



Sermon Title: "Marriage, Divorce & the Gospel"
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 7:10-16
Pastor Stephen Schultze
Sunday, February 28, 2021

Introduction:

Marriage is a **good gift**, designed by God for the blessing of a man and woman and their community, and God is magnified when couples fully delight in His gracious gift.

1. If a believing man and woman are married, they should **remain married in submission to Christ.** (v. 10-11)

Scripture: Matthew 5:31-32; Matthew 19:3-9

- Jesus gave a clear command for **persevering** in marriage and a gracious concession in the case of sexual immorality.

2. If a believer is married to a consenting unbeliever, they should **remain married as an influence on their family for the Gospel.** (v. 12-14)

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 14:37; Romans 10:9-10; 1 Peter 3:1-2

- The continued presence of the salt and light of the Gospel in the home serves as a powerful **evangelistic** influence upon one's spouse and children.

3. If an unbelieving spouse leaves a believing spouse, the believer is **free.** (v. 15-16)

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 7:39

- When one is "not enslaved," they are not bound to their previous marriage vows, freeing the believer to **remarry** "in the Lord."

Conclusion: Let us **honor** God's good gift of marriage...

1. By faithfully protecting and strengthening marriages.
2. By persistently pursuing forgiveness and reconciliation in marriage.
3. By humbly submitting to God's instruction on divorce.
4. By prayerfully living out the Gospel in our homes.

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application:

- In what ways have we allowed the world to skew our view of marriage and divorce?
- How does marriage faithfulness reflect Christ and glorify God?
- How do God's allowances for divorce demonstrate His kindness?
- What is the reason Paul gives for a believer remaining married to a consenting unbeliever?