

SERMON NOTES

TELL ME ABOUT HIS RESPECT FOR MARRIAGE

Mark 10:1-12



BIG IDEA: Jesus respects God's original design for marriage by exposing hard hearts and reinforcing covenant faithfulness.

APPLICATION GUIDE

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

DISCUSS

What's one message our culture sends about marriage that you think conflicts with God's design?

EXPLORE

What's the motive behind the Pharisees' question about divorce?

How does Jesus shift the focus of the Pharisees' question?

Why does Jesus give an answer from Genesis 1-2 to a question about Deuteronomy 24?

When we compare Mark 10 with Matthew 5:32, 19:9, and 1 Corinthians 7:15, what do the exceptions tell us about human sin—and what does Jesus' return to Genesis tell us about God's original intention?

How can we, as a church, clearly uphold God's design for marriage while also compassionately walking with those in painful or broken situations?

APPLY

Where are you most tempted to ask, "What's permitted?" instead of, "What honors God?"

If hardness of heart is the root issue, what kind of heart do you need right now — softened, healed, or confronted?

COMMIT

Pick one of the following: "This week, I will seek to honor what God has joined by..."

- Initiating reconciliation.
- Refusing a bitter narrative.
- Praying daily for my spouse (or future spouse).
- Guarding my thought life.
- Seeking counsel instead of escape.

Pray with other believers, "Lord, soften our hearts and strengthen our faithfulness."