

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT
How to Divorce Proof Your Marriage
Matthew 5:31-32
Week 4 June 18, 2023
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Marriage is the covenant that forms the indispensable building block of our society.

DIVORCE HAPPENS BEFORE THE PAPERWORK

It has been said, 'Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.' Matthew 5:31 NIV

Remember the Scripture that says, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him do it legally, giving her divorce papers and her legal rights?' Matthew 5:31 MSG

*If a **man** marries a woman who becomes displeasing to **him** because he finds something indecent about her, and **he** writes her a certificate of divorce, gives it to her and sends her from **his** house...* Deuteronomy 24:1 NIV

The final act of a marriage dissolved is not one swift act but a series of cuts and tears in the marriage fabric that eventually gives way to greater rifts and finally complete separation of the couple.

An act of divorce is any hurt left unreconciled. It is a breaking of the wedding vow.

AN ACT OF DIVORCE ADULTERATES THE HEART

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. Matthew 5:32 NIV

Every act of divorce that goes unrepaired can combine with others to open a rift in a marriage that if left unchecked could end the marriage. That is a real threat.

THERE IS ONLY ONE CAUSE FOR DIVORCE

When a relationship and heart is adulterated, what keeps it from becoming pure again? **A HARD HEART**

It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law," Jesus replied. "But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.' '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." Mark 10:5-9 NIV

WEDDING VOW

I, _____, take you _____, as my life long companion,
To have and to hold from this day forward,

For better for worse, for richer for poorer,
In sickness and in health.

I promise to love and cherish you always.
I will be slow to anger, and quick to forgive.

I promise to respect you before God and all people,
According to God's Holy Word,

Till death do us part.

Therefore I give myself to you in marriage

Be gentle with one another, sensitive. Forgive one another as quickly and thoroughly as God in Christ forgave you. Ephesians 4:32 MSG