

## **AND YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT PROBLEMS**

### **MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE**

1 Corinthians 7:10-24

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*But to the married, I give instructions ... 1 Corinthians 7:10*

#### **1. What if two Christians don't want to be married anymore?**

*But to the married I give instructions, not I, but the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband (but if she does leave, let her remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not send his wife away. 1 Corinthians 7:10-11*

##### **A. Christians are not to divorce.**

*"For I hate divorce!" says the LORD, the God of Israel. "To divorce your wife is to overwhelm her with cruelty," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies." Malachi 2:16 NLT*

##### **B. Divorce is permitted in cases of:**

###### **1. Adultery**

*"And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, **except for immorality**, and marries another woman commits adultery." Matthew 19:9*

###### **2. Abandonment**

*Yet if the unbelieving one leaves, let him leave; the brother or the sister is not under bondage in such cases, but God has called us to peace. 1 Corinthians 7:15*

###### **3. Abuse**

##### **C. If Christians divorce for other reasons, they are to reconcile or remain single.**

#### **2. What if a Christian is married to a non-Christian?**

*But to the rest I say, not the Lord, that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, let him not send her away. And a woman who has an unbelieving husband, and he consents to live with her, let her not send her husband away. 1 Corinthians 7:12-13*

A. God doesn't want a Christian to marry a non-Christian.

*Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? 2 Corinthians 6:14*

B. God doesn't want a Christian to divorce a non-Christian.

C. God will use a Christian spouse to bless the home.

*For the unbelieving husband is sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified through her believing husband; for otherwise your children are unclean, but now they are holy.*

*1 Corinthians 7:14*

D. God allows for divorce and remarriage if the non-Christian leaves.

*Yet if the unbelieving one leaves, let him leave; the brother or the sister is not under bondage in such cases, but God has called us to peace. 1 Corinthians 7:15*

1. Don't let it be your fault.

*In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives, as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior. 1 Peter 3:1-2*

2. Don't let it bring you guilt.

*For how do you know, O wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, O husband, whether you will save your wife? 1 Corinthians 7:16*

**Christianity does not destroy marriage, it enhances it!**

*Only, as the Lord has assigned to each one, as God has called each, in this manner let him walk. And thus I direct in all the churches. 1 Corinthians 7:17*

*Brethren, let each man remain with God in that condition in which he was called. 1 Corinthians 7:24*