

## Marriage – Is God Making Matches? - Biblical Discussion

What is marriage?

Are there any types of marriages?

Is there a one to one matches for everyone?

Does God pick one's partner? **Genesis 3:12, Mark 10:6-9**

What do you look for in a partner? **Genesis 24:12**

Is a marriage ceremony required?

Do I have to be legally married to be married in the eyes of God? **Romans 13:1-7, John 1:2, 4:17, Eph. 5:31**

Isn't a marriage ceremony just a man-made tradition?

What are the responsibilities of a husband and wife? **Ephesians 5:21-32, 1 Corinthians 7**

Is marriage 50% 50%, 100% 25% or what's your view? **Ephesians 5:25-33**

What is your view on inter-racial marriages? **1 Corinthians 6:12**

What is a good marriage? **Ephesians 5:21-32**

When is a marriage over? **Deuteronomy 24:1-4**

What are the grounds for divorce? **Matthew 19:9**



**Marriage** the social institution under which a **man** and **woman** establish their decision to live as husband and wife by legal commitments, religious ceremonies, etc.

Consider the following statistics from the US Census Bureau: (<http://carm.org/what-does-bible-teach-about-divorce>)

In 1920, there was 1 divorce for every 7 marriages. That is 14%.

In 1940, there was 1 divorce for every 6 marriages. That is 17%.

In 1960, there was 1 divorce for every 4 marriages. That is 25%.

In 1972, there was 1 divorce for every 3 marriages. That is 33%.

In 1977, there was 1 divorce for every 2 marriages. That is 50%.

Of course, the divorce rate has stayed around 50% since the 70's, but has recently exceeded that.

1. What if a person was an unbeliever when he got divorced and it was for an unbiblical reason and later became a Christian? What should he do?
  1. If reconciliation is an option, seek it.
    1. However,
      1. If the ex-spouse is not a Christian, he should not remarry the spouse because a believer is not to marry an unbeliever ([2 Cor. 6:14](#)).
      2. If either spouse has gotten married, remarriage is not an option either ([Deut. 24:3-4](#); [Mark 10:11-12](#)).
      3. If the ex-spouse will have nothing to do with any reconciliation or you are not able to contact this person, you are free to remarry.
      4. If the spouse has died, you are free to remarry.
2. What if a person was a believer when he got divorced, but the reason was not adultery or abandonment, and wants to remarry someone different now what should he do?
  1. If you initiated the divorce, then you should not remarry ([Matt. 19:9](#)), However...
    1. Reconciliation with the initial spouse should be sought with confession of sin and the request for forgiveness.
    2. If it was the spouse that left without a biblical reason, then you are free to remarry.
      1. Reconciliation should be sought with a confession of sin.
  3. What if a couple was divorced, married others, got divorced, and wants to become remarried to again?
    1. The Bible says that you cannot return to your first spouse after you remarried ([Deut. 24:3-4](#); [Jer. 3:1](#)).
      1. If you have, nevertheless, already gotten married, continue in your marriage and seek the Lord's forgiveness. He will give it.
  4. What if a person was a believer when he got divorced, but the reason was not adultery or abandonment, and has already gotten married. Is he in sin?
    1. Depending on the circumstances, he may be. But he should confess his sin to the lord and spouse and seek forgiveness from the original spouse and then he should stay married and be the best husband (or wife) he can be.