



Week 4 - Fading Love

Divorce was never in the plans when God created the universe, but grace always was. For those who have been divorced or feel like they may be headed in that direction now, remember: Divorce doesn't have to be a permanent stain on your spiritual identity. God's grace covers you.

Scriptures:

If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us.

1 John 1:8-9

Some Pharisees came and tried to trap him with this question: "Should a man be allowed to divorce his wife for just any reason?"

"Haven't you read the Scriptures?" Jesus replied. "They record that from the beginning 'God made them male and female.'" And he said, "'This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.' Since they are no longer two but one, let no one split apart what God has joined together."

"Then why did Moses say in the law that a man could give his wife a written notice of divorce and send her away?" they asked.

Jesus replied, "Moses permitted divorce only as a concession to your hard hearts, but it was not what God had originally intended. And I tell you this, whoever divorces his wife and marries someone else commits adultery—unless his wife has been unfaithful."

Jesus' disciples then said to him, "If this is the case, it is better not to marry!"

Matthew 19:3-10

Ice Breaker and Intro Question:

1. What is your biggest takeaway from the Crazy Love series as a whole?
2. What resonated with you from Sunday's service? (Sermon, scripture, song, etc.)

Discussion Questions

1. Read 1 John 1:8-9 together as a group. Why should this convict and comfort all of us? How does this convict and comfort you personally? Why is this important to remember when starting to discuss a topic like divorce?
2. Read Matthew 19:3-10 quietly by yourself and take some notes on what you learn. What do we learn from the way Jesus responds? How does his response show love for us?
3. This message can stir a lot of emotions for many of us - from our family of origin, from our own experiences. What emotions does this message and topic bring up for you? Share, if you're willing, and listen to one another without immediately responding.
4. Eddie's shared that there is a difference between conviction and condemnation. What about conviction leads to freedom?
5. Read John 10:10 together as a group. How does this passage make you feel when it comes to trusting God on tough topics,
6. How do you sense God speaking to you through his word & through your discussion? Take a moment to reflect on your own, share briefly as a group, and then close in prayer together.

Additional Resources:

- We put together some resources for this series at www.wschurch.org/resources. You'll find links to videos, books, Bible reading plans, and more.

Notes: