

Sacred: God's Design for Marriage

A Persevering Devotion

Matthew 19:4-6 (ESV)

⁴He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, ⁵and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? ⁶So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

The question: "Is it lawful to divorce?"

Jesus' answer:

- 1) Start with God's _____.
- 2) _____ is part of the plan.
- 3) Marriage is made _____ because it is _____ who joins us.

What about Moses and Deuteronomy 24:1-4?

Answer:

Under the law, Moses conceded to their _____.

In Christ, we have _____ and the ability to _____!

The model for marriage now is _____ and _____!

Ephesians 5:31-32 (ESV)

³¹"Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." ³²This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

How to hold fast:

_____ and apply it to your marriage – not just once, but over and over and over. (Romans 1:16, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Philippians 2:13)

Motivated by the message it declares ...

Enabled by the power it provides ...

Practice _____ –making the right choice again & again.

Husbands: Take the responsibility God has given you to _____.

_____ for it.

_____ for it.

Some practical wisdom on marriage from those who've done it longer than you*:

- Don't even _____ divorce.
- Pray for _____.
- Be willing to say _____ (and be willing to say it _____).
- Learn to _____ (and let it go).
- Be _____ with your _____.
- Do things _____ that you _____.
- Let him _____. (And let her ...)
- _____ each other from the _____.
- Be around _____.
- Go to _____.
- _____ lots _____ and _____ each other.
- Keep _____ at the _____ of your life and marriage.
- _____ and _____.

* From an informal poll of some of our senior saints

This week, I'm going to ...