May Divorce Never Be With You

Topical – Tough Topics (Divorce)

Scope and Sequence

Students will learn a biblical approach to divorce and be challenged to respond appropriately to those who have been impacted by divorce.

Lesson Objective

**Be the force against divorce.**

Sticky

Statement

Matthew 19:6

Key Verse

**Covenant:** *“a binding solemn agreement”*

Definitions

**Hospitable:** *“given to generous and* [*cordial*](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/cordial#h1) *reception of guests”*

1. A PowerPoint is available for this lesson.

Checklist

1. Two large phone books (Hook)
2. Two sheets of paper (Hook)
3. Optional video: <https://teachersource.wol.org/resource/SBS20/41-1/> (Hook)

Resources

and

References

1. “Divorce-Helping Children Adjust,” The American Academy of Pediatrics, 2000.
2. Helping Children and Families Deal with Divorce and Separation <https://teachersource.wol.org/resource/SBS20/41-2/>
3. Smedes, Lewis. “Controlling the Unpredictable – The Power of Promising.” Christianity Today. January 21, 1983.
4. Strong, James. *Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible*. Abingdon Press, 1890. Print.
5. Wiersbe, Warren. The Bible Exposition Commentary. p. 527. Victor Books. 1989.
6. Marquardt, Elizabeth. *Between Two Worlds*, 155.
7. Scientific American: <https://teachersource.wol.org/resource/SBS20/41-3/>
8. Mythbusters: <https://teachersource.wol.org/resource/SBS20/41-1/>
9. Axis Ministries: [www.axis.org](http://www.axis.org)

*\*Not all of the websites listed in this lesson are affiliated with or sponsored by Word of Life. The sites should be used only for reference or resource purposes and may contain content not endorsed by Word of Life.*

LESSON OVERVIEW

1. A Long Time Ago in a **Garden**, Far, Far Away (Genesis 2:21-24)

**Covenant:** “*a binding solemn agreement*”

1. Wisdom from a Minor **Prophet** (Malachi 2:14, 16)
2. Wisdom from the **Creator** of the Universe (Matthew 19:3-9; Ephesians 5:22-33)
3. Form an **alliance** (Psalm 27:10)
4. Be **hospitable** (Romans 12:13)

**Hospitable:** *“given to generous and* [*cordial*](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/cordial#h1) *reception of guests”*

1. Bear their **burden** (Galatians 6:2)
2. Bring them to the **Healer** (Psalm 27:10)
3. “Do—or do not. There is no **try**.” (1 Timothy 4:12)
4. Never turn to the **dark side**. (Psalm 34:18)
5. The **pain** of divorce (Psalm 34:18)
6. The **difficulty** of divorce
7. The **temptation** in divorce
8. New **hope** is found in God (Romans 5:3-5; 8:38-39)

**Be the force against divorce.**

HOOK

Teacher’s Note: *Prior to teaching, prepare the “phone book friction” illustration. Ask for two of the “strongest” students in the room to volunteer. As a measure of strength, have each volunteer grab the binding of one of the phone books and attempt to pull them apart. If you cannot obtain two phone books, use the optional video. Side Note: You do not have to use phone books. Two thick, regular books will work. Instructions for preparing the illustration can be found at the following website:* [*https://teachersource.wol.org/resource/SBS20/41-3/*](https://teachersource.wol.org/resource/SBS20/41-3/)*.*

We are going to start tonight’s lesson with a visual illustration.For this illustration, we are going to need two volunteers, but we are not just looking for any volunteers. We need the strongest two people in the room. If you think that you might be one of the two strongest people in the room, stand up. *[Choose two volunteers to come to the front of the room.]*

As you can see, we have two phone books here that have been interleaved. Wait, you all know what phone books are, right? It is not too often you see a phone book anymore.

What you two will need to do is to simply pull the two books apart. We have not glued or taped anything together. All we have done is taken the pages from one book and interleaved it with the pages of the other book. No tricks here!

If one of you will take the binding of one book and the other one will take the binding of the other book, you need to pull them apart.

