

April 9, 2017

The Gospel of Mark "Following Jesus" Mark 10:1-12 Pastor Kirk Gambrell.

Vol. 7 Number 15

Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week in our study of the book of Mark, we come to a very challenging topic for today's church. The Pharisees question Jesus about divorce. The Pharisees are not concerned with the correct answer, they are simply testing Jesus. They are trying to trap Him, and reduce His influence with the people. The Pharisees already have an opinion on the matter. There are two different camps and both of them permit divorce in the Jewish tradition. Jesus' answer does not take one side or the other. Instead, He gets to the heart of the issue and gives a different perspective on divorce.



Read Mark 10:1-12 (NET)

¹ Then Jesus left that place and went to the region of Judea and beyond the Jordan River. Again crowds gathered to him, and again, as was his custom, he taught them. ² Then some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" ³ He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" ⁴ They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." ⁵ But Jesus said to them, "He wrote this commandment for you because of your hard hearts. ⁶ But from the beginning of creation he

made them male and female. ⁷ For this reason a man will leave his father and mother, ⁸ and the two will become one flesh. So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹ Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

¹⁰ In the house once again, the disciples asked him about this. ¹¹ So he told them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her. ¹² And if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

🕯 **EXAMINE His Word (Observation)** (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?

5. What is emphasized?

6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?

7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

🕒 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

8. Why do you think the Pharisees asked Jesus about divorce? (Consider what happened to John the Baptist when he talked about the issue in Mark 6:17-19)

9. What does the commandment of Moses really say? (Deut. 24:1-4)?

10. What is God's ideal plan for marriage? (Read the passage Jesus is referring to in Genesis 2:22-24)

11. How does Jesus command them to treat divorce?

③ EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)

Why does this MATTER to me?

12. How should we treat divorce in the church today?

13. Is there ever a time when divorce may be the best option?

14. Above all, Jesus is concerned with the condition of the heart. As a follower of Christ, what should we consider to be at the heart of the issue of divorce in the church?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

SERMON NOTES