

# Committed

## Faithfulness Matters (Week 3)

### LifeNotes

## TALK IT OVER

### Main Idea

Divorce shatters the image of God's faithfulness and wholeness. Yet, God's faithfulness redeems our past, ignites our present, and restores our future.

### Key Scriptures

*Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" "What did Moses command you?" he replied. They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away." "It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law," Jesus replied. "But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.' '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 flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."*  
Mark 10:6-9

*The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. Lamentations 3:22-23*

*Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations Deuteronomy 7:9*

*"But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness."*  
Psalms 86:15

*Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus...For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:1;38-39*

**God's faithfulness redeems our past, ignites our present, and restores our future.**

### Key Ideas

1. Marriage is God's idea — He is the author, the illustrator, the designer.
2. Divorce is a breaking of the image of God's wholeness and faithfulness.
3. God allows for divorce under certain circumstances.
4. Marriage is meant to be a practical representation of the nature and character of God.

### Start talking.

- How has the view of divorce changed from 50 years ago?
- What are the positives and negatives of that change?
- Why do you think the divorce rates among Christians are essentially the same as non-Christians?

### Start thinking.

- Read Mark 10:6-9. Why did Jesus say Moses allowed divorce?
- What is meant by, "your hearts were hard"?
- Read through the 4 Key Ideas. Why does it matter that marriage is God's idea?
- How is divorce a breaking of God's image?
- How can a healthy marriage represent God's nature and character?
- Read the Lamentations, Deuteronomy, and Psalms passages. What do they say about God's faithfulness?
- Read the Romans 8 passage. How does that connect to those who have experienced divorce?

### Start doing.

- If you are married, how can your marriage better be a reflection to others of God's faithfulness?
- If you are single, how can you support the married couples around you?
- If you have experienced divorce, take this week to memorize Romans 8:1;38-39 and receive God's faithful love.

### Closing prayer.

Dear Jesus help us to honor your words in scripture at how much divorce breaks your heart and how passionately you desire to help marriages remain faithful to your nature and character.