Teacher’s Note: *Allow the volunteers to try to pull the books apart. If you are unable to set up this physical illustration, play the optional video (*[*https://teachersource.wol.org/resource/SBS20/41-1/*](https://teachersource.wol.org/resource/SBS20/41-1/)*).*

Isn’t that crazy? As you can see, there is no possible way to pull those books apart. This physics experiment is known as “book friction.” Once you interleave the pages, there is friction on each page producing a ridiculous amount of friction force. Even the strongest person in this room cannot separate the two books.

When you see how impossible it was to pull the books apart, imagine God’s idea of marriage. Yes, that’s right, marriage. Listen to the truth found in Matthew 19:6. *[Read Matthew 19:6.]* “Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.”

Teacher’s Note: *Take the two pieces of paper, place them on top of one another and have the volunteers each hold a side of the “stack” of paper.*

What if it was just two pieces of paper overlapped? How hard would it be for you to pull these apart? *[Ask your volunteers to separate the two pieces of paper from one another.]*

It would be very simple; we wouldn’t need someone that strong. Even a child could pull them apart. *[Ask your volunteers to be seated and hold up the two pieces of paper.]*

To many, marriage has become more like these pieces of paper instead of the friction of the two books. Most, if not all, of us have someone we know that has been affected by divorce.

Divorce is the first topic in a four-part series called *“Deal With It: A Biblical Approach to Tough Topics.”* In each of the four parts of this series, we will discover the biblical approach to some rather difficult topics. In tonight’s lesson, we will be taking principles from Scripture and applying them to the topic of divorce.

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, each year one million children are affected by the divorce of their parents. Just to show you how divorce has impacted our world, if you are related to someone who has had a divorce (it could be your grandparents, your parents, an aunt or uncle, a cousin, a brother or sister), stand up! Look around. If you are not standing, you probably have a friend whose life has been impacted by divorce.

Look around again. What are we going to do about it? What are ***you*** going to do about it? Thanks, you can be seated. *[Hold up or refer to the two phone books.]*

God’s idea of marriage is more like the friction that holds the two books together. Whether you are in a divorced family, know a friend who has divorced parents, or desire to have a committed marriage when you grow up, it is time to be the force. It is time to **be the force against divorce.**

Even if you are not a fan of Star Wars, you may be familiar with the often-misquoted line, “Luke, I am your Father.” (What Darth Vader actually says is, “No, I am your Father.”) In the movie, Luke Skywalker was adopted into a family and spent much of his life figuring out who he was, what family he belonged to, and what fight to fight. His broken family relationships showed their effect, even in this classic science fiction anthology. Eventually, he chose to join the force against evil. In the real world, you have a similar choice. You have the choice to be a force. Will you **be the force against divorce?**

LESSON CONTENT

1. A Long Time Ago in a **Garden**, Far, Far Away (Genesis 2:21-24)

Let’s begin in a garden a long time ago, in a place far, far away. Please turn to Genesis 2:21-24. *[Read Genesis 2:21-24.]*

Before we discuss what this has to do with divorce, let’s explain what is going on here. God completed His creation in six days and rested on the seventh day. Genesis 2 gives detailed information about the creation of man and woman. God took the rib of Adam, the first created man, and created the woman. Adam was pretty excited to meet someone that is like him. He was so excited he wrote her a “poem” in verse 23. Guys, make a note, if you want to make a good first impression with a girl, a poem would be a good place to start. *[Re-read Genesis 2:23.]*

In verse 24, God established the framework of marriage. After the first two humans met, God performed the very first wedding ceremony of sorts. He instituted marriage. He was giving the guidelines for all future marriages. How do we know this? Well, just look at Genesis 2:24. *[Read Genesis 2:24.]*

The keywords here are “leave” and “joined.” These are the actions a husband and wife are to take in leaving their family and making the marriage relationship their number one human relationship. These are the principles of marriage.

But think about it, did Adam and Eve have anyone to leave? The answer is no. God was establishing the principles of marriage right there with Adam and Eve. God used this as an example for every married couple after Adam and Eve to follow. So, when you make your marriage vows, you are making a promise not just to your spouse, but to God in heaven! Do you understand the significance of this commitment? This vow is unlike any other promise.

