

Divorce—[Mark 10:1–12](#)

Topics:

Divorce, Adultery, Creation, Law, Marriage, New Covenant, Separation, Teaching

Open It

1. *What do you think makes a marriage strong and lasting?
2. How do the people you work with view people with struggling or failed marriages?

Explore It

1. Where did this episode take place? ([10:1](#))
2. What does this passage say about Christ's attitude toward His ministry? ([10:1](#))
3. *Why did the Pharisees go to see Jesus? ([10:2](#))
4. How did the Pharisees try to trick Jesus? ([10:2](#))
5. How did Jesus respond to the Pharisees' question? ([10:3](#))
6. Why do you think Jesus brought Moses into this discussion? ([10:3](#))
7. What did Moses allow in the area of divorce? ([10:4](#))
8. *How did Jesus explain Moses' instructions? ([10:5](#))

9. What do we learn about the Pharisees from Jesus' explanation of Moses' words? ([10:5](#))
10. How did Jesus explain the relationship between the Law and the will of God? ([10:5–9](#))
11. How did Jesus lend authority to His words? ([10:6–9](#))
12. *What was God's original plan for marriage before sin entered the picture? ([10:6–9](#))
13. What is the meaning of "they are no longer two, but one"? ([10:8](#))
14. What overriding principle did Jesus want us to follow? ([10:9](#))
15. Why did this topic come up a second time that day? ([10:10](#))
16. What specific instructions did Jesus give regarding divorce? ([10:11–12](#))
17. How did Jesus protect women with His instructions? ([10:11–12](#))

Get It

1. How do you think the Pharisees expected to trick Jesus?
2. What do we learn about human nature from Jesus' answer to the Pharisees' question?
3. Why do you think Jesus referred back to the "beginning of creation" in this debate?

4. How could a person separate “what God has joined together”?
5. Why do you think the disciples asked Jesus about their question privately?
6. How should we view people with struggling or failed marriages?
7. *How can the church help people with struggling or failed marriages?
8. How can the church help its members strengthen and even save their marriages?
9. Why do you think so many marriages fail?
10. *What can you do to strengthen your own marriage or encourage a couple who is experiencing difficulty in this area?
11. What attitude should we have toward marriage?
12. How should a Christian’s understanding of marriage differ from that of the popular image?
13. How can a strong Christian marriage be an effective witness to unbelievers?

Apply It

1. What is one specific step you can take this week to show respect for the sanctity of marriage?

2. *For what couple can you pray every day this week?