



Let me start by saying thank you for downloading the following sermon notes.

I hope you find them a precious resource as you share the good news of Jesus.

Our ministry provides these notes as a free resource but in exchange I would ask that you visit ednewton.com to learn more about our ministry and how you can be involved.

Much Love!

Pastor Ed

Title: Kingdom People

Text: Matthew 5:31-32

Target: To understand that Jesus reframes the conversation of divorce in order to create HONOR **FOR** marriage and HEALING to those who have been wounded **BY** marriage.

1. **Conviction TOWARD Divorce:** *“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’”* (Matthew 5:31)
 - A. **Marriage is a Picture:**
 - i. Created to Complete: Matthew 19:3-5
 - ii. Covenant not a Contract: Matthew 19:6
 - B. **Divorce gave Permission:**
 - i. Not a Commandment, but a Concession: Matthew 19:7-9
 - ii. Convenience instead of Commitment: Deuteronomy 24:1-4

Special Note: This was a controversial conversation in effort to trap Jesus.

2. **Clause FOR Divorce:** *“But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, **except on the ground** of sexual immorality (Porneia) makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.”* (Matthew 5:32)
 - A. **Adultery:** Matthew 19:9
 1. Violates Oneness
 - i. Violates Openness
 - B. **Abandonment:** 1 Corinthians 7:13, 15
 1. Unbelieving Spouse that Separates
 - i. Unrepentant Spouse that Abdicates
 - C. ***Abuse:** Romans 13:1
 1. Report it to the Authorities
 2. Seek Safety
 - i. Share with CBC Cares.

Special Note: Reconciliation is always the goal demonstrated by both parties with counsel.

3. **Clarity ABOUT Divorce:** *He declared, “I will make you my wife forever, showing you righteousness and justice, unfailing love and compassion. I will be faithful to you and make you mine, and you will finally know me as the Lord.”* (Hosea 2:19-20 NLT)
 - A. **God does NOT hate divorced people.** (Malachi 2:13-16)
 - i. He hates the carelessness of Divorce
 1. He hates the consequences of Divorce
 - B. **Divorce is NOT an unforgivable sin.** (Luke 12:10)
 - i. Divorce is not your Identity.
 - ii. Remarriage is possible.

C. **Your Pain has Purpose:** (Romans 8:28)

Take Away: Caution to those thinking about Divorce:

- Fear is never a good motivator.
- Don't ignore ongoing problems.
- Fix You versus You Fix