



## Marriage

*Some Pharisees came and tried to trap him with this question: “Should a man be allowed to divorce his wife for just any reason?”*

Matthew 19:3 (NLT)

*“Haven’t you read the Scriptures?” Jesus replied. “They record that from the beginning ‘God made them male and female.’” And he said, “This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.’ Since they are no longer two but one, let no one split apart what God has joined together.”*

Matthew 19:4-6 (NLT)

- Conflict is \_\_\_\_\_.

**SCREEN ONLY: “I always tell couples that you cannot eliminate conflict. If you are looking for someone to help you get rid of conflict, I can’t do that. What I can do is help you learn how to recover and how to repair.”**

**Marriage expert, Rick Blackmon, Ph.D in Clinical Psychology**

- The root cause of conflict is \_\_\_\_\_.

*Why do you fight and argue with each other? Isn't it because you are full of selfish desires that fight to control your body? You want something you don't have, and you will do anything to get it.*

James 4:1-2 (CEV)

**Four powerful forces we bring to marriage:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_.

3. \_\_\_\_\_.
4. \_\_\_\_\_.

*Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.*

Philippians 2:4 (NLT)

**Three relational circles that can unite or divide marriage:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_.

*For everything that happens in life—there is a season, a right time for everything under heaven.*

Ecclesiastes 3:1 (VOICE)

**SCREEN ONLY:                    Nurse – King – Coach – Friend**

**“Getting over a painful experience is much like crossing monkey bars. You have to let go at some point in order to move forward.”**

**C. S. Lewis**

*Just as an eagle stirs up its nest, encouraging its young to fly,  
and then hovers over them in case they need help,  
And spreads its wings and catches them if they fall,  
and carries them up high on its wings...*

Deuteronomy 32:11-12 (VOICE)

3. \_\_\_\_\_.

*Walk with the wise and become wise,  
for a companion of fools suffers harm.*

Proverbs 13:20 (NIV)

- \_\_\_\_\_ everyone.
- \_\_\_\_\_ those who point you to Jesus.

*When we get together, I want to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours.*

Romans 1:12 (NLT)

### Four C's of Honoring Marriage:

- \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_.

**SCREEN ONLY: “Never allow an apology to do the work of repentance.” Lewis B. Smedes**

- \_\_\_\_\_.

### Discussion Questions

1. In light of today's message, how can conflict be viewed as a healthy part of relationships?
2. What relational circles are you a part of that helps support your marriage during rough patches?
3. If you're single, how does today's message impact the way you think about singleness, dating and/or marriage?

### Recommended Resources

- *The Meaning of Marriage*, by Timothy Keller
- *Boundaries in Marriage*, by Dr's. John Townsend and Henry Cloud
- *The Relationship Cure*, by John M. Gottman, PhD

NLT (New Living Translation)  
NIV (New International Version)

CEV (Contemporary English Version)

VOICE (The Voice)

## Marriage - **FILL COPY**

*Some Pharisees came and tried to trap him with this question: "Should a man be allowed to divorce his wife for just any reason?"*

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*"Haven't you read the Scriptures?" Jesus replied. "They record that from the beginning 'God made them male and female.'" And he said, "'This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.' Since they are no longer two but one, let no one split apart what God has joined together."*

Matthew 19:4-6 (NLT)

- **Conflict is normal and inevitable.**

**SCREEN ONLY: "I always tell couples that you cannot eliminate conflict. If you are looking for someone to help you get rid of conflict, I can't do that. What I can do is help you learn how to recover and how to repair."**

**Marriage expert, Rick Blackmon, Ph.D in Clinical Psychology**

- **The root cause of conflict is selfishness.**

*Why do you fight and argue with each other? Isn't it because you are full of selfish desires that fight to control your body? You want something you don't have, and you will do anything to get it.*

James 4:1-2 (CEV)

**Four powerful forces we bring to marriage:**

1. **Gender.**
2. **Personality.**
3. **Background.**
4. **Values.**

*Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.*

Philippians 2:4 (NLT)

**Three relational circles that can unite or divide marriage:**

1. **Parents.**
2. **Kids.**

*For everything that happens in life—there is a season, a right time for everything under heaven.*  
Ecclesiastes 3:1 (VOICE)

**SCREEN ONLY: Nurse – King – Coach – Friend**

**“Getting over a painful experience is much like crossing monkey bars. You have to let go at some point in order to move forward.”**

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### **3. Friends.**

*Walk with the wise and become wise,  
for a companion of fools suffers harm.*

Proverbs 13:20 (NIV)

- **Hang around everyone.**
- **Hang with those who point you to Jesus.**

*When we get together, I want to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours.*

Romans 1:12 (NLT)

**Four C's of Honoring Marriage:**

- **Christ.**
- **Commitment.**
- **Communication.**

**SCREEN ONLY: “Never allow an apology to do the work of repentance.” Lewis B. Smedes**

- **Compromise.**

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