

RELATIONSHIP GOALS



Relationship Goals - Part 5 - Now What?
Pastor Ray Hammond - March 1, 2020

Jesus on Divorce

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?"

⁴ "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' ⁵ and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? ⁶ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." ⁷ "Why then," they asked, "did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?"

⁸ Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. ⁹ I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery." – Matthew 19:3-9

- Divorce BREAKS God's heart.
- Divorce is allowed (but NOT required) in cases of:
 - ADULTERY
 - ABANDONMENT
 - ABUSE
- Divorce is only ever to be a LAST RESORT.

Avoiding Divorce in My Marriage

1. Make up my mind that marriage is FOREVER.

Jesus: "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." – Matthew 19:5

2. Deal with my problems PROACTIVELY.

Jesus: ²⁷ "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' ²⁸ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell." – Matthew 5:27-29

3. Do EVERYTHING I CAN to reconcile with my spouse.

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. – Romans 12:18

Be even-tempered, content with second place, quick to forgive an offense. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master forgave you. – Colossians 3:13

Now What?

³ He [the Lord] heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. ⁴ He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name. – Psalm 147:3-4

- Trust God to bring HEALING AND HOPE.