



Series: Unexpected Messiah
Passage Matthew 19:1-12
Title: God's Design for Marriage Part II
Speaker: Pastor David Menard – 2/21/2021

Discussion Starter – Why are some of the things God has you thinking about from these two sermons as it pertains to you and God's design for marriage?

God's Brilliant Design for Marriage (Matthew 19:1-12)

- Jesus instruct the Pharisees that God's plan for marriage has never changed (verses 1-6). Explain the uniqueness of the marriage between a man and a woman. What is the significance of them being one flesh? What is the spiritual representation of this marriage?
- How did Jesus model the oneness that He desires us to have with our spouse?
- Jesus tells the Pharisees that Moses permitted them to write a certificate of divorce because of the hardness of their hearts. How does the hardness of one's heart pertain to marriage? What message was Jesus conveying here?
- The Pharisees were hoping to trap Jesus but what flaw did the permitting of divorce by Moses reveal in verse 9?
- Why do you think the disciple responded to Jesus' teaching here saying it would be better for a man not to marry? What does this reveal about their own knowledge of God's word?
- What happens if you have been divorced...what should you do? What are some of the things about our character that often cause marital problems and if not corrected lead to a hardened heart?
- If you are single, what things get in the way of finding a godly spouse? Explain how God equips us to find a godly spouse.
- What does Jesus teach the disciples about the spiritual gift of celibacy in verses 11-12?
- How do you know if you have the gift of celibacy and what is its purpose? Read 1 Corinthians 7:1, 7:32-35. What further insight and learning can be gained from these verses?
- God wants you to be sexually satisfied in marriage and it is the only context where sexual appetites are to be satisfied. Read 1 Corinthians 7:2-5. How are we to interpret these verses in the context of God's design for marriage? Knowing that a man's motivation and a woman's motivation for sex are different, how should each approach this instruction? What happens if we don't follow this instruction?
- What were the five points Pastor David illustrated as God's brilliant purposes for sexual intimacy in a marriage? What purpose does each one serve in a marriage?