

Matthew 19:1-12

What God Has Joined

What God has joined ...

I. God's Created Order

- A. Suitable by Design
- B. Confirmed by Marriage
- C. To Be Honored

II. Subjected to Sin

- A. Distorted by the Fall
- B. Damaged by Depravity
- C. Still Worth Redeeming

III. Ruined or Redeemed

- A. Divorce
- B. Repentance
- C. Reconciliation
- E. Reconstruction

... let man not separate.

Children, Listen ...

1. What was Adam? What was Eve?
2. Fill in the blank: Marriage is to be between one ___ ___ and one ___ ___.
3. Even though a husband and wife are sinners, can they still have a good marriage?
4. Should God's people ever marry people who don't trust in Jesus as Lord?

From the Beginning

God created man and woman. He ordained marriage between them so that they might glorify and enjoy Him in a special way as they are bound together as one. Not everyone is going to get married, but those who do must do all they can to make that relationship work. That is true for all married couples, but it is especially true for believers as they have vowed before the Lord and in the name of Jesus that they will, by His grace, honor their union in Him. It may not be easy sometimes as it begins with two (redeemed) sinners living under one roof! (Add kids and you have more sinners still!). Sometimes the going can get really rough and things can happen that challenge the integrity of the bond and even threaten its very survival. But we should not start on the sad and negative note the pharisees start with, that is divorce. Instead, let's keep in mind God's beautiful design for those called to marry in order to help each other, to be fruitful and multiply and to build the church with a holy seed (WCF XXIV:II). Pray for our single people, and our widows and widowers too – and also pray that our marriages will be protected and honored to the glory of God.