

The Gospel of Mark Message Series

Discussion Guide based on the morning message on April 4, 2010

What God Has Joined Together – Mark 1:1-11

Big Idea: Honor your marriage vow by committing to obedience over preference.

Leading the Session Helps/Discussion Questions

- Make announcements and have a prayer time. (before Choir Members arrive)

ICE BREAKERS

- React to the statistic Larry mentioned about the fact that only 34% of Christians think marriage is wrong.
- Have group members finish this statement: Marriage is (or has been) ...
- What is the context of the Mark passage based on Deuteronomy 24?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How do happiness and obedience relate to having a good marriage? What is God's biggest desire for us: happiness or obedience?
- What was God's plan for marriage from the beginning?
- What does Malachi 2:13-16 have to do with being spiritually mature and content with God?
- What is the lie about the "cure" divorce provides?
- Who is the commitment to in marriage?
- What do the statistics say about children and divorce? (A child is better off in a home with arguing and fighting with no love than in a divorced home.)
- What is the reason to stay together?
- What happens when people try to justify divorce?
- What do feelings have to do with marriage?
- What should people do to save their marriage?

Application

- If you are married, evaluate where you are relationally in your marriage. Do something different this next week to try to make it better. If there is a particular sin in your life that God has pointed out today, take whatever steps necessary to cut out that sin from your life.
- If you are not married, spend some time evaluating your views and expectations of marriage. If God has pointed out sins that would affect your future marriage, take whatever steps necessary to cut out those sins from your life.