

## Divorce/Oaths Matthew 5:31-37

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### Supplemental Scripture

Genesis 2 Ephesians 5 Matthew 19:1-12 Deuteronomy 24:1-4 1 Corinthians 7:10-16, 39 Romans 7  
1 Timothy 5:14 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 Romans 8:2-4

**Accountability.** Take a few minutes at the beginning or end of group time and discuss how your life has changed this week based on the teachings of Christ. How did you live differently? How have your perceptions changed? How did your reactions change? What did God point out in your life or in what areas did He convict you? Has repentance occurred? If so, in what areas of your life?

### Oaths

1. **What Jesus Taught.** Read Matthew 5:33-37. What teaching is Jesus clarifying (what was “said of old”)? What does Jesus teach about making oaths?
2. **What Jesus Meant.** Why does Jesus speak against making oaths with things in heaven or earth? What does it lead to according to verse 37?
3. **Application.** How should Christians make promises? How should we fulfill promises? How can this demonstrate salt and light?

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### Divorce

1. **What Jesus Taught.** Read Matthew 5:31-32. What teaching is Jesus clarifying in verse 31 (see Deuteronomy 24:1-4)? What does He teach in verse 32?  
  
Review Matthew 19:1-12. What is the question of the Pharisees? How does Jesus answer this question? Why is divorce “allowed” in verse 8?  
  
According to Jesus (Matthew 5 and 19) and Paul (1 Corinthians 7), what are the two exceptions in which divorce is not sinful?  
  
What does the New Testament say about remarriage? When is it acceptable? Sinful?
2. **What Jesus Meant.** What is the intent of the Pharisees in discussing divorce in Matthew 19? What is Jesus intent both in Matthew 19 and from His handling of accepted law interpretation of the day in Matthew 5 (anger, lust, retaliation)?
3. **Application.** How has divorce affected your life? How is divorce viewed in the world? In the church? Is unbiblical divorce or remarriage an unforgivable sin (see 1 Corinthians 6:9-11)? What is the proper response of the church to this?

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**Prayer:** Close in a time of prayer thanking Jesus for His saving grace. Not one of us were righteous or worthy to be counted as His children, but He washed and sanctified us anyway. Pray that our hearts would be drawn to the law not as a set of rules but as a reflection of the very character of God. May we delight in His law. Pray for the marriages in our church and in our circles, that they would not only endure but flourish. Pray deeply for the reconciliation that desperately needs to happen in our homes. Finally pray that the world may see the good works in our marriages and in our relationships and glorify Him in heaven.

*Next Week: Matthew 6:1-4*