

## Jesus' Teaching on Marital Fidelity and Divorce

Matthew 5:27-32

#6 Sermon on the Mount

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### God's call to marital fidelity-the standard and how to keep it

<sup>27</sup>"You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY'; <sup>28</sup>but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup>If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup>If your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to go into hell."

(Matthew 5:27-30)

### What about divorce and remarriage?

<sup>31</sup>"It was said, 'WHOEVER SENDS HIS WIFE AWAY, LET HIM GIVE HER A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE'; <sup>32</sup>but I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for *the* reason of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery."

(Matthew 5:31-32)

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

**Monday:** Read Genesis 2:18-25 and write a definition of marriage from the text. Who is involved in the union and what are five relational aspects to it?

**Tuesday:** Read Deuteronomy 24:1-4; 22:13-19; Leviticus 21:7, 14; Ezra 10:1-19; Nehemiah 13:23-27; Deuteronomy 7:3-4; Isaiah 50:1 and Malachi 2:14-16. What guiding principles regarding divorce and remarriage do you discover?

**Wednesday:** Read Matthew 1:18-19; 5:31-32, and 19:1-12. What did Jesus teach about divorce and remarriage and how was His own home threatened by a possible divorce?

**Thursday:** Read Romans 7:1-3; 1 Corinthians 7:10-16, 39; and 1 Timothy 5:14. What principles do you discover regarding divorce and remarriage?

**Friday:** Review the Scriptures from this week's reflection questions and outline God's view of marriage and divorce. How does the gospel give you hope in the context of marital difficulties?

**Saturday:** Read Matthew 5:33-37. Prepare your heart for Sunday worship, and bring a friend with you to church tomorrow.