

IT GETS BETTER



Encouragement for mothers navigating divorce

ASHLEY ASH

Introduction: When the Path Changes

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." - Jeremiah 29:11

No one walks down the aisle expecting to someday walk into a divorce attorney's office. The journey of marriage is supposed to be "till death do us part," yet for many faithful Christians, that path takes an unexpected turn.

If you find yourself here—a single parent navigating the aftermath of divorce while trying to hold onto your faith—know that you are not alone, and more importantly, you are not abandoned by God.

This book isn't about justifying divorce or minimizing its impact. Rather, it's about acknowledging where you are now and finding God's grace, healing, and purpose in this season. It's about learning to parent well in the midst of pain and transition. It's about the promise that echoes throughout Scripture: it gets better.

As someone who has walked this path, prayed through tears, questioned God's plan, and ultimately found His faithfulness on the other side, I want to share with you what I've learned.

This is not just my story but the collective wisdom of many Christian parents who have discovered that God's love isn't limited by our circumstances. His mercies truly are new every morning, even after divorce.

Chapter 1: Grace in the Breaking

"The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." - Psalm 34:18

Understanding God's Heart Toward Divorce

The words "God hates divorce" (Malachi 2:16) have been wielded like a hammer against many struggling Christians. But what does this really mean? God hates divorce because He sees the pain it causes His children, both the adults and the innocent children affected. He hates it just as a parent hates to see their child suffer through any difficult circumstance.

Yet the same God who hates divorce is the God who specializes in redemption. Throughout Scripture, we see Him bringing beauty from ashes, creating pathways through wilderness seasons, and offering fresh starts to the brokenhearted.

Finding God's Grace in Your Decision

One day, drowning in despair and confusion, I looked to the sky and spoke to my Father in heaven: "I know this is not what you want for me. Why are you imprisoning me?" His response came swiftly and clearly: "I am not imprisoning you."

That moment of divine clarity changed everything. I realized that sometimes, divorce isn't a failure of faith but an acknowledgment of reality. In cases of infidelity, abuse, or profound brokenness, God in His mercy sometimes provides an exit. The Bible acknowledges this reality, even as it upholds the sanctity of marriage.

Releasing the Weight of Shame

The church community can sometimes be the most difficult place to navigate as a divorced parent. Well-meaning comments, scriptural references taken out of context, and subtle judgment can add to your burden. Remember that Jesus reserved His harshest words not for the broken but for the religious leaders who added burdens to those already struggling.

Your worth is not determined by your marital status. Your identity in Christ remains intact. You are still loved, still valued, still called, and still empowered for His purpose.

Reflection Questions:

1. Where have you been carrying shame about your divorce? Take time to write down these thoughts and surrender them to God.
2. How might God be showing you grace in this season that you've been unable to receive?
3. What Scripture speaks to God's love for you personally, beyond your role as spouse or ex-spouse?

Coming in the Full Book:

Chapter 2: Helping Your Children Navigate the Storm

Responding to a difficult season with age-appropriate truth and compassion

Chapter 3: Establishing New Rhythms

Establishing routines, traditions, and environments that promote healing

Chapter 4: Healing Your Own Heart

Processing trauma, prioritizing self-care, and rediscovering your identity in Christ

Chapter 5: Nurturing Important Connections When Life Changes

Dealing with inevitable changes to your social landscape after divorce

Chapter 6: Dating, Remarriage, and Blended Families

Wisdom for approaching new relationships after divorce

Chapter 7: The Church, Community, and Support

Rebuilding community and spiritual identity when you feel displaced

Chapter 8: Standing on God's Promises

Embracing God's beautiful plan for your future beyond divorce

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This free chapter is offered as encouragement to mothers in difficult seasons. The complete book "It Gets Better: Encouragement for Mothers Navigating Divorce" is available now.

For more information, visit www.ashleyash.com.

About the Author



As someone who has personally navigated the challenging journey of divorce as a Christian parent and emerged into the light of renewal, Ashley Ash brings both deep empathy, practical wisdom, and faith-centered guidance to these pages.

Her faith journey began at a young age, leading her to answer the call to ministry at 19, during her sophomore year at Ohio University. While riding a charter bus back to campus, she embraced her calling to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This foundation of faith became her anchor during the storms of marriage challenges, divorce, and single parenthood.

Through her own experience of rebuilding life after divorce and finding healing, Ashley discovered God's redemptive work firsthand. The principles and practices shared in this book were refined in the fire of her own journey, where God's faithful presence never wavered even in the darkest moments.

Ashley is passionate about spreading the message of Christ's love to those navigating life's unexpected turns. Her authentic approach to faith—acknowledging both the struggle and the hope—resonates with parents seeking to honor God while healing from divorce.

Through "It Gets Better," Ashley offers not just theory but testimony—a living witness that God's grace is sufficient, His redemption is real, and His ability to create beauty from ashes is without limit. Her story stands as evidence of the book's central promise: with faith, support, and time, it truly does get better.