

**Monday
2/6/12**

The Law

Nobody knows when the first divorce took place. God’s law, brought to the Israelites by Moses, shows us that men and women have struggled with marriage relationships for a long, long time. The fact that God had to provide safety for women through a certificate of divorce proves that injustice occurred. The question still remains—what is God’s heart? How can we find and live within His plan for our lives? Read and re-read the passage and respond in order to try and hear the voice of God speaking to you.

READ: Deuteronomy 24:1-4

What problem do you think this passage identifies (maybe the problem of sharing wives)? What do you think God is trying to avoid in this passage (perhaps the ease with which men divorced their wives)? How can one define “displeasing” (the Hebrew word means “lacking grace”)? What do you think the scripture means by “indecent” (the Hebrew has the connotation of nakedness)? Is divorce mandated? Is divorce encouraged?

RESPONSE:

Pray Daily Prayer

**Wednesday
2/8/12**

Breaking Faith

Marriage is a covenant relationship where two people publically give and receive promises. The promises are given in good faith and mean to provide safety and security for life.

READ: Malachi 2:10-16

To what does God compare His relationship with Judah? Why doesn’t God pay attention to the offerings of the people? Who plays the role as witness in marriages? What does God think of divorce? Why do you think He feels this way?

RESPONSE:

Pray Daily Prayer

**Tuesday
2/7/12**

God’s Divorce

God often compares our relationship with Him to our relationships with our spouses. They are both covenant relationships. God clearly states that He followed the procedures of divorce with the Northern country of Israel.

READ: Jeremiah 3:8-14

Why did God divorce Israel (verse 9)? Do you believe God wanted to divorce Israel (verse 12)? What do you believe was God’s intent with this divorce (verse 14)?

RESPONSE:

Pray Daily Prayer

**Thursday
2/9/12**

Jesus on Divorce

The certificate of divorce was the legal path to break a marriage. People tried to define “displeasing” and “indecent” things to obtain an easy divorce. But, Jesus shares the Father’s heart in this passage. Jesus claims authority over what has been taught.

READ: Matthew 5:31-32

Who is Jesus quoting in verse 31? What is Jesus sharing in verse 32? What is the only exception according to Jesus for divorce? How does this relate to Deuteronomy 24?

RESPONSE:

Pray Daily Prayer

Friday
2/10/12

Released

Paul talks about law in this passage and uses marriage as an example. We learn from Paul's comparison what the law proclaimed about marriage.

READ: Romans 7:1-3

When is a person released from the law of marriage? What crime does a person commit if they marry another person while their spouse is still alive? Where do you see the Father's heart in this passage?

RESPONSE:

Pray Daily Prayer

Saturday and Sunday
2/11/12-2/12/12

Married

Paul shares two interpretations in this passage. One he declares is from the Lord; the other, from Himself.

READ: 1 Corinthians 7:10-16

When is a person allowed to separate from their spouse? What end does God desire when a separation occurs? When is a person not bound in their marriage? After studying all the passages this week, where do you see the Father's heart? Read Matthew 19:4-6. I believe this passage reveals God's true intentions for marriage. What has God spoken to you this week?

RESPONSE:

Pray Daily Prayer

Personal GPS

Grow • Pray • Study

Use this prayer and study guide to grow each week more in love with God and others.



Undressed: Divorce
February 4 & 5
Jeff Harper

Divorce is a reality many of us live with every day. It is important to know what the Father thinks about divorce, and equally important to experience His grace through the pain that accompanies divorce. Please know that there is only one judge, and his name is Jesus. He is the only one who knows the thoughts and hearts of man and is therefore able to judge justly. May the Holy Spirit inform you of God's truth and minister to your heart as you study the topic of divorce this week. My desire is to know and share the Father's heart. This week, you will study scriptures that deal with the divorce. Ask the Lord to share His heart with you. If you have been hurt because of divorce, please know that God forgives and heals. Though you may suffer consequences, there is freedom through Jesus Christ.

MY PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK:

DAILY PRAYER:

Show me your heart, God, that I might know you, Amen.