

## Discussion Questions Lecture One

- I. Have someone read the passages on the Marriage Covenant made with God – Malachi 2:14; Proverbs 2:17**
- A. Most people think of a wedding as a union between two people, two families, blessed by God.
1. How is a Covenant or Oath made with and to God different from an oath or vow made between two people or two families?
  2. The wedding is a public oath made to God by the man and the woman, how is this different than asking God for His blessing on your vows to each other?
  3. If a wedding is simply a ceremony where two individuals or families make commitments to each other and then ask the blessing of God, what is necessary to dissolve this union?
  4. If a wedding is where the church and families assemble to witness an oath or vow made by the couple to God joining them in a Covenant with God what is necessary to break this Covenant?
- B. Have someone read Matthew 19:4-6. Is God willing for any man to break this covenant?**
1. Does that include the state and the church?
  2. Does that include the couple who made the vow?
  3. Why do people think they can break the Covenant and get a divorce?
  4. Since God does not recognize the authority of man in this area, what does that say about divorce courts and divorce in the sight of God?
  5. How does this help us understand Mark 10:11 & 12?
- II. Now have someone read Malachi 2:14 – 17**
- A. When a divorce occurs two sins are committed – one in verse 15 and one in verse 16. What are these sins?
  - B. In verse 16 how does God feel about divorce?
  - C. Some people say that divorce is no big deal, that it is in fact “good”, that God is not a God of justice and does not care if you get a divorce. What does verse 17 say about these people who say that divorce is not big deal?
- III. Now have someone read Proverbs 2:12 – 19**
- A. In verses 12 – 17 how does God describe those who would allow a woman to divorce her husband and take up with another man?
  - B. In verses 16 and 17 how does God describe the woman who would break her covenant vow and take up with another man?
  - C. In verses 18 & 19 what will be the end of this woman who breaks her Covenant Vow with God?
- IV. According to Malachi 2:17 and Proverbs 2:12 & 13 will there be men and women who condone divorce?**
- A. How does God describe these people?
  - B. What will they do with God’s Word when it comes to divorce?
  - C. Who does this remind you of? (Genesis 3:1 – 4)
  - D. What reasonings did the devil use to deceive Eve into disobeying God?
  - E. What reasonings do those deceived by satan today use to deceive Christians into believing divorce is a good and valid option?
- V. In the Marriage Covenant we are swearing to meet legitimate needs.** Not all needs are a result of sin. Some needs are legitimate and created by God. What are some of these legitimate needs which God instilled in man at his creation? (Genesis 2:11; Psalm 127:2; Genesis 2:15; Genesis 2:16; Genesis 2:18; Genesis 2:24 & 25; Genesis 1:28)
- A. As you become more spiritual will these needs go away?
  - B. Your spouse has legitimate needs created by God. As your spouse becomes more spiritual will these needs lessen and eventually go away?
- VI. Have someone read Ephesians 5:22 – 28. In the two relationships who is serving and who is being served? (Mark 10:45; Luke 9:23 and 22:24 – 27)?**
- A. Does the church serve Christ? What does that say about the wife in marriage?
  - B. Does Christ love and serve the church? What does that say about the husband in marriage?