

UNSHAKEABLE

LIVING THE WORDS OF JESUS



SERMON OUTLINE

Sunday Oct 11th, 2020

The “D” Word - Pastor David Cooke

“You have heard the law that says, ‘A man can divorce his wife by merely giving her a written notice of divorce.’ But I say that a man who divorces his wife, unless she has been unfaithful, causes her to commit adultery. And anyone who marries a divorced woman also commits adultery.” Matthew 5:31–32 (NLT)

- **A Story...**

- **That’s Gonna Leave A Mark**
 - A. The Adventure Life - It leaves a mark
 - B. The Challenge of Being Married
 - C. The Connection of Marriage (Matthew 19:3–6)

- **Why Marriage?**

Marriage is a primary metaphor throughout scripture of God’s covenant love toward his people.

- **The Damage of Divorce**

- **The World Jesus Spoke Into**

- **You have heard it said.....**

- i) The Extraordinary Pro-Woman Stance of Jesus
- ii) How Women Were Seen

A Biblical Example: John 4:16–18

- **But I tell you...**

- i) Jesus is upholding a high view of marriage
- ii) Divorce Leaves A Mark

- There are consequences

The Connection of Marriage

- a) Body - sexual union
- b) Soul - spiritual union
- c) Emotion - heart union
- d) Mind - intellectual union

- It forces people to live outside of God's best

- It puts you at the crossroad of Bitter Road and Better Road

- **The “D” Word?**

- Damaged (Goods)
- The Work of Grace (Revelation 21:3–5)
- The Work of Jesus

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- **How Do We Live?**

- Walk With People In Grace
- Receive Grace:
 - We all live with the “D” word - we are all Damaged
 - You are not irredeemable
 - Your past does not have to define you

- **Surrender - Follow - Listen - Do**

The Gospel - the Good News of Jesus - is that we are forgiven by God. Because we are forgiven, through the Spirit of God we have been given the power to forgive. No forgiveness, no freedom. In forgiveness, there is freedom. Freedom to love and be loved.

(2 Corinthians 5:21, John 8:36, Luke 19:10)

SERMON STUDY GUIDE

We meet in Life Groups to: Connect deeper with God and each other through prayer and relationship. Connect the Bible to life. Connect with our community through serving.

ICE BREAKER: Complete the sentence “I wish everyone could...”

PRAYER: God is worthy to be sought - take time to pray together in your group.

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17, NLT)

Ask yourselves the following questions as you read this week’s Bible passage...

What is God asking me to believe?

What is God asking me to do?

How is God preparing me to live more effectively for him?



For free tips and resources on what is in the Bible and how to read it, visit www.thebibleproject.com. The Bible Project creates free videos that show the Bible as a unified story that leads to Jesus. To find out more about this ministry, check out this short video: <https://youtu.be/vFwNZNyDu9k>.

SERMON SERIES: “Unshakeable: Living The Words of Jesus”

In this sermon series we explore how to live according to Jesus’ teachings in **Matthew chapters 5-7**. This is the **Gospel of the Kingdom**. It is something we are not only to know, but to do, to *live*. And when we do that, we are immovable, unshakeable because the foundation is Jesus and he is the Rock of our salvation that is immovable and *unshakeable*.

Reference: *The Essence: Unpacking Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount* (2020). Winslade. Wipf Stock Pub.

THIS WEEK: Matthew 5:31-32 “The ‘D’ Word”

Watch the weekend’s sermon: <http://www.coldspringschurch.net/sermons.html>.

EXPLORING TOGETHER

There is value in sharing perspectives about the weekend message in community. With dialogue around God’s truths, perspective broadens and impacts transformation.

1. What is something from this weekend’s message that stood out to you? How so?

TAKING IT HOME

In reading Jesus' commentary on a subject like divorce it is crucial to do so with first-century middle-eastern eyes. Jesus challenged the religious leaders who were giving a truncated or incomplete version of teaching on marriage.

2. Why do you think God places such a strong emphasis on the permanence of marriage?
3. Implicit in Jesus' teaching is the defense of women, who were hugely oppressed in the culture of his day. What does this imply about God's view of any power differentials in marriages today?
4. In what kinds of situations might the failure of a marriage be okay?
5. What do you consider to be the reason(s) so many marriages fail?

WEEKLY REFLECTION

While it may be true that God hates, or severely dislikes, divorce, it must also be acknowledged that God continues to love and care for those people who have been divorced. Those who never have had to face the pain of a marriage break-up, should tread carefully and avoid making simplistic judgments regarding the parties involved.

6. Why do you think some Christians are harder on the issue of divorce than they are on other moral issues? What experience have you had/seen of this?
7. In your opinion, what is the most helpful thing Christians can say or do to help marriages in our society last and flourish?
8. What is the "work of Jesus" mentioned this weekend? How does it bring hope?

Surrender - Follow - Listen - Do (2 Corinthians 5:21, John 8:36, Luke 19:10)

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Because we are forgiven, through the Spirit of God we have been given the power to forgive.
No forgiveness, no freedom. In forgiveness, there is freedom.
Freedom to love and be loved.*