



Week 6: Matthew 19:1-12
Opposing the King

The Big Idea:

Jesus exposes the hearts of the Pharisees who don't treat marriage as God intends. The kingdom Jesus brings even shapes how we view God's intent for marriage.

Introduction

How do you see marriage valued and under-valued today?

Read Matthew 19:1-12

- 1. How would you put the Pharisees' question in your own words?**
- 2. If you were there, what might stand out to you about Jesus?**
- 3. What does Jesus say about God's intention for marriage?**
 - What does this mean for divorce/remarriage?
 - What does it mean for unfaithfulness?

It is important to remember as we talk about a difficult topic that we know forgiveness is available for all who turn and trust Jesus, who chose to live like a eunuch, serving many by giving up his life on the cross.

- 4. The Pharisees are speaking about Deuteronomy 24:1-4. How do the Pharisees interpret this passage?**
 - How does Jesus interpret this passage differently?
 - Why might he say "your hearts"? (*What's wrong with their question?*)
 - What kind of world would it be everyone held to this lesser view of faithfulness?
 - What kind of world might it be if faithfulness was honoured?
- 5. How might choosing to live unmarried be done for the sake of the Kingdom?**
 - How might this shape life for the married (see 1 Cor 7:29-35)?
- 6. If Jesus walked the earth teaching these things today, what would you expect to happen to him?**
 - How is it really not much different (see Matthew 16:21 & 19:1)?
 - How might our journey be similar to Jesus' if we hold his teaching?

Pray