



THE UPSIDE DOWN kingdom

Divorce – 7/14/19

OVERVIEW

So many wedding ceremonies feature scriptures about marriage. Mark 10:9 says, “Therefore, let no one split apart what God has joined together.” Proverbs 18:22 shares, “He who finds a wife finds a good thing.” God’s Word has a lot to say about love and marriage, but we find it confusing as it relates to divorce. God says He hates divorce in Malachi. He calls it a concession to our hard hearts in Matthew. When we come face to face with divorce in our own lives, often our own emotions begin to make our decisions for us. But it is not about us, it’s about God.

Scriptures (NLT): Colossians 1:13-14, Matthew 5:27, Deuteronomy 24:1, Matthew 19:3-10, Matthew 5:31-32, Malachi 2:14-16

APPLICATION

- With more than 50% of marriages ending in divorce, the ripple effects can be widespread. In what ways have you been impacted or been a product of divorce? How has it affected you, either directly or indirectly?
- Woody shared that those who are true disciples of Jesus have a 35% less chance of being divorced. What is the correlation between being a disciple of Jesus and having a marriage that lasts?
- In Malachi 2:14-16, God very clearly says, “For I hate divorce!” Why do you think God hates divorce? Do you believe there are acceptable reasons for divorce?
- In the video story, Lance said that God broke him and helped him make the decision to follow Him no matter what happened (especially in his marriage). Is there anywhere in your life where you are resisting God’s direction and will? Is there anything going on in your life that you need to commit to follow God in, no matter the outcome?
- How can you apply what you’ve heard about divorce and following God throughout this upcoming week?
- HOMEWORK: Woody gave us five categories that we all fall into (not married, great marriage, had a great marriage (widowed), divorced or pending divorce). He also challenged us, no matter which category we’re in, to nail the door of divorce shut. Spend some time in prayer asking God to reveal anything that would keep you from making that decision, and to help you have a repentant heart if needed. If you’re married (and able), tell your spouse that you are grateful God gave you the gift of him/her.

