

## Study Guide

### Mark 10:1-16

**Theme:** Family life leads to personal growth!

**Introduction:**

Jesus (King) was expected to overthrow the Roman government and set up an earthly Kingdom. Instead He introduced a paradox, announcing that He will be laying down His life. Following we find several paradox statements, two of which are in our passage today:

1. Two Shall Be One!
2. Adults Shall Be as Children!

1. Discuss a tense family situation that led to your own personal growth.

2. Read Mark 10:1-5.

What do we learn about the root issue behind divorce? How can God use conflict to teach us things about our own "hardness of heart"? Read 2 Cor. 7:10-11. How can you tell when God has softened our hearts?

3. Read Mark 10:6-12.

Discuss God's design for marriage.

- a. "Two become one." What does that imply?
- b. "What God has joined, let not man separate". What does that mean?

Discuss our tendency to want to escape too quickly and lose what God may be teaching us.

4. Read Mark 10:13-16.

How do children demonstrate child-like faith? Why is it good for us to do the same?

**Application**

For personal growth, spend a few minutes meditating on this verse:

*"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."* John 15:5

## Message Slides

### Mark 10:1-16

#### **Paradox: King = Servant**

1. Two shall be One (Mark 10:1-12)
2. Adults shall be as Children (Mark 10:13-16)
3. *The First Shall be Last!*
4. *The Servants Shall be Rulers!*
5. *The Poor Shall be Rich!*

#### **Theme- Family Life = Personal Growth.**

*Pic of Christopher McCandless*

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##### **I. Paradox- Two Shall be One! (Mark 10:1-5)**

And he left there and went to the region of Judea and beyond the Jordan, and crowds gathered to him again. And again, as was his custom, he taught them. <sup>2</sup>And Pharisees came up and in order to test him asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" <sup>3</sup>He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" <sup>4</sup>They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce and to send her away."<sup>5</sup>And Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment.

##### **A. Certificate of Divorce**

Rabbi Hillel vs. Rabbi Shammai

Deut. 24:1- "When a man takes a wife and marries her, if then she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some indecency in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce ..."

##### **B. Hardness of Heart**

And he left there and went to the region of Judea and beyond the Jordan, and crowds gathered to him again. And again, as was his custom, he taught them. <sup>2</sup>And Pharisees came up and in order to test him asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" <sup>3</sup>He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" <sup>4</sup>They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce and to send her away."<sup>5</sup>And Jesus said to them, "Because of your **hardness of heart** he wrote you this commandment.

##### **Soft hearts**

2 Cor. 7:10-11

“For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death. For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment! At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter.”

### C. God’s Design for Marriage (Mark 10:6-12)

•But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ •‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh. •What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”  
•And in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. •And he said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, •and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

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1. “Two become one”
2. “What God has joined, let not man separate.”

**Theme- Family Life = Personal Growth.**

### II. Paradox- Adults Shall be Like Children (Mark 10:13-16)

•And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. •But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. •Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” •And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

*Image of Baby on hands*

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### Personal Growth

#### John 15:5

“I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.”