestyles. Change and personal growth are traits for you to be proud of...You must accept the reality that in today’s multifaceted world it is especially easy for two persons to grow apart. Letting go of your marriage – if it is no longer fulfilling – can be the most successful thing you have ever done. Getting a divorce can be a positive, problem-solving, growth-oriented step. It can be a personal triumph.”

Divorce: How and When to Let Go

Marriage, Divorce, and the Gospel

Mark 10:1-12



I. Confusion over Divorce



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- **Pharisees trying to catch Jesus in a trap.**



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- **They may be hoping for Jesus to be killed by Herod like John the Baptist.**



I. Confusion Over Divorce

- **Pharisees trying to catch Jesus in a trap.**
- **They may be hoping for Jesus to be killed by Herod like John the Baptist.**
- **Jesus takes them back to the Old Testament.**



I. Confusion Over Divorce

When a man takes a wife and marries her, if then she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some indecency in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, and she departs out of his house...

Deuteronomy 24:1

I. Confusion Over Divorce

- **School of Shammai: Divorce only permissible for infidelity.**



I. Confusion Over Divorce

- **School of Shammai: Divorce only permissible for infidelity.**
- **School of Hillel: Divorce permissible for anything you don't like about your wife.**



I. Confusion Over Divorce

- **School of Shammai: Divorce only permissible for infidelity.**
- **School of Hillel: Divorce permissible for anything you don't like about your wife.**
- **During Jesus' day, the majority of the Jewish people were on the side of Rabbi Hillel.**

I. Confusion Over Divorce

- **Even though God allowed divorce, he never commanded it.**



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- **Command: expresses God's perfect will, reflects his heart.**



I. Confusion Over Divorce

- **Even though God allowed divorce, he never commanded it.**
- **Command: expresses God's perfect will, reflects his heart.**
- **Concession: allowed by God because we live in a fallen world and have sinful hearts.**

I. Confusion Over Divorce

- **Divorce is always a result of sin. (Not part of God's original plan)**



I. Confusion over Divorce

II. Jesus' View of Marriage.



II. Jesus' View of Marriage

- **According to Jesus, creation account is foundational to understanding God's design for marriage.**



II. Jesus' View of Marriage

- **According to Jesus, creation account is foundational to understanding God's design for marriage.**
- **God created marriage to be a sacred union between one man and one woman for life.**



II. Jesus' View of Marriage

- **Jesus is describing the permanence of marriage.**



II. Jesus' View of Marriage

- **Jesus is describing the permanence of marriage.**
- **Jesus is describing the intimacy of marriage.**



II. Jesus' View of Marriage

- **Two competing visions for marriage:
Consumer vs. Covenant.**



II. Jesus' View of Marriage

- **Two competing visions for marriage: Consumer vs. Covenant.**
- **Consumer relationship: connect based on how you can meet my needs.**



II. Jesus' View of Marriage

- **Two competing visions for marriage: Consumer vs. Covenant.**
- **Consumer relationship: connect based on how you can meet my needs.**
- **Covenant relationship: Commitment to be faithful to you no matter what.**

II. Jesus' View of Marriage

Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. ³² This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

Ephesians 5:31-32



II. Jesus' View of Marriage

Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. ³² This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

Ephesians 5:31-32

- **Marriage is ultimately a picture of God's unbreakable covenant of love with his bride—the Church.**

- I. Confusion over Divorce**
- II. Jesus' View of Marriage**
- III. Jesus' View of Divorce**



III. Jesus' View of Divorce

- **Some Christians believe that Jesus teaches divorce and remarriage is never permitted.**



III. Jesus' View of Divorce

- **Some Christians believe that Jesus teaches divorce and remarriage is never permitted.**

And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery.

