



Life-form

"A midrash rehash of our journey through scripture together"

Love Stuck 2-07-10

What God has joined together . . .

Text: Matthew 19:1-12

Read and meditate on the text focusing on the following verses:

Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?" "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female, and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh' So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."

Reflect: (Spend time with God thinking about these statements or questions)

Can you recall the most favorite wedding ceremony you have attended? What made it so good?

Say What? (Discuss the following questions with your group or some friends)

How were the Pharisees testing Jesus with this question?

How did Jesus' answer differ from the what the Pharisees probably understood about marriage?

Why was divorce permitted by Moses according to Jesus?

What does Jesus say about divorce?

So What? (Discuss the following questions with your group or some friends)

What is the current cultural view of divorce? What about within the church?

How do you think man can separate what God has joined together?

Describe what "no longer two, but one" means in marriage.

Now What? (Look for ways to apply at least one concept to your life)

Remember that if you are married, it is God who has joined you together. This makes your marriage a holy, sanctified relationship. Live this out in your marriage relationship.

References (The following sources can take you further than this guide)

www.onelifechurch.blogspot.com (One Life blog where I and others will add stuff we thought about during preparation each week)

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