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RELATIONSHIPS

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A couple holding hands in a field, with a map of Texas in the background. The image is split vertically, with the left side showing the couple and the right side showing a light background with a map of Texas and decorative elements.

# Divorce & Remarriage

**REAL** **ATI**ONSHIPS

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# Divorce & Remarriage

- Can be hard to set aside your emotions and previous thinking, and look honestly & openly at what the Word of God actually says.
- Help & healing
- Our heart is to honor God, and rightly divide the Word of God.

A couple is shown from the waist down, holding hands in a grassy field. The person on the left wears a plaid shirt and jeans, while the person on the right wears a grey sweater and dark pants. The background is a soft-focus landscape. A dotted map of Texas is visible in the lower right quadrant. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern, with a light color palette and decorative geometric elements like small 'x' marks and colored bars.

# Divorce

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# Divorce

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- Saying that the Cross isn't complete.

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# Divorce

- To many, it seems to be the unpardonable sin.
- Saying that the Cross isn't complete.
- Saying that you can put a stain in your garment that the blood of Jesus can't wash out.

**God: "I hate divorce."**

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- Prov. 17:25 - Hates those who defend the guilty

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- Prov. 20:23 - Deception & dishonest are an abomination to Him
- Prov. 17:25 - Hates those who defend the guilty
- Prov. 12:22 - Detests lying lips

# God: "I hate divorce."

- Prov. 6:16-19 - "There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies, and a person who stirs up conflict in the community."

# Jeremiah 3:8-10

I gave faithless Israel her certificate of divorce and sent her away because of all her adulteries. Yet I saw that her unfaithful sister Judah had no fear; she also went out and committed adultery.

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# Matthew 12:31

And so I tell you, every kind of sin and slander can be forgiven, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.

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# Divorce

- God didn't institute it, but He does regulate it.

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# Divorce

- God didn't institute it, but He does regulate it.
- Under some circumstances, divorce is proper.

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# Balanced Biblical View

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3. Be clear that those who wrongly, sinfully (on other than biblical grounds) obtain a divorce, need to recognize and repent of their sin.

# Balanced Biblical View

1. Hate all of the things that God hates about divorce.
2. Recognize that in this sinful world, there are going to be situations in which it may be necessary to obtain a divorce.
3. Be clear that those who wrongly, sinfully (on other than biblical grounds) obtain a divorce, need to recognize and repent of their sin.
4. Understand that precisely because it's a sin, it's forgivable.



# Matthew 19:3

Some Pharisees came to Him to test Him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?"

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# Matthew 19:4-6

Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no man separate.

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# Matthew 19:7

Why then did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?

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# Matthew 19:8

Because of the hardness of your heart, Moses permitted you to divorce your wives. But from the beginning, it was not this way.

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# Judgment

- An application of the Law to a specific set of circumstances.

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# Deuteronomy 24:1

When a man takes a wife and marries her, and it happens that 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 from his house,

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When a man takes a wife and marries her, and it happens that 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 from his house,

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# Matthew 19:8-9

Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because of the hardness of your hearts. I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

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# Matthew 19:8-9

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- porneia = pre-marital sex, homosexuality, adultery

# 1 Corinthians 7

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- v. 2-6 – importance of intimacy in a marriage

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# 1 Corinthians 7

- v. 2-6 - importance of intimacy in a marriage
- v. 7 - only some have the gift of celibacy
- v. 9 - all others, including unmarried & widows need to marry
- v. 10 - "To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord)."
- v. 12 - "To the rest I (not the Lord) say..."

# 1 Corinthians 7

- In v. 10-11, I'm repeating the clear teachings of Jesus.
- In v. 12-16, I'm dealing with an issue that Jesus didn't speak to.

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# 1 Corinthians 7

- In v. 10-11 – born-again believers married to born-again believers
- In v. 12-16 – born-again believers married to unbelievers

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# 1 Corinthians 7:10-11

To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband. But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife.

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- chorizo = separated by divorce
- If you've been divorced - other than for adultery or abandonment:
  - Reconcile with your previous spouse
  - Stay unmarried, giving time for the possibility of reconciliation

# 1 Corinthians 7:12-15

But to the rest I say, not the Lord, that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he must not divorce her. And a woman who has an unbelieving husband, and he consents to live with her, she must not send her husband away. For the unbelieving husband is sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified through her believing husband; for otherwise your children are unclean, but now they are holy. Yet if the unbelieving one leaves, let him leave; the brother or the sister is not under bondage in such cases, but God has called us to peace.

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# 1 Corinthians 7:12-15

- The believer must **not** divorce his unbelieving spouse, **if** the spouse is willing to make a go of their marriage.

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# 1 Corinthians 7:12-15

- The believer must **not** divorce his unbelieving spouse, **if** the spouse is willing to make a go of their marriage.
- **But if** after the believer has done all they can, the unbelieving spouse **doesn't want** to continue their marriage, divorce is an acceptable alternative.

# 1 Corinthians 7:15

Under these circumstances the brother or sister is not bound.

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Under these circumstances the brother or sister is not bound.

- They are free from the marriage.
- And like the one whose marriage was dissolved because of adultery, they are now free to marry again.



# 1 Corinthians 7:15

- "God has called us to peace."

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