Matthew 19:9

III. Jesus' View of Divorce

- **Why would Jesus say marriage is a covenant but still permit divorce for adultery?**



III. Jesus' View of Divorce

- **Why would Jesus say marriage is a covenant but still permit divorce for adultery?**
- **An act of adultery “kills” the covenant.**



III. Jesus' View of Divorce

- **Why would Jesus say marriage is a covenant but still permit divorce for adultery?**
- **An act of adultery “kills” the covenant.**
- **Adultery makes divorce *permissible*, but not *mandatory*.**



III. Jesus' View of Divorce

If any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he should not divorce her. If any woman has a husband who is an unbeliever, and he consents to live with her, she should not divorce him... But if the unbelieving partner separates, let it be so. In such cases the brother or sister is not enslaved.

1 Corinthians 7:12-15

III. Jesus' View of Divorce

- **The Bible teaches divorce is permissible if an unbelieving spouse deserts the marriage. Free to remarry.**

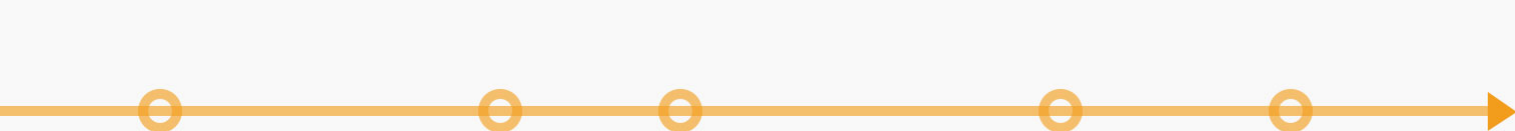


I. Confusion over Divorce

II. Jesus' View of Marriage

III. Jesus' View of Divorce

IV. Applying the Gospel of Grace



IV. Applying the Gospel of Grace

Singles:

- **Let the Bible shape your view of marriage.**



IV. Applying the Gospel of Grace

Singles:

- **Let the Bible shape your view of marriage.**
- **Consider God's vision for marriage.**



IV. Applying the Gospel of Grace

Singles:

- **Let the Bible shape your view of marriage.**
- **Consider God's vision for marriage.**
- **Marriage is a good gift from God and so is singleness.**



IV. Applying the Gospel of Grace

- **If your marriage is healthy, give thanks to God. Realize it's all grace.**



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- **If your marriage is healthy, give thanks to God. Realize it's all grace.**
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IV. Applying the Gospel of Grace

- **If your marriage is healthy, give thanks to God. Realize it's all grace.**
- **If you are in a difficult marriage, reject the myth that the right person is still out there.**
- **Marrying someone else will not fix all your problems.**

IV. Applying the Gospel of Grace

- **Fight for your marriage. Do it “as unto the Lord.”**



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- **Fight for your marriage. Do it “as unto the Lord.”**
- **Remember that the grace of God always empowers us to obey the commands of God.**



IV. Applying the Gospel of Grace

- **Fight for your marriage. Do it “as unto the Lord.”**
- **Remember that the grace of God always empowers us to obey the commands of God.**
- **Get support from a pastor or counselor.**



IV. Applying the Gospel of Grace

- **If your divorce was biblically permissible, it's normal to still grieve the loss. But, you don't have to be ashamed.**



IV. Applying the Gospel of Grace

- **If your divorce was biblically permissible, it's normal to still grieve the loss. But, you don't have to be ashamed.**
- **Are you willing to pray for God to restore your marriage if possible?**



IV. Applying the Gospel of Grace

- **If your divorce was biblically permissible, it's normal to still grieve the loss. But, you don't have to be ashamed.**
- **Are you willing to pray for God to restore your marriage if possible?**
- **Have you given God time to bring healing?**

DivorceCare

the gospel of

MARK

IV. Applying the Gospel of Grace

- **If you are divorced or remarried in part due to your sin, there is forgiveness as the cross.**



IV. Applying the Gospel of Grace

- **If you are divorced or remarried in part due to your sin, there is forgiveness as the cross.**
- **God does his best work in our worst situations.**

