

# INSIDEOUT

## LIVING LIFE ON A DEEPER LEVEL

Part 4 – The Disaster of Divorce  
Matthew 5:31-32 & Matthew 19:3-9

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- I. GOD INTENDED MARRIAGE TO BE A COVENANT RELATIONSHIP.
  - A. A consumer relationship is one where you figure out what you need and who best can meet that need for **now**.
  - B. Marriage, for Christ followers, is a **covenant** relationship.
    1. Ephesians 5:25-32 tells us that God desires our marriage to be an earthly **picture** of the heavenly covenant between Jesus and us.
    2. *Malachi 2:14-16 “...The LORD is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage **covenant**.<sup>15</sup> Has not God made them **one**? In flesh and spirit they are His<sup>16</sup> “I hate divorce,” says the LORD God of Israel.”*
    3. *Matthew 19:4-6 “Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator `made them male and female,’<sup>5</sup> 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**’?”<sup>6</sup> So they are no*

*longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.”*

- C. Marriage is taking an **oath** before God to be faithful to our spouse and honor our marriage.
- D. What **breaks** the covenant of marriage is sexual unfaithfulness.
  - 1. *Matthew 5:32 “But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery.” (NKJV)*
  - 2. Divorce isn’t mandatory but it is **allowed** because of the sexual infidelity of the spouse. And when the covenant has been broken the person who has been violated is now free to marry again.
  - 3. *1 Corinthians 7:15 “But if the husband or wife who isn’t a believer insists on leaving, let them go. In such cases the Christian husband or wife is no longer bound to the other, for God has called you to live in peace.” (NLT)*

## II. WHAT SHOULD PEOPLE DO WHO FIND THEMSELVES IN A DIVORCE SITUATION?

- A. Fight to **keep** your marriage.
  - 1. Reject the right person myth.
  - 2. Do this for **God**.
  - 3. Do it for your **children**.
- B. Cry out to **God**.
  - 1. *Psalm 142:1-3 “I cry out to the Lord. I plead for his mercy. I pour out my complaints before him and tell him all my troubles for I am overwhelmed and you, God, alone, know the way that I should turn.”*
- C. Get **Biblical** Help.
  - 1. At Sugar Creek we have several pastors, (Clif Cummings; John Rushing and Ben Coleman) who are equipped and ready to help you if you would like to use this source.





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