

## Study Guide

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### Small Group Questions *February 8 & 9, 2020*

In Mark 10:1-31, Jesus addresses three issues that pertain to a Christian household: marriage (vv.1-12), children (vv.13-16), and possessions (vv.17-31). We will cover each of these in turn.

1. In that culture, a husband could divorce his wife easily and unilaterally, and she had no recourse. *Read verses 1-12.* What is God's original intent for marriage (verses 6-8)? To what does Jesus attribute the underlying reason for divorce (verse 5)?

2. When is it permissible for Christians to get a divorce and remarry? *Compare Matthew 19:9 and 1 Corinthians 7:10-15.* Are there other exceptions? What about abuse?

3. Some people today claim that Jesus never spoke to the issue of homosexuality. Yet how does he affirm the traditional view of marriage in this passage? Would you attend the wedding ceremony of two people of the same gender? Why or why not?

4. *Read verses 13-16.* Why were the disciples trying to hinder children from coming to Jesus? What does this story tell us about Christian childrearing?

## Study Guide, continued

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5. For the parents in the group, assess how you treat your children. How are you balancing their physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual needs? Are you giving them too little attention? Or too much?

6. *Read verses 17-31.* In verse 19, Jesus lists some of the Ten Commandments. What is the significance of him omitting the Tenth Commandment in light of this man's issue (compare Exodus 20:17)?

7. Why does Jesus command this man to divest himself of his possessions (verse 21)? How does this apply to our priorities today?

In the accountability time, have the group assess their home life, and then pray for each other.