

Bible Study 11 – Marriage for life – Matthew 19:1-6

There were 121,197 marriages registered and 46,498 divorces granted in Australia in 2014. That's a ratio of 38%. When you add the marriage separations that don't involve divorce, it's evident that at least 50% of marriages result in separation. And divorce statistics don't take in to account the breakdown of long-term de facto relationships (which are less stable than marriages) which in Australia have a very similar legal standing to marriages. Trends in couple formation and dissolution have resulted in an increase in the proportion of Australian adults who are unpartnered (typically 30-40%).

The context	Jesus had three years of ministry. The first year was His inauguration, in the second year He was popular, while in the third year He faced significant opposition. In Matthew 19, He leaves Galilee on His last trip to Jerusalem where the opposition will climax with Him being crucified as a criminal. He is in Perea, east of the Jordan river, where Herod Antipas ruled. John the Baptist had denounced Herod of unlawful divorce and remarriage to Herodias and this cost him imprisonment and his life (Mark 6:7-18).
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PART 1 Read and summarise each section – Matthew 19:1-6

Introduction (v.1-2)	
Question (v.3)	
Answer (v.4-6)	

PART 2 Things I discovered in this passage

1. *What I learnt about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit.*

2. *What I learnt about people like us.*

3. *Summarise a key verse in your own words.*

4. *In your opinion, what are the most important biblical principles being taught?*

5. *Which other parts of the passage caught your attention?*

6. *How can our view of Genesis 1-2 (as poetry, myth, or real history) affect our view of marriage (Gen. 1:27; 2:24)?*

7. *Which parts of the passage were difficult to understand? What questions come to your mind?*

Let's respect biblical marriage as a lifetime commitment between a man and a woman.



Obey

Since God's word is true, what must I change in my life to obey God?
What must I do to obey?

I will
I will
I will

Questions to help me apply this study to myself

- Is there a *SIN* for me to avoid?
- Is there a *PROMISE* from God for me to claim?
- Is there an *EXAMPLE* for me to follow?
- Is there a *COMMANDMENT* or *MODEL* for me to follow?

Share

Who will I tell about this Bible passage?

Prayer

Date:

One thing you are thankful for.

One thing that's bothering you.

Is there anything this group can do to help you?

Person	Prayer points

Who needs help? What can we do to help over the next two weeks?

Person	How will I help them?

