

Causes And Solutions To A Divorce Sunday AM 04/10/22

Introduction:

Marriages often have challenges and many work out their problems. But occasionally someone calls asking to talk. May be both husband/wife show up. Eventually they reveal some marriage problems. At times it is with the intent of "working things out" but it may be to explain why they are seeking a divorce. Upon reflection I came up with a list of reasons of what Has gone wrong and some solutions.

I) Reasons

A) **Did not take the commitment seriously.**

1. Perhaps they got caught up in the excitement of planning a wedding, having a "Wedding Shower" and just being the center of attention.
2. Immaturity may play a role in this and that does not necessarily relate to age.
3. Marriage is between a man and a woman.

Genesis 2:23 And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man." 24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

4. This is a serious commitment, one for life, a "till death" do you part promise.

Matthew 19:5 "and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? 6 "So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

B) **Lack of time together. Which results in a lot of issues.**

1. Lack of communication. Women often say their husband does not talk to them.

- a. Communication is a two way street. There is verbal and non-verbal communication.

1 Peter 3:1 Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives,

1 Peter 3:7 Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

- b. good communication takes time.

2. Never at home- spend time with the children.

- a. Outside interest takes priority. Hunting, fishing, etc.

- b. Eventually the one at home gets tired of being alone and doing it all.

C) Finding someone else more appealing.

1. Perhaps a younger person who hasn't had children, or still has his hair, or hasn't gained weight.
2. Just the allure of a "new love" and bring back excitement into their lives.

D) I have changed, we have grown apart, and I am not happy any more.

1. May be one person has gone back to school and now has a degree with new friends.
 - a. Know of one man who went to school while his wife worked to provide for them. Upon graduation he announced he was leaving her.
2. This goes along with a lack of commitment and willingness to work together.

** These things don't happen overnight but over a period of decline. Not paying attention to what is happening.

II) Why Some Leave Christ

A) Did not take their commitment seriously.

1. They understood they needed a Savior but did not think about a Lord.

Acts 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

Romans 10:8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

2. Once they started realizing there is more to being a Christian than just being baptized, or going to church, they lack the dedication to continue on,

Luke 8:6 "Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. 7 "And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it.

Luke 8:13 "But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. 14 "Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity.

3. It takes commitment to live the Christian life. Dedication to grow, to read and study, to have one's priorities right.

I remember one young person who started attending and after a short time was baptized. She came for a little while but then stopped.

B) Lack of time with Jesus

1. Lack of time in worship. Start forsaking the assembling of the saints.

Hebrews 10:25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

2. Lack of time in Bible study. To get to “know” Christ one has to read His word.
3. Lack of time in prayer- communication with God.
4. Find me a Christian who no longer assembles with the saints, no longer studies their Bible, no longer prays, and I will find you a person who has divorced themselves from Christ.

C) Found something or someone more appealing.

1 John 2:15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world--the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life--is not of the Father but is of the world. 17 And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

1. The appeal of sin, physical pleasure which is immediate vs. self-control and making sacrifices.

Hebrews 11:24 By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25 choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin,

2. Want a “good time”, the allure of the world and doing whatever you want when you want.
3. They might even realize they are wrong but still choose the world over God.

D) Fallen out of love.

Revelation 2:4 "Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love.

1. Just don't love Jesus like I used to. Happens over time and is gradual.

2. Easy to become a “lukewarm” Christian.

Revelation 3:15 "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. 16 "So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.

E) I have changed and just don't care anymore.

1. Perhaps they have slowly replaced Christ with other things.
2. No longer hunger for the fellowship of being with Christians.

Hebrews 2:1 Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away.

III) Solutions

A) Repent

1. If something is wrong you have to change. Without repentance nothing will improve.
2. In your marriage, look at what you need to do.

Ephesians 5:24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

3. In our relationship with Christ.

B) Remember the commitment you made

1 Corinthians 7:2 Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband. 3 Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband

1. In marriage to forsake all others, to be faithful unto death.
 - a. To leave behind mom and dad, etc.
2. To Christ we make the commitment to keep His word, do what He says.

Galatians 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

C) Spend time with each other (make it personal)

1. Good marriages have a common bond and that requires time together.
2. The same goes for being with Christ.

Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

- a. To care enough to want to encourage others, and to want to be encouraged.
- b. Also in reading His word.

Ephesians 3:3 how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, 4 by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ),

D) Remember why you found them appealing

1. Remember why you fell in love with them.
2. Why you wanted to become a Christian to start with. His sacrifice for you, His love, forgiveness, etc.

Revelation 2:4 "Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love. 5 "Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place--unless you repent.

E) Just don't care anymore.

1. This is really, really serious in any marriage. Perhaps the death nail in any relationship is when someone has just given up. Have to realize what is at stake.

- a. your family, children, etc.
 - b. The last harm with will create.
2. In our relationship with Christ.

Hebrews 6:4-For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, 5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, 6 if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.

- a. There is no other sacrifice for you, no other means of salvation, no new Gospel.
- b. There is only the knowledge of what you should be doing.

Hebrews 10:26-For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. 28 Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?

Conclusion:

You will notice I did not mention those who divorce for adultery as mentioned in Matthew 19.9. I know some marriages do end for this reason and shows us the seriousness of not being faithful. In our relationship we know He will always be faithful. **2 Thessalonians 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one.**