

## BEFORE YOU DIVORCE

The institution of marriage goes back to the beginning. The book of Genesis describes its commencement this way:

“And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. 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. Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh” (Gen. 2:21-24).

God's ideal regarding holy wedlock is one man for one woman for life. Death dissolves the marriage bond (Rom. 7:1-3). In worst case scenarios, marriages may end due to marital infidelity (Mat. 19:9). However, we must remember that the Bible teaches that God hates divorce (Mal. 2:16). If you know someone who is considering divorce, or if you are, then consider these truths...

**1. Divorce is not a problem solver.** Someone might say, "If I get rid of my spouse, I will get rid of this problem and then I will be happy." However, it has been shown that divorce tends to bring more problems than solutions. Some think that if they divorce they can finally find the companions of their dreams and start over. However, the grass is riot always greener on the other side. One study suggested that some sixty percent of second marriages end in divorce.

**2. Divorce is often a creator of problems.** First, most divorces fly in the face of Bible teaching and directly contradict the words of our Lord (Mat. 19:1-9). This is a problem. But there are others that one might

want to consider. First, there are money problems, especially among women. The standard of living for divorced women has been known to plummet on average some seventy-three percent. Second, there is the problem of loneliness. Again, women seem to suffer the most. It's been estimated that forty percent of women over thirty who divorce never remarry. Rather than finding Mr. Right they live the rest of their lives alone. Finally, divorce typically becomes the source of ongoing pain and depression. A number of divorcees report that they continue to experience hurt even ten years after the break up of their marriages.

**3. Divorce hurts children.** Several years ago, Claire Berman, wrote a book entitled, *A Hole in My Heart: Adult Children of Divorce Speak Out*, in which she said, "The most striking impression one comes away with is that for children, the divorce of the parents never goes away. It may be welcomed. It may be understood. But even when it is a positive solution to a destructive family situation, divorce is a critical experience for its children. Although there may be relief that a painful situation has been ended, there is also regret that a healthy family could not be created." With these thought in mind, we must be very careful. We dare not cause any little children to stumble (Mark 9:42).

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**Bill Burk** from *Handley Herald*

## IF YOU DO NOT WANT A DIVORCE

**If you do not want a divorce, put your mate first.** I shudder when I hear a woman say, “*Oh, I put my children ahead of everything!*” You should put your **husband** first, knowing that the greatest gift you can ever bestow upon your son or daughter is the security which comes from knowing that mother and daddy love each other.

**If you do not want a divorce, learn to express your love to your mate.** Love is never out of style or out of date. There is no taboo on tenderness in any culture. A man or woman needs to be loved no less at fifty than on his or her wedding night.

**If you do not want a divorce, learn to live within your means.** It is a fine thing to do with, but it is even better to be able to do **without** successfully! Refuse to live beyond your income or to become a compulsive buyer. Piling up debts has a way of breaking down a marriage.

**If you do not want a divorce, learn to build, not blast, the self-esteem of your partner.** Practically all of us from time to time, wonder about our worth. In those moments, nothing is so damaging as the discovery that the one person who ought to know and love us best is the very person who puts us down!

**If you do not want a divorce, then do not marry a mate with the idea of reforming him or her.** It has been my studied conclusion that very few people are ever changed by the simple action of walking down a marriage aisle.

**If you do not want a divorce, then learn to compromise with each other.** Never forget that the sweetest words ever to fall from human lips are, “*I’m sorry, please forgive me.*”

**If you do not want a divorce, then seek and find common goals and directions.** We live in a day when each does “his own thing,” the wife going in one direction, the husband another, with rarely the twain meeting. Do things together.

**If you do not want a divorce, then reject interference from in-laws and relatives.**

**Author Unknown**

## **BIRTHDAYS**

Delores Adams, 05-16; Trent Thrasher, 05-19.

## **ILL**

**Sunday:** Chris Edwards (AM), Dave Parish, Millie Robertson (PM). **Wednesday:** Gary and Melissa Cole, Dave Parish, Millie Robertson. Dave Parish had outpatient tests on Wednesday at Shawnee Mission Medical Center.

**Those battling cancer:** Jamal Abyad, Diane Cannon, David Cole, and Ledgia Campbell. Please remember these in your prayers, as well as: Meredith Greer, Millie Robertson, Allen Scott, and Ralph and Helen Franklin.

## **HOME BOUND**

Bob Adams resides at Room D-4 of the Johnson County Nursing Center in Olathe. Marion Stone is at home. Please remember these in your prayers and visitation.

## **OUT OF TOWN**

Ted and Julia Thrasher were in Newton, Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri last week. Robin Brown was out of town on business last week. Wilba Hopkins is in Tennessee for her grandson's graduation.

## **PHOTO DIRECTORY**

Steve Brown will be producing a directory with pictures of each family. He will be taking photos during the month of May. All are encouraged to come prepared for your family picture.

## **AREA EVENTS**

There are several area lectureships and meetings taking place over the next few weeks. Don Underwood will be at 39th Street in Independence this week. Check the bulletin board for times and details.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Sunday AM, 41; Sunday PM, 39; Wednesday PM, 36.

## **Those To Serve**

May 13, 2007

**BUILDING AND COMMUNION..... Thrasher**

### **MORNING WORSHIP**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS..... George Thomas**  
**SONG LEADER..... Joel Nelson**  
**OPENING PRAYER ..... Jeff Nemecek**  
**PRESIDE..... Steve Brown**  
**ASSIST..... John James**  
**ASSIST..... David Parish**  
**CLOSING PRAYER..... John Carter**

### **EVENING WORSHIP**

**OPENING PRAYER ..... Gary Cole**  
**CLOSING PRAYER..... John Cody Carter**  
**LORD'S SUPPER..... Steve Brown**

### **WEDNESDAY 16th**

**SONG LEADER..... Jared Nelson**  
**INVITATION ..... Jeremy Keifer**

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

### **Sunday**

Bible Study ..... 9:30 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 10:30 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM

### **Wednesday**

Ladies Bible Study ..... 10:00 AM  
Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM

**Preacher: Ted J. Thrasher**

**Phone: (913) 764-2325**

**E-mail: olathecoc@sbcglobal.net**

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**515 WEST PARK**

**P.O. BOX 482**

**OLATHE, KANSAS 66051**

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