

The Sermon on the Mount, Part 1 (7 of 10) Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the recent sermons page at our website and at the Grantham Church Podcast the following day, along with the sermon slides and small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

Sunday, October 19th, 2025



Sermon Series Summary

Matthew 5-7 is known as the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus went up a mountain and a large crowd gathered to hear him preach a powerful message—proclaiming the gospel of the Kingdom and casting a vision of what it looks like to live in right relationship with God, our neighbors, and our enemies. These three chapters contain the core of Jesus' teachings and his most well-known sayings, including some of the most rigorous ethical demands in the Bible. Join us for Part 1 of this series (Sept 7-Nov 9), as we explore the message and implications of Jesus' invitation to enter the narrow gate and follow him.

Sermon Title: Divorce, Remarriage, and God's Grace

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5:31-32; 19:1-12; 1 Corinthians 7:6-11

Sermon Focus: As modern readers, we often miss what Jesus means when he addresses divorce and remarriage because we've not taken into consideration the longstanding first century debate of Deut. 24:1-4, which Jesus is responding to in his sermon. In the seventh message of our series, Pastor David shares about the story surrounding divorce in ancient Israel, the Bible's ideal of covenant loyalty, and then invites us to receive God's grace and wisdom to navigate divorce in our culture today.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. Begin by reading Matthew 5:31-32 silently and then out loud. What are your initial thoughts and reactions to Jesus' teaching on divorce in these two verses?
2. Think back to the movie clip shown at the beginning of the sermon. Have you ever experienced something like this? Have you ever known Christians to shame and judge others in this way? How can we do a better job of holding convictions and yet showing grace to others who fall short of God's standard?
3. Read Matthew 19:1-12 and discuss this passage. What insights into the context from Pastor David's sermon did you find most helpful? How does knowing the first century debate shape the way you understand this passage?
4. The disciples' response in Matthew 19:10-12 reveal their shock that Jesus intensifies the permanence and sacredness of marriage. And then Jesus speaks of marriage, as well as those who are unmarried, as a calling; each person has a path to walk. In what ways has the church elevated the calling of marriage over being "single" in the church? What would it look like to do better in this area?
5. Ask yourself, how does Jesus' vision of marriage and his thoughts on divorce challenge my own view of commitment, love, and covenant?
6. Ask yourself, where might "hardness of heart" be keeping me from forgiveness, reconciliation, or healing—either in marriage or in my relationships? Is there someone that you need to forgive and/or be reconciled to right now?
7. **LIFE ON MISSION QUESTION:** Who do you know outside the church that has experienced divorce? How can the church embody both truth and grace toward those who have gone through a divorce? Ask yourself, how can I show grace to myself as I show God's grace to them? And then end in prayer together.