

The Truth about Marriage

According to Richard Fowler of the Minirth Meier Counseling Center, the divorce rate for Christians is only ten percent below that for non-Christians.

Disagreements can cause distancing and major separation in the marriage.

Jesus had a very high view of marriage.

God hates divorce because he loves marriage. God hates divorce, but he loves divorced people. God sent his Son Jesus Christ to die for sinners.

Divorce is a sin, and must be treated as such. It is not the unpardonable sin. However, it is a sin that carries great c_____, personal, familial and societal.

I believe that persons whose mates have abandoned them, abused them, or committed adultery are permitted to divorce if they desire to do so. Ephesians 5:25-33

I believe if the divorce was necessary, forgiveness must be sought --- accepted, and in time given unconditionally to the offending ex-spouse. The Bible commands us: Colossians 3:13

Jesus taught three strong truths about marriage. Ref: Matt. 19: 11, 12

#1 Marriage is not for e_____.

God did not call us first to marriage. He called us first to a r_____ with his Son Jesus.

If there is a marriage that is going to hinder your walk with Jesus Christ-for the believer that marriage is out of the question.

Jesus is teaching here about the last days. And one of the most surprising facts in Jesus end times teaching, is that the last days will be normal. Ref: Matthew 24:36-39

I believe the very permanence of marriage is evidence to its divine origin.

Two things, that Jesus said about divorce, that often causes a diminished Christian walk and is often misunderstood. Many Christians have experienced divorce.

1. That divorce was a c_____ not a command.

Divorce is not God's norm. It is another proof of man's imperfection. God ordained marriage. Divorce is manmade.

The legislation in Moses Law, was not to permit divorce but to hinder the practice of divorce. Reference Matthew 19:1-9

2. Divorce is an a_____, not a separation.

Jesus said: marriage is tough. There are going to be forces out there that are going to try to tear up that marriage, to seduce that marriage.

You're going to have to cleave (like super glue) to make that marriage work.

God said, I created marriages as a way for you to find intimacy. And the way you are going to find it-----is you are going to "cleave (*or cling*)together."

Do you know what the strength of the marriage is? It's not love-----it's certainly not sex IT'S PROMISE!

The vow that you make before God that you are going to pledge to love an imperfect person, in the face of the possibility of radical change. That's marriage!

The truth is God designed marriage, for better---for worse----and for good.

Your marriage is going to get better, as the cross becomes the center of your life. Ref: Eph. 5:25