

Divorce & ReMarriage

Current Reality:

What do we know for certain about marriage?

1. God created marriage between one man and one woman. (Genesis 2:22-25)
2. God designed marriage to be a permanent union of “oneness” that is not to be broken. (Genesis 2:23-24; Matthew 19:4-6)
3. Marriage is a covenant. (Malachi 2:14; Proverbs 2:17; Ecclesiastes 5:4)
4. A marriage partnership is one in which the husband commits to ensuring his wife’s and his children’s well being. (Exodus 21:10; Ephesians 5:28-29; 1 Timothy 5:8)
5. A husband is accountable for his family’s well-being and conduct. (Genesis 3:9; Ephesians 5:22-23; Colossians 3:18-21; 1 Peter 3:1-7)
6. God hates divorce. (Malachi 2:16)
7. The death of a spouse terminates the marriage covenant. (Romans 7:1-3; 1 Corinthians 7:39)

What constitutes the legitimate ending of a marriage?

1. The death of a spouse. (1 Corinthians 7:39; Romans 7:2-4)
2. Adultery. (Deuteronomy 22:22)
3. Non-Christian divorce. (1 Corinthians 7:10-24)
4. A wide range of sexual sins. (Matthew 5:32; 19:9)
5. Treachery or treasonous betrayal. (Malachi 2:14-16)
6. Hardness of Heart. (Matthew 19:8; Mark 10:5)

What about me? I am single:

1. Plan now for marriage.
2. Don’t date non-Christians.
3. Don’t do the friends with benefits thing.
4. Don’t co-habitate.
5. I think I found the “one”. Now what? Pre-marriage counseling!

MEDITATION / APPLICATION

Please Note: If you are interested in getting involved in a Crossroads Community Group, please visit www.crossroadschurchaustin.com and choose Get Connected.

1. What is God’s purpose for marriage? Does my marriage reflect that purpose? For singles, how can you prep for God’s purpose of marriage as you date?
2. Given that 9 out of 10 people in the US will be married at some point and that 50% of those marriages end in divorce, how have you been touched (affected) by divorce?
3. If you are married, what was your pre-marital counseling process like? If engaged, what steps have you taken to prepare for marriage? If single, what are your thoughts toward pre-marital counseling? Share aloud and then discuss best practices for your life situation.
4. What were two biblical reasons given for a possible divorce to be granted on Sunday? Have you ever witnessed an example of these scenarios?
5. Given your stage of life, what is the next step spiritually for you as it relates to marital love? (My wife and I need to pursue counseling for issues that are causing friction in our marriage; My fiancé and I need to take steps toward marriage and stop living together; We need to pursue premarital counseling; As a single, I need to develop a list of non-negotiables for prospective dates.)
6. What else “struck” you from Sunday that you want to talk about tonight that has not been mentioned?

