

GRADUATE STUDIES IN CHURCH LEADERSHIP
COURSE 6: PASTORING MARRIAGE – CREATIONAL DESIGN
April 19, 2026

THE SITUATION:

¹ “When Jesus had finished saying these things, He left Galilee and went into the region of Judea beyond the Jordan. ² Large crowds followed Him, and He healed them there.”
Matthew 19:1-2 (BSB)

³ “Then some Pharisees came and tested Him by asking, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any reason?”
Matthew 19:3 (BSB)

- THIS WAS A TRAP TO _____ AND _____
JESUS.

A BRIEF OVERVIEW:

- JESUS’ _____ WILL BE “_____.”
- JESUS ANSWERS BY _____ MARRIAGE ACCORDING TO
GOD’S _____.

WHY DIVORCE IS NOT ALLOWABLE “FOR ANY REASON”:

⁴ “Jesus answered, “Have you not read that from the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female...’
Matthew 19:4 (BSB)

- GOD’S _____ DEFINES GOD’S
_____.

○ AT THE BEGINNING, GOD MADE _____ OF _____.

- THIS RULED OUT _____,
_____, AND _____.

⁵ “...the two will become one flesh...”
Matthew 19:5 (BSB)

○ THE _____ AND _____

OF MEN AND WOMEN ARE _____ TO THE _____ OF
MARRIAGE.

- MEN AND WOMEN _____ BEAR THE _____
OF _____ AND _____ OVER THE
_____.

²⁶ “Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness, to rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, and over all the earth itself and every creature that crawls upon it....’” Genesis 1:26 (BSB)

²⁷ “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.” Genesis 1:27 (BSB)

▪ **MEN AND WOMEN WERE CREATED AT DIFFERENT**

_____, IN DIFFERENT _____, AND WITH DIFFERENT

_____.

⁷ “Then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed the breath of life into his nostrils, and the man became a living being... ²¹So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep, and while he slept, He took one of the man’s ribs and closed up the area with flesh. ²²And from the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man, He made a woman and brought her to him.” Genesis 2: 7, 21-22 (BSB)

¹⁵ “Then the LORD God took the man and placed him in the Garden of Eden to cultivate and keep it.... ¹⁸The LORD God also said, ‘It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make for him a suitable helper....’ ²⁰And Adam named his wife Eve, because she would be the mother of all the living.” Genesis 2:15, 18, 3:20 (BSB)

¹ “Wives... submit yourselves to your own husbands... ⁷Husbands... be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect...” 1 Peter 3:1, 7 (BSB)

²² “Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church... ²⁵Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her ...” Ephesians 5, 22-23, 25 (BSB)

¹³ “For Adam was formed first, and then Eve.” 1 Timothy 2:13 (BSB)

▪ **DIVORCE _____ FROM _____**

_____ TO GOD’S DESIGN.

BOTTOM LINE:

GREAT _____ DON’T _____ GOD’S _____.

NEXT STEPS

- **PARENT FORUM**
 - Ask God if you are harboring unforgiveness in your heart and ask God to forgive the person/people who harmed you.