

CHAPTER 95

Teaching About Divorce and Love for Children

(Matthew 19:1-15) When Jesus had finished speaking these things, he departed from Gal'i-lee and came to the borders of Ju-de'a across the Jordan. 2 Also, large crowds followed him, and he cured them there. 3 And Pharisees came to him intent on testing him, and they asked: "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife on every sort of grounds?" 4 In reply he said: "Have you not read that the one who created them from the beginning made them male and female 5 and said: 'For this reason a man will leave his father and his mother and will stick to his wife, and the two will be one flesh'? 6 So that they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has yoked together, let no man put apart." 7 They said to him: "Why, then, did Moses direct giving a certificate of dismissal and divorcing her?" 8 He said to them: "Out of regard for your hard-heartedness, Moses made the concession to you of divorcing your wives, but that has not been the case from the beginning. 9 I say to you that whoever divorces his wife, except on the grounds of sexual immorality, and marries another commits adultery." 10 The disciples said to him: "If that is the situation of a man with his wife, it is not advisable to marry." 11 He said to them: "Not all men make room for the saying, but only those who have the gift. 12 For there are eunuchs who were born that way, and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs on account of the Kingdom of the heavens. Let the one who can make room for it make room for it." 13 Then young children were brought to him for him to place his hands on them and offer prayer, but the disciples reprimanded them. 14 Jesus, however, said: "Let the young children alone, and do not try to stop them from

coming to me, for the Kingdom of the heavens belongs to such ones." 15 And he placed his hands on them and departed from there.

(Mark 10:1-16) From there he got up and came to the borders of Ju-de'a across the Jordan, and again crowds gathered to him. As he was accustomed to do, he again began teaching them. 2 And Pharisees approached, intent on testing him, and they asked whether it was lawful for a man to divorce a wife. 3 He answered them: "What did Moses command you?" 4 They said: "Moses allowed the writing of a certificate of dismissal and divorcing her." 5 But Jesus said to them: "Out of regard for your hard-heartedness, he wrote this commandment for you. 6 However, from the beginning of creation, 'He made them male and female. 7 For this reason a man will leave his father and his mother, 8 and the two will be one flesh,' so that they are no longer two, but one flesh. 9 Therefore, what God has yoked together, let no man put apart." 10 When they were again in the house, the disciples began to question him about this. 11 He said to them: "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, 12 and if ever a woman after divorcing her husband marries another, she commits adultery." 13 People now began bringing him young children for him to touch them, but the disciples reprimanded them. 14 At seeing this, Jesus was indignant and said to them: "Let the young children come to me; do not try to stop them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such ones. 15 Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a young child will by no means enter into it." 16 And he took the children into his arms and began blessing them, laying his hands on them.

(Luke 18:15-17) Now people were also bringing him their infants for him to touch them, but on seeing this, the disciples began to reprimand them. 16 However, Jesus called the infants to him, saying: "Let the young children come to me, and do not try to stop them, for

the Kingdom of God belongs to such ones.
17 Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a young child will by no means enter into it.”

Paragraph 1 on Page 222

(Luke 16:18) “Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and whoever marries a woman divorced from her husband commits adultery.”

Paragraph 2 on Page 222

(Deuteronomy 24:1) “If a man marries a woman but she does not please him because he found something indecent about her, he must write out a certificate of divorce for her, hand it to her, and dismiss her from his house.”

(Matthew 19:3) And Pharisees came to him intent on testing him, and they asked: “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife on every sort of grounds?”

Paragraph 3 on Page 222

(Matthew 19:4-6) In reply he said: “Have you not read that the one who created them from the beginning made them male and female 5 and said: ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and his mother and will stick to his wife, and the two will be one flesh’? 6 So that they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has yoked together, let no man put apart.”

Paragraph 4 on Page 222

(Matthew 19:7) They said to him: “Why, then, did Moses direct giving a certificate of dismissal and divorcing her?”

(Matthew 19:8) He said to them: “Out of regard for your hard-heartedness, Moses made the concession to you of divorcing your wives, but that has not been the case from the beginning.”

Paragraph 5 on Page 222

(Matthew 19:9) I say to you that whoever divorces his wife, except on the grounds of sexual immorality, and marries another commits adultery.”

Paragraph 6 on Page 222

(Matthew 19:10) The disciples said to him: “If that is the situation of a man with his wife, it is not advisable to marry.”

Paragraph 7 on Page 222

(Matthew 19:12) For there are eunuchs who were born that way, and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs on account of the Kingdom of the heavens. Let the one who can make room for it make room for it.”

Paragraph 8 on Page 222

(Mark 10:14, 15) At seeing this, Jesus was indignant and said to them: “Let the young children come to me; do not try to stop them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such ones. 15 Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a young child will by no means enter into it.”

(Luke 18:15) Now people were also bringing him their infants for him to touch them, but on seeing this, the disciples began to reprimand them.

Paragraph 9 on Page 222

(Luke 18:17) Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a young child will by no means enter into it.”

◇◇ How do the Pharisees test Jesus on the subject of divorce?

◇ According to Jesus, what is the divine standard regarding divorce?

◇ Why might some disciples choose to remain single?

◇ Jesus teaches what lesson through his dealings with young children?
