Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. March 18, 2018

**Divorce and Remarriage**

Matthew 19:1-12

**Key Truth:** How you understand marriage and divorce will affect how you deal with conflict in your marriage.

1. The Covenant of Marriage – Marriage is a divinely inspired

 lifelong covenant with your spouse.

2. The heart of God in divorce is reconciliation and restoration.

3. The Biblical parameters for allowing divorce and remarriage:

 A. Unfaithfulness in marriage due to unrepentant sexual

 immorality. **Matthew 19:9**

 B. Desertion due to religious disapproval. **1 Corinthians 7:12-16**

 C. Death of your spouse. **1 Corinthians 7:39-40**

4. Answering the questions regarding divorce and remarriage:

 A. What about the Christian who divorced their spouse with

 no biblical grounds and is not remarried?

1. You must remain unmarried or be reconciled to your

 spouse. **1 Corinthians 7:10-11**

 B. The Christian who divorced their spouse with no biblical

 grounds and you are now remarried.

1. You need to confess, repent, and receive God’s forgiveness. **1 John 1:9**
2. You must determine that this marriage will honor God and divorce is not an option.

5. Words of healing and comfort for those divorced.

 A. God doesn’t hate you because you are divorced.

 B. You are not a failure because your marriage failed.

 C. You are loved and important to the Body of Christ.

**Taking it Beyond the Walls:** Honor God in your marriage or singleness. Find an accountability partner to help you live out the purpose of God in your life.

**CONNECTION GROUP HOMEWORK**

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

Have you ever been in a contract you wanted to get out of (think cable, cell phone service, etc)?

Why did you want to get out of it? Were you able to? Why or why not?

In what ways does our culture treat marriage like these kinds of contracts?

What, then, should be the approach of Christians given so many have experienced the pain of divorce?

How can you maintain the balance between upholding the biblical standard for marriage and acting with sensitivity and grace?

If you’ve been through a divorce, what are some of the barriers that keep you from fully accepting God’s grace and forgiveness?

Why is setting a godly example in marriage to one another important for believers?

How has being in Connection Group these 10 weeks strengthened your family and relationship with God.