

# Sermon Guide



## **"Marriage: God's Story"** **August 21st**

"...but from the beginning it was not so."  
**Matthew 19:3-9**

1. **Teresa described divorce as a "violent ripping apart of flesh."** Rick and Teresa shared that Fellowship believes that divorce can be necessary. However, we also view divorce lightly in our culture and even in our churches. Are there ways you see that happening in your life?
2. **Teresa gave us the category of "emotional divorce."** Though we don't *technically* leave a person or relationship, we create space from him/her or begin to weigh our options... Rather than going to the Father. If you are married, how have you seen this temptation in your relationship? If you are single, how do you see this propensity in your close relationships?
3. **Marriage is a redemption story (as are all relationships).** How does that reframe difficult seasons you have faced in your marriage? Or if you are single, in your close relationships?
4. **Marriage doesn't cause our problems. It simply reveals them.** How has your marriage or close relationships recently revealed your sin, need for God, or need for growth?
5. **Rick said every person wants to be part of a redemption story. Yet, most people do not want to live in one.** What is one part of your redemption story you want to share?
6. **The Church is the Bride of Christ.** As such, we need to be careful how we talk about the Bride. We need to be honest about our experiences, but we also must honor God's Bride. How do you want to grow in this practice?

**We often talk about taking your next step of faith with Jesus.** As you reflect on this week's teaching, what is the next step of faith you'll commit to?