



Newsletter

SUNDAY: 9.30 a.m. Bible Study | 10.30 a.m. Worship

WEDNESDAY: 7.30 p.m. Mid Week Bible Study

Matthew 19 — Marriage Is a Relationship

In the latter portion of Jesus' earthly life, the Pharisees asked Him, "*Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?*" (Matthew 19:3). Jesus did not always give a verbal response when He was asked a question, but in this case He did.

Jesus' answer: "*Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate*" (Matthew 19:4-6).

From the words which Jesus spoke on that occasion, we learn a number of things about the marriage relationship. Marriage is a relationship that is universal in nature: it is for those of every nationality, every culture, and every race, including those who are in the Lord's church and those who are not. Because of that, every person in the world needs to give serious consideration to these truths set forth about marriage by the Master:

MEMORY VERSE

One Body-Many Members -Different Functions

For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function

Romans 12:4

If you know anyone who would love to study the Bible please contact any member of this congregation.

Marriage is a **God-ordained relationship** (19:4,5). God Himself is the one who established the marriage bond. For those who get married, God *created* them and He *joins* them in this relationship. It is an act of disrespect to the Lord to try and eradicate or even slightly alter the marriage relationship which He has instituted.

Marriage is a **male-and-female relationship** (19:4,5). In the words of Jesus, it is (1) "male and female," (2) "father and mother" (two genders), and (3) a man/husband and his wife. Jesus made it plain that, according to God's plan/will, marriage is for two humans of the opposite gender: female and male. Mockery of such a plan by calling it "outdated, traditional marriage" does not change a thing! Passing civil laws which give human approval to same-gender relationships does not modify a thing! And, religious leaders endorsing same-gender "marriage" cannot nullify the Christ's decree! Our Lord's words stand . . . they are final.

Marriage is a **God-regulated relationship** (19:4,5). God "said" it and we "read" it. He has expressed His will for marriage, and it is mankind's duty to accept His arrangement. Each of us should possess this mindset about marriage: "*I will hear what God the LORD will speak*" (Psalm 85:8).

Marriage is a **leaving-and-cleaving relationship** (19:5). A man leaves his parents and cleaves to his bride, showing a top-level commitment to her and their marriage together. A spouse should be more devoted to his/her marriage mate than they are to anyone except the Lord God.

Marriage is a **permanent relationship**. May a man divorce His wife for any cause? The Christ's implied answer was, "No," as He forbids humans to separate/put asunder the marriage union which God joins (19:6). The same God who established marriage hates divorce (Malachi 2:16).

As Jesus' conversation with the Pharisees continued, He further stated, "*And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality [fornication, KJV], and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery*" (Matthew 19:9). Thus, if a man divorces his wife when she has *not* committed fornication, then turns around and enters a "marriage" with a second woman, the Lord calls

calls that new relationship “adultery.” The implication is, if he divorces his original wife because she *has* committed fornication, then if he goes on to marry a second woman, that new relationship is *not* an adulterous union. Though not a part of the Matthew 19 context, it also is true that if one’s spouse dies, the surviving spouse no longer is counted as married to the deceased (Romans 7:2,3).

Any society is blessed when it gives heed to what the Lord of heaven and earth says about marriage and the family. Societies which fail to submit to His will for the home must face the unpleasant consequences of their unwise course of action. May God’s church be ready at all times to teach, support, and practice what He says about the marriage relationship.

-- Roger D. Campbell

Men to Serve

Bible Class: Leadership under fire (1 Peter 5:1-4)

Assembly: The Mind of Christ - Willingness to Endure Suffering Without Striking Back (Isaiah 53:7)

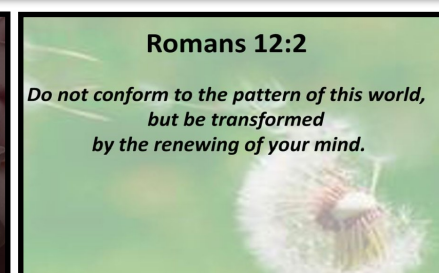
Morning Service	This Week	Next Week
Songs Before Class	Stephen	Alvin
Bible Class	Han	Peter
Song Leader	Jonathan	Stephen
Opening Prayer	Jonathan	Stephen
Lord’s Supper	Han	Randall
Scripture Reading	Tristan	Adam
Sermon	Charlie	Charlie
Prayer	Jonathan	Stephen



BIBLE TRIVIA QUESTIONS :

Creatures Great and Small : Dogs

1. What day in creation were dogs created? Genesis 1:24-31
2. How many dogs entered the ark? Genesis 6:19,20
3. Who prophesied that Jezebel would be eaten by dogs? 1 Kings 21:17-23
4. What did the dogs do to queen Jezebel when she died? 2 Kings 9:35,36
5. Who said to David, "Am I a dog, that you should come to me with staves?" 1 Samuel 17:4,43
6. What did the preacher in Ecclesiastes say that a living dog is better than? Ecclesiastes 9:4
7. As a dog returns to its vomit, so... Proverbs 26:11
8. Who, does Proverbs tell us, is like somebody who takes a passing dog by the ears? Proverbs 26:17
9. Jesus said, "Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they..." Matthew 7:6
10. What was the woman's response when Jesus told her that the children's bread was not for the dogs? Matthew 15:27



Prayer request?
Articles or News to share?

Send us an email or contact any of the members in this congregation.

We will be happy to include it in this Newsletter.

Answers: 1. Sixth day 2.Two 3.Elijah 4.Ate her, leaving only her skull, hands and feet 5.Goliath 6.A dead lion 7.A fool returns to his folly 8.One who meddles in the quarrel of another 9.trample them under their feet, and turn again and attack you. 10.Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.