

WHEN IT DOESN'T WORK OUT

24 NOVEMBER 2024



³Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?” ⁴“Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’ ⁵and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’? ⁶So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

— Matthew 19:3–6 (NIV)



EVERY NATION
SINGAPORE

HOOK

 Start the conversation by saying...

In 2023, the top three reasons for divorce in the US were infidelity, financial problems, and communication breakdown.

ENGAGE

 Go deeper with this...

What's your take on "Mr/Ms Right"?

LINK

 Connect to God's truth by sharing...

- Marriage is meant to be for life.
- Jesus' answer to the question about divorce was "what God has joined together, let no one separate."
- Marriage was not meant to end. However, it does include conflict and disagreement.
- This is a wrong mindset: I'm "compatible" with someone if I don't argue with them.
- We mustn't take the ending of marriage lightly. Our focus should be not looking for grounds for divorce (like the Pharisees), but how marriage can be the way God designed it.
- God's love is not fragile; it is powerful and transformative. Even if a situation seems hopeless, God can redeem it.
- God can restore the most broken relationships.

PAUSE

 Pick a question and pray together...

Discuss Together

- How do you generally respond or deal with arguments in relationships? (With a spouse, fiance/e, family, friends?) What is one thing you've learned or are learning when it comes to this?

Pray Together (*pick one*)

- Pray to see marriage as meant for life. Pray that, whether married or unmarried, you'll uphold God's definition and purpose for marriage.
- If you are experiencing broken relationships or a scarred marriage, bring the relationship to God and pray for His power to restore. Pray for peace in His sovereign will. Pray to learn the lessons He is teaching you in this season.

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**Above all, love each other deeply,
because love covers over a
multitude of sins.**

— 1 Peter 4:8 (NIV)

**¹³Bear with each other and forgive
one another if any of you has a
grievance against someone.**

Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

**¹⁴And over all these virtues put on
love, which binds them all together
in perfect unity.**

— Colossians 3:13–14 (NIV)