

Message by John Johnson
November 24-25, 2007
God's Wisdom for a Divorce Culture
1 Corinthians 7:10-16

Marriages ending in divorce have become a defining mark of our culture. It is a preferred way to deal with conflict. This was true in the day that Paul sent his letter to the Corinthians and it is true in America today. What is tragic is that the patterns in the church were not then, and are not now, significantly different than the ways of the general culture.

Questions for Discussion:

1. Are there any specifics you recall from the message that were interesting or challenging to you?
2. What are some reasons, valid and maybe not so valid, that people want to divorce their spouses? How many can you list?
3. Read verses 10-16. What does God's Word say about divorce here?

This is a difficult passage in a culture that says divorce can be easy and common.

What does Pastor John mean when he says marriage is not about our happiness but rather is about our holiness?

4. What are the two situations in which the scripture seems to permit divorce? Under what circumstances is each of these a valid reason to leave the marriage?
 - a. See 1 Corinthians 7:15
 - b. See Matthew 5:32
5. What does 1 Cor. 10:31 say transcends our personal interests in a difficult marriage? How would this be worked out in a marriage?
6. John mentioned 2 Cor. 5:18-19. How did he say this passage would relate to a Christian couple with a difficult marriage? ("If we cannot be reconciled to one another, how can we preach the message of reconciliation to the world?")
7. Do you have any other questions or comments on the sermon?