



# Hot Potato #3: ***“Is Divorce Ever An Option?”***

Bruxy Cavey @ Upper Oaks Community Church, Sunday, May 2, 1999

## **INTRODUCTION – THE GOD WHO UNDERSTANDS**

Jeremiah 3:8; Malachi 2:13-17

## **THROUGH THE EYES OF JESUS - Matthew 19:1-12**

When asked about divorce, Jesus responds by talking about \_\_\_\_\_.

1) Marriage is the \_\_\_\_\_ human relationship.

**Genesis 2:24-25**

2) Marriage is a \_\_\_\_\_ with your spouse as well as with \_\_\_\_\_.

**Malachi 2:14; Proverbs 2:17; Ezekiel 16:8;  
Jeremiah 2:2; 3:14; Hosea 2:19; Romans 7:1-6; Rev. 21:9**

3) Marriage will only work when bathed in \_\_\_\_\_.

*Marriage is a covenant of \_\_\_\_\_, not just \_\_\_\_\_.*

**1 Corinthians 13:1-8; John 15:13; James 4:1-3; 1 Cor. 7:28**

4) Spiritually, God doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ divorce.

**Mark 10:11-12**

5) There is an \_\_\_\_\_...

**Matthew 1:19; 5:31-32; 19:9; 1 Corinthians 7:12**

## **THE IMPLICATIONS**

A. Before Marriage **Matthew 19:10-12**

B. After Divorce

i) \_\_\_\_\_ if sin was involved. **1 John 1:8-9**

ii) \_\_\_\_\_ if divorce was wrong and former spouse is willing.  
**1 Corinthians 7:10-11; Hosea 2:14**

iii) \_\_\_\_\_ single to serve God most fully and freely.  
**1 Corinthians 7:27, 32-35; 2 Corinthians 9:8**

iv) \_\_\_\_\_ with a clear conscience and God's blessing (if other options have been exercised where possible).  
**1 Corinthians 7:27-28**

## **CONCLUSION – TENDERIZING OUR HARD HEARTS**

*Live out of the \_\_\_\_\_ that you choose, rather than out of the \_\_\_\_\_ that choose you.*

**Philippians 4:6-8**

**Ephesians 4:26**

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## **Home Church Questions...**

- After reviewing Sunday's sermon, share one thing that most encouraged, challenged, puzzled, or bugged you.
- Under what circumstances (if any) would you counsel or encourage a friend to pursue a divorce? (Support your answer with Scripture if possible.)
- Jesus deals with the topic of divorce in the Sermon on the Mount. Read it in **Matthew 5:31-32**.
  - Now make a list of the topics that surround Christ's statement about divorce by reading **verses 21 to the end of the chapter**.
  - Assuming that context counts for something, why do you think Jesus deals with the topic of divorce at the point he does in this chapter?
  - How would honest obedience to the rest of this chapter help a couple avoid being in a divorce situation?
- Read **Luke 17:3-4**. Rather than the extremes of either divorce or denial as a way of dealing with a marital hurt, how would these verses apply to a marriage situation?
- Read **1 Corinthians 6:15-20**. How should the truth of these verses influence our decisions in regard to our present or future marriage?
- Looking Ahead...* How do you feel about people who refer to God as Father and Mother, He and She, Him and Her?