



Marriage, Divorce and Faith

Text: Mark 10:1-16

Context: Last week the disciples heard Jesus discuss His upcoming suffering, death and resurrection a second time, and they argued about greatness. Jesus then warned them of the dangers of sin and the need to be “salty” and at peace with one another. This week Jesus is getting closer to Jerusalem, and once again we find the religious leaders trying to trap or trick Jesus, but Jesus cannot be trapped by their questions.

1) Pastoral Guidance for Mark 10:1-12: This week's passage is a foundational and straightforward teaching from Jesus. It can also be a difficult and sensitive subject for groups with couples in a second marriage and anyone going through a divorce or recovering from a divorce. Remember the last verse we studied together, “...*be at peace with one another*” (Mark 10:50). Be sensitive to one another. Stay in the context of the passage and hold off any major applications about re-marriage until you've had a chance to hear our Teaching Pastors. If a couple or individual would like to discuss this text in more detail or wants help with their marriage please contact Mark Holeman, Connections Pastor, (615) 277-9531 or mholeman@fbctn.org.

2) Jesus teaches about Marriage and Divorce. (Mark 10:10-12)

Who created marriage and why? What kind of questions do you think the disciples were asking? What questions do you have about marriage, divorce and re-marriage? [Bring your questions to the weekend service and see how our Teaching Pastor addresses them. Again, if you need help with your marriage or are recovering from a divorce (as an individual or as a married couple), our pastoral and counseling staff is willing to assist. Please contact Mark Holeman (see above) for more information.

3) Jesus teaches about faith. (Mark 10:13-16)

Why would the disciples rebuke someone for bringing children to Jesus? How does Jesus' teaching about children in this passage compare to Mark 10:35-37? What does it mean to “*receive the Kingdom of God like a child*”?

BIG IDEA: Jesus calls us to have child-like faith in God. (Mark 10:15)

It's up to us to trust God fully and completely like a child trusts.

What are some things you trusted as a child that you find hard to trust now?

What prevents you from trusting God fully like a child?

How can the group help you develop child-like trust in God?

Next Week: HOLIDAY BREAK

No questions for March 19-24. Next questions for the week of March 26th for the message on April 1st/2nd will be posted on March 17th. This will adjust our curriculum to provide questions two weeks in advance. Of course you'll be able to study one week or two weeks in advance or the week of the message—your choice.