

## RELATIONSHIP GOALS COVENANT KEEPING

*Some Pharisees came to him [Jesus] to test him. They asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?”<sup>4</sup> “Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’<sup>5</sup> 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’?”<sup>6</sup> So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” Matthew 19:3-6 NIV*

### THREE APPROACHES TO MARRIAGE

- Casual approach—Marriage is just a piece of paper.
  - Contractual approach—Marriage is a contract.
  - Covenantal approach—Marriage is a holy covenant established by God.
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- A contract is based on mutual distrust.
  - A covenant is based on mutual commitment.

*Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure ...*  
Hebrews 13:4 NIV

*If we are faithless, he remains faithful, for he cannot disown himself.*  
2 Timothy 2:13 NIV