

Till Death Do Us Part

Matthew 19:1-12

Getting Started

Name 3 key ingredients of a lasting marriage.

Digging In

1. **Read Matthew 19:1-2.** Describe the setting.
2. **Read Matthew 19:3-6.** Paraphrase the question of the Pharisees.
3. The Pharisees wanted Jesus to specify the allowable reason for divorce. How does Jesus reframe the question?
4. **Read Genesis 1:27 and 2:24.** What are the main ideas Jesus draws from these verses in Matthew 19:4-6?
5. Explain the meaning of each of these ideas. E.g., what does it mean to *leave father and mother*?
6. How is God seen to have a key part in the institution of marriage?
7. **Read Matthew 19:7-9.** The Pharisees begin with the assumption that Moses commanded divorce. Is this a correct assumption? Why or why not? (cf. Deuteronomy 24:1-4)
8. How does Jesus correct the interpretation of the Pharisees?
9. Why did God (through Moses) permit divorce under certain circumstances?
10. How does Jesus confront a casual attitude toward divorce in v. 9?
11. What is the exception that Jesus mentions?
12. Why did the disciples conclude that it was better not to marry?
13. How does Jesus explain that singleness is a gift given to some, but not to everyone?



Getting Personal

- If you are married, what are you doing to build your marriage?
- If you are not married, but someday hope to be, how are you preparing for marriage?
- How are you promoting God's ideal?