

Topical Sermon — What does Jesus say about marriage? Matthew 19

Introduction — a social issue that is unavoidable

Not “what *would* Jesus say?” but “what *did* Jesus say!”

1. Matthew 19

Jesus says contemporary issues are still addressed by God’s unchanging word

Jesus looks to God’s purpose and design in creation (Gen. 1& 2)
Marriage is made for Two Gendered Humanity, Male & Female

Jesus questions the motives of those who want to relax marriage

Marriage is not for everyone: Jesus gives examples

Jesus who says this was unmarried & yet completely whole as a person

2. Why do we find it hard to hear Jesus’s words on this topic?

Culture — you’re soaking in it

Care — Christians want to avoid cruelty at all costs

Culpability — Christians have failed to speak on other issues and failed to create communities of care and support

3. The Challenge of God’s word

Do we believe that our creator knows what is best for human flourishing?

Will we be good neighbours, seeking the good of others even at the cost of reputational risk and misunderstanding?

Do we believe Matthew 5 — Blessed, Salt & Light?