**Sermon Notes**

**“The Meaning of Marriage”**

Mark 10:1–12

1 Jesus then left that place and went into the region of Judea and across the Jordan. Again crowds of people came to him, and as was his custom, he taught them. 2 Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” 3 “What did Moses command you?” he replied. 4 They said, “Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away.” 5 “It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law,” Jesus replied. 6 “But at the beginning of creation God ‘made them male and female.’ 7 ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, 8 and the two will become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one. 9 Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.” 10 When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this. 11 He answered, “Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. 12 And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery.”

***“Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?”***

 School of Shammai = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 School of Hillel = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**“It was because of your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law”**

Divorce is not a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ thing, but it is sometimes a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ thing.

**“But at the beginning of creation God ‘made them male and female.’ ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.”**

Ephesians 5:31-33  **31**“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” **32**This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.

**1. To those married…**

 Practice \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**2. To those unmarried…**

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of your singleness.

**3. To those divorced…**

You don’t have to live as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the kingdom!

**4. To everyone…**

 Make Jesus \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Questions for discussion:**

1. Was there any fresh or “new to me” insight you gained from this sermon?

2. Read 2 Corinthians 11:2, Revelation 19:7-9, and Isaiah 54:5. What lessons can we learn from the fact that God uses the marriage relationship as an image of his relationship with his people?

3. It is increasingly common to hear people assert that “Jesus never talked about homosexuality or gay marriage” as a reason why Christians should not oppose same-sex marriage. How might Jesus’ teachings in Mark 10:1-12 challenge that assertion?

4. Did this message give you any new insight into why any sexual activity outside of marriage is sinful and condemned throughout Scripture?

5. Jesus calls his disciples to a high standard in many areas of life, including marriage. How do we strive for this as Christians without becoming legalistic (self-condemning if we fail, self-righteous is we succeed)?

6. What does it practically look like to “make Jesus your treasure”? What counsel would you give someone who wants this for their life?