

Disciples Church

Marriage & Singleness Series - Session 4

Q29. What is Marriage?-Part 3: Until Death Do Us Part

Week of January 24, 2018

**DISCUSSION GUIDE**

1. Read this portion of the opening quote together: “We want to start ... at the heart of our faith in Christ. When Jesus died, He did not fail to atone for the misdeeds of His people in this critical area. Even the person who has acted as wrongly as possible in this matter may be fully forgiven, and may have a fulfilled life of service to God after repentance.”

* Why is it important that all of us begin with the gospel as our comfort and hope in this topic? And how does this gospel help us love others in truth?
* Does this gospel good news mean we can knowingly sin so that our temporary life on this creation is more in alignment with what we personally want? (See Romans 6:1-2 if a Scripture reference is needed.)

1. Fill in the blanks: According to God’s word, your pastors and group leaders are here to walk with \_\_\_\_\_\_, love \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and help \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with current marriage struggles or past hurts stemming from divorce.
2. Fill in the blanks: The Permanence View teaches from Scripture:

-The one-flesh union created in marriage is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ until the death of one of the spouses.

-Initiating or longing for a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is never lawful.

-Remarrying after divorce is an act of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ if a former spouse is living.

1. What helps Bible readers understand less clear, narrative, or seemingly contradictory passages? (Choose all that apply)

* Didactic passages
* Tota Scriptura
* Creation Ordinances
* Ambiguous passages
* Latter revelation in Scripture teaching on the topic in question

1. When considering the topic of divorce and remarriage, why is it important to understand that marriage is a Creation Ordinance?

* In what verse do we see marriage established as a Creation Ordinance?
* Fill in the blanks: In the Creation Ordinance, God declared that a married couple must “\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_” to each other because they have “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”

1. Regarding Ephesians 5:31-32, how many and which of our hermeneutical tools are present in/drawn from this passage?
2. Why is Ephesians 5:31-32 extremely helpful when considering divorce and remarriage?
3. When Paul explains the law of marriage in Romans 7:1-3, what does he teach is the one and only thing that releases spouses from the marriage covenant?
4. When Paul speaks to the ending of a marriage in 1 Corinthians 7:39, what does he teach is the one and only thing that releases spouses from the marriage covenant?
5. In 1 Corinthians 7, Paul teaches that the one-flesh union created in marriage is permanent until death and that initiating or longing for a divorce is never lawful. Whose teachings is Paul restating in this?

* If there are words/concepts in the earlier teaching that seem to contradict the Creation Ordinance, should this later teaching of Paul help us understand the earlier teaching he is restating? Why?

1. What audience/type of people is Mark’s Gospel written to first and foremost?
2. Did Jesus affirm the Pharisee’s understanding on God’s will for marriage and divorce?
3. Why is it important to see all the verses we looked at tonight when considering marriage, divorce, and remarriage?

* What common truth/foundation do all of these inspired writers/speakers share and reassert?
* Spend some time in prayer.