



[guardrails]

“Avoiding the Toll Road of Divorce”

Pastor Bob Botsford

Main Scripture: 1 Corinthians 7:10-40

Referenced Scripture: Genesis 2:24, Deuteronomy 6:4-6, Mark 10:1-12, 1 Peter 3:1, Matthew 5:27-32, 19:8, Malachi 2:10-16, 1 John 1:9, Joshua 1:9, Psalm 27:13-14, Proverbs 3:5-6, Isaiah 41:10

OPEN:

1. What in particular spoke to you from Pastor Bob’s message?
2. Contrary to popular belief, God’s goal for marriage is not happiness, rather holiness, and desires the fruit of the spirit (**Galatians 5:22**) to be evident. In what way is this contrary to the worldview of marriage?

DIG DEEPER:

1. Why is it of vital importance to enter into marriage looking unto Jesus with much prayer, care, and counsel? In what way did understanding this before marriage strengthen your marriage, or not understanding this cause much difficulty?
2. To avoid the “toll” of divorce, a husband and wife first need to understand God’s heart for marriage (**Genesis 2:24, 1 Corinthians 7:10-16**). What do these passages teach us about God’s heart for marriage?
3. In our study we learned five lies leading to divorce: *Marriage is just a piece of paper, I didn’t marry your family, Too impossible for me to change, We are just too different, and We’ve lost that lovin’ feeling.* In your own words describe the deception found in each.
4. Although the Bible stresses the importance and permanence of marriage we can find instances in scripture where divorce is permitted- **Mark 10:1-12, 1 Corinthians 7:15, Matthew 5:27-32, and Malachi 2:15-16**, having nothing to do with the five lies previously discussed. Read each passage and explain these instances.
5. In what way is the greatest obstacle to marriage unbelief? How have you found this to be true in your own marriage?
6. In what way does our marriage relationship impact our relationship with God?

REFLECT:

1. What has the Lord shown you through this study about the truth of divorce?
2. What “guardrails” can you and your spouse put in place to protect your marriage from attack?

MEMORY VERSE:

Isaiah 41:10

“Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.”

