



To divorce or not to divorce: Matthew 5.31-32

1. In the U.S. 4 out of 5 adults get married at least once, while 1 out of 3 will end up getting divorced at least once. What are effects of divorce on society? Children? Workplace? Church?

2. What is the purpose of marriage? What is the meaning of two into one, as taught in Genesis and reiterated by Jesus in the passage? And what is your response to the disciples' words, *If this is the situation between a husband and wife, it is better not to marry?*

3. Sadly, instead of the Israelites finding ways to protect women, they looked for reasons to justify divorce. To what extent do you think the following two groups do the same? Our society. The church.

4. Divorce because of the size of a closet in today's world is the equivalent of divorce due to disliking your wife's falafel in the first century. It's wrong. Divorce, though sadly necessary in certain cases, is never God's desire for his creatures. Do you agree? If so, why? And what implications does your view have for your own marriage (or possible future marriage)?

5. It's not marriage per se that has the limitations, it's us. Where does this discussion of divorce leave you? How does it affect your view of marriage and your need for God to be the centre of your marriage. **For the unmarried:** how does this discussion of divorce affect your approach to marriage?