What About Divorce ? Mark Lesson 17

**Lesson 17 – What About Divorce ?**

**Mark 10:1-12**

**Day 1 – Review**

1. What challenged or encouraged you from the lecture, and how did it help you in your Christian walk?

2. What in the notes helped you to understand God’s Word, and how did you
apply it?

**Day 2 – Read Mark 10: 1-5**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson. One possible verse to pray is Col.1:9. Lord, fill me with the knowledge of your will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding.*

3. As Jesus travels, what is the focus on His ministry (10:1)?

4. According to the text, what did the Pharisees ask Jesus, and what was
their motive?

5. In verse 3, how does Jesus answer the Pharisees, pointing them to the teaching of Scripture?

6. Why did Jesus say Moses allowed for divorce? List the verse.

7. According to Matthew’s account in Matt 19:8, what does Jesus add in His response to the Pharisees that points back to God’s original intent for marriage to
be lifelong?

8. ***Thought Question:*** a.Describe in your own words what “hardness of heart” toward God means. (See also Proverbs 28:13-14)

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b. How would you describe the opposite of a hard heart?“

9. Read Romans 3:20 and state what comes to man through the law or commandments?

***Apply this day:*** *Have you considered your sin in regard to the laws and commandments of God? Spend time today confessing areas where your heart has hardened toward His Word. Than thank Him that His grace is far greater than all our sin!*

**Day 3 – Study of the heart. Unbelief = sin = hardening**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson.*

10. ***Personal Question:*** What warning concerning man’s heart should we heed from the following verses? Think through your answer for each verse, and describe how you can personally apply these truths.

 Psalm 95:7-8-

 Mark 16:14

Jeremiah 17:9-

Mark 3:5-

11. ***Thought Question:*** How can you apply Philippians 2:3-4 toward the subject of marriage? How would abiding by this truth help people in all of their relationships?

12. Read Matthew 13:15.

a. What specifically happens to a person’s heart when they refuse to acknowledge their wrong thinking?

 b. What hope does Jesus give to someone with a dull heart?

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13. ***Personal Question:*** In what ways is the hardness of your heart causing you to live according to your own selfish desires instead of according to God’s will? If the Lord so leads, share with your group how God is working on you in this area so that we can encourage one another.

***Apply this day****: Reread Philippians 2 :3,4. Ask God to show you one person you could unselfishly serve or love today. Then choose to put aside your own agenda for a few minutes and lovingly serve that person in some way.*

**Day 4 – Read Mark 10: 6-10**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson.*

 14. Read Mark 10:6-9. In your own words,how does Jesus describe the purpose of marriage from the beginning of creation?

 15.Further drawing from verses 6-9 in your answer above, list at least four parts
of the Biblical definition of marriage. (See also Gen 1:27 & 2:24)

16.Read Gen.1:27-28. Using these Genesis verses and Mark 10:6, what does Jesus refer to as a description of God’s original intent for the **union** of marriage?

17. ***Thought Question:***  Do you think God’s original plan and purpose for
marriage is the same today? What does He tell us in Hebrews 13:8?

18. In Mark 10:7-9, What words or phrases does Jesus use to describe a
marriage **bond?**

19. Read Mark 10:9. What authority does Jesus give God on the sanctity of marriage that human selfishness always threatens to destroy?

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20. ***Personal Question:*** When attending a wedding, do you ponder God’s beautiful heart toward and plan for marriage? How could you encourage and pray for those who are experiencing distress in their marriage?

***Apply this day:*** *After reading these passages, how has God encouraged you concerning your views on marriage and divorce?*

**Day 5 – Read Mark 10:11-12 Forgiveness and restoration**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson.*

21. In Mark 10:11-12, what is Jesus’ response when His disciples asked Him again about marriage and divorce? Also refer to Matthew 5:32.

22. What promise do we have in 1 John 1:9?

23. ***Personal Question:*** Do you or someone you know feel that their sin is too big for God’s forgiveness?

According to Ps 103:12, what does the Lord do with our sin?

Are our sins partially, or completely forgiven and forgotten by God? (See also Heb.8:12)

24. (a) Who does Jesus say He is John 11:25?

 (b) What does God give to man in Romans 4:17 ?

(c) ***Thought Question:*** What truth in the above verses can be applied to a dead marriage?

25. According to the following scriptures, what hope is there for hard marriages, healing from divorce, and “impossible” relationships? *(Ashlie -these are in no order)*

Luke 18:27 –

 Romans 8:1 –

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2 Cor 5:17 –

 I John 3:20

 Lamentations 3:19-23

***Apply this day:*** *Spend time today thanking the Lord for His cleansing forgiveness from our hardened hearts. Remember God’s willingness to heal you and draw you together, if you’re married, and to heal your damaged heart if you’ve been through the pain of divorce. God is always for you, whether married or not!*

**Day 6 – Reread Mark 10 : 5-9 (SOAP)**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson.*

**Scripture** – *Write the verses.*

**Observation** – *Record something you learned from these verses*. *Possible questions to ask for observation: What principle do I learn? What warning should I heed? What commandment should I obey? What aspect of God’s character do I see?*

**Application** – *How can I apply this to my life?*

**Prayer** – *Pray to God, praise Him, and ask Him for what you need in response to what you learned. Write down your prayer.*