

# THINGS I WISH JESUS NEVER SAID

## PART SEVEN: UNONE

We believe the goal of marriage is “oneness.” But God says, in fact, the result of marriage is “oneness.” In this message, Chris explores Jesus’ difficult statement about marriage, divorce, and remarriage. And he explains why trying to “un-one” what God has joined may just be harder than we think.

**BIG IDEA:** Don’t attempt to un-one what God has made one.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How have the issues of divorce and remarriage impacted you personally or people close to you?
2. How, according to Chris, was the early church’s treatment of marriage and women countercultural? In your view, was that a healthy development for people and society?
3. Why do people look for loopholes?
4. *Read through Jesus’ teachings in Matthew 5:27-35 and Matthew 19:3-10.*



*“You have heard that it was said, ‘Do not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, 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. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell. “It has been said, ‘Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to become an adulteress, and anyone who marries the divorced woman commits adultery. “Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, but keep the oaths you have made to the Lord.’ But I tell you, Do not swear at all: either by heaven, for it is God’s throne; or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King.*

*Matthew 5:27-35*

*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?” “Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’ 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’? So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.” “Why then,” they asked, “did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?” Jesus replied, “Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery.” The disciples said to him, “If this is the situation between a husband and wife, it is better not to marry.”*

*Matthew 19:3-10*

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5. How were these teachings shocking to the original hearers? What parts shock you the most?
6. The teachings this week are extremely different from what you might hear anywhere else. What parts are the most difficult for you to accept? Why? What parts resonated with you? Why?
7. If you're not in your first marriage, how can you best experience the grace of God in the life situation in which you find yourself today?

#### MOVING FORWARD

Is there anything you need to confess—to God, to each other or to anyone else? How and when will you do that? Who can help you do that?

#### CHANGING YOUR MIND

*'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.'* Matthew 19:5-6



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