



CALLLED  
*Together*  
TO BE

# SET APART

MYTHS  
ABOUT  
DIVORCE

7/30/23  
MESSAGE NOTES

The culture influenced how the Corinthians viewed many things, especially divorce. How has the culture influenced our thinking? What are some myths about divorce that are prevalent in our day?

## 1<sup>ST</sup> MYTH – DIVORCE IS NEVER WRONG

“A wife is not to depart from her husband...and a husband is not to divorce his wife.” – 1 Cor. 7:10, 11

### 3 Cultures believe the myth

- **The Roman culture** made divorce very easy. All you had to do was leave the person and make a declaration that you were divorcing them. This culture influenced the Corinthians. Paul wrote telling them that God’s intention for a married couple is that they stay together.
- **The Jewish culture** also had a branch that believed divorce was permissible for “any reason” (based on a 1<sup>st</sup>-century Jewish debate between the Shammaites and Hillelites. See Matt. 19:1-12). Jesus’ response is that God’s intention for a married couple is that they stay together.
- **American culture** also believes in a “no-fault divorce”. This is wrong. God hates divorce (see Malachi 2:16) and His intention for a married couple is that they stay together.

### 3 Reasons Divorce is damaging

- **Married couples are united and divorce brings unspeakable damage.** God made a husband and wife “one flesh”, so divorce rips that union apart.
- **The effects of divorce trickle into the lives of the children.** A child is the result of the “one-flesh” union. When the one flesh is ripped, the child is torn as well. Thankfully, the Heavenly Father fills any void and heals any wound which a divorce can bring, but the damage divorce has on children is tremendous.
- **Married couples are given for each other’s sanctification.** God uses each within the couple to help grow one another. While weaknesses and troubles make a marriage difficult, the grace and strength which God supplies can bring the couple through the trial to a greater love for each other and God.

Next week, we’ll look at the other myth, namely, that divorce is ALWAYS wrong.