

# SERMON NOTES

November 5 & 6, 2022

## Progress in Perfection

*Matthew 5:31-32*

1. Jesus is addressing men because men had the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. **Matthew 5:31-32**
  
2. A Certificate of Divorce was a way of \_\_\_\_\_.  
**Deuteronomy 24:1**
  
3. Jesus: a Kingdom of God husband will be \_\_\_\_\_ about the  
\_\_\_\_\_ of his wife than himself. **Matthew 5:31-32**
  
4. Old Testament Rabbinical Law: Divorce was permissible if the vow of \_\_\_\_\_  
or \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ were broken. **Exodus 21:10**
  
5. New Testament Rabbinical Law: \_\_\_\_\_ divorce was available to men.  
**Matthew 1:19; 14:3**
  
6. Jesus:
  - a. Divorce is \_\_\_\_\_. **Matthew 19:3-6**
  - b. Divorce is permitted when there is \_\_\_\_\_. **Matthew 19: 10, 7-8**
  
7. Every Marriage can grow because \_\_\_\_\_.  
**Jeremiah 3:8 a**

# Life Steps

Progress in Perfection | November 5 & 6, 2022

## Monday

Matthew 5:27-30

*Reflect:* What was your primary takeaway from the weekend message? What is your response to the statement, "Bad marriages take work; good marriages take more work?"

*Prayer:* God of shalom and harmony, take my broken relationships and restore them to be instruments of your peace.

## Tuesday

Matthew 1:18-19

*Reflect:* What does Joseph's response toward his pregnant fiancée reveal about Joseph? How is his desire not to "expose her to public disgrace" different from his right according to Leviticus 20:20?

*Prayer:* God of shalom and harmony, take my broken relationships and restore them to be instruments of your peace.

## Wednesday

Matthew 19:1-6

*Reflect:* God's intent in creation is to bring man and woman together in Shalom, peace and harmony, but the world and our sinful nature often drive us apart. How is this relevant to your life experience?

*Prayer:* God of shalom and harmony, take my broken relationships and restore them to be instruments of your peace.

## Thursday

Matthew 19:7-8

*Reflect:* What does Jesus mean when he says divorce is a result of our "hard hearts?" What does it mean to have a "soft heart?" Do you think you have a hard or soft heart towards your spouse/ex/immediate family? Why or why not?

*Prayer:* God of shalom and harmony, take my broken relationships and restore them to be instruments of your peace.

## Friday

Jeremiah 3:8 | Deuteronomy 24:1-4

*Reflect:* In the law given by Moses, the honorable way to divorce a woman was to give her a "certificate of divorce," which released any claims the man had on the woman. Why did God give his people, Israel, a certificate of divorce? What does this tell us about God's experience with the people he loves?

*Prayer:* God of shalom and harmony, take my broken relationships and restore them to be instruments of your peace.

## Saturday

Jeremiah 3:8 | 2 Corinthians 5:18-19

*Reflect:* What did God offer in order to invite his people (you and me!) to be reconciled with him? What is your response to God's offer? How does this impact your "offering" to your spouse/immediate family?

*Prayer:* God of shalom and harmony, take my broken relationships and restore them to be instruments of your peace.

## Sunday

1 Peter 3:8-9

*Reflect:* Using the elements of this passage as a guide for your most important relationships, how does your behaviors towards them need to change? What is the true state of your heart towards them?

*Prayer:* Father in heaven, your kingdom come, your will be done in my most important relationships. Help me to forgive as I have been forgiven. Help me to grow, to make progress in my key relationships. Help me to bless them as you have blessed me, in Jesus' name, amen.