The author Lewis Smedes humorously points out that, “No German Shepherd ever promised to be there with me. No home computer ever promised to be a loyal help…only a person can make a promise.” A wedding vow is a *“covenant,”* “*a binding solemn agreement*” between a man and a woman. It is an expression of willingness to follow through with a ***lifetime*** of sacrifice and commitment. God takes the marriage vows seriously, and so should a husband and a wife. Both people in a marriage should commit to **be the force against divorce.**

1. Wisdom from a Minor **Prophet** (Malachi 2:14, 16)

Just how serious is God about divorce? Turn to Malachi 2:16 and let’s see how strongly God feels about divorce. *[Read Malachi 2:16.]* So, how does God feel about divorce? According to Malachi, He ***hates*** it. Why? The verse tells us why. Notice the wording of the verse, “For it covers one’s garments with violence.” In other words, it does violence to the one that should be protected, it rips apart. It ruins God’s design for marriage. Maybe and illustration will help.

Imagine you were 64 years old and you had spent your whole career inventing a satellite that receives a signal for help from those in need of humanitarian aid in a remote country of the world. As a result of the signal from your invention, millions of people received food and clean water. You are proud of your work and what it has meant to the fight against hunger.

Now, imagine at your retirement party, after thanking you for your investment in foreign aid, they unveil new plans for your satellite help station. Instead of using the satellite to help people who are starving, they have decided to use the satellite to play teen pop music all day long to the native people. Imagine your outrage! You spent all these years helping people and now they want to waste your invention on pointless teen pop music!

Well, God invented marriage. It was His design, His creation, and His structure for what marriage should look like. Think about how you would feel if the satellite plans were changed. Now, think about how God feels each time His plans for marriage are changed by divorce.

Take a look at Malachi 2:14. *[Read Malachi 2:14.]* Who is the “witness”? It says that marriage is a covenant made with God! He is the witness of the marriage covenant. That’s a serious business! This is not a handshake deal that 1st graders make on the playground about team captains for kickball. Marriage is a covenant with the Creator of the universe!

1. Wisdom from the **Creator** of the Universe (Matthew 19:3-9; Ephesians 5:22-33)

It is important to take these Old Testament passages seriously because Jesus took them seriously. Jesus confirms all of what was explained from Genesis 2 and Malachi 2 in Matthew 19. *[Read Matthew 19:3-9.]* Jesus forbids divorce in these verses, but He also knew that divorce was a reality, even when He was on earth. But, notice His very clear wording, “Moses ***permitted***...divorce...***but*** **it was not this way from the beginning**.” In other words, “this is not the original design.”

Some will point to the “exception” phrase found in Matthew 19:9 to justify a divorce. It is important to remember that Jesus said, “Moses permitted” not, “Moses commanded.” Jesus was clear, “It was not this way from the beginning.” Malachi is clear, “God hates divorce.”

After making a marriage vow the goal should be to keep the marriage together, not look for a way out. Why is this so important? It is important because the marriage of a man and a woman is a picture of Jesus Christ and His bride, the church.

In Ephesians 5:22-33, the writer, the Apostle Paul, goes to great lengths to describe the relationship between a husband and a wife. Throughout the passage, that relationship is compared to the relationship Christ has with the church.

The church is described as the bride of Christ. Stop and let that comparison sink in. We, the church, are the ***bride*** of Christ. Now, ask yourself, how many times have you sinned? To be blunt, how many times have you been unfaithful to Christ? In your unfaithfulness to Christ, would you prefer that He sever ties with you? Write you a “bill of divorcement”? Christ doesn’t do that! Even when we are unfaithful, He is faithful. Jesus, who sacrificed everything, was willing to die for His bride. The very bride who was unfaithful to Him!

Hopefully, this is the type of commitment you picture in marriage. If you get married someday, this is the type of love and commitment you should hope to imitate. If you are going to **be the force against divorce**, you need to view marriage as a picture of Christ and His church.

1. Form an **alliance** (Psalm 27:10)

What can you do to help? If you are going to **be the force against divorce**, you must form an alliance. In other words, you should **be the force against divorce**, ***not*** the force against those who are dealing with the impact of divorce. Friends and extended family that are living under the effects of divorce need your support; they need compassion. They need a close bond that will help them move through the difficulty of a broken family.

Unfortunately, divorce is a part of life. As we saw earlier, just about everyone in this room is either part of a divorced family or is close to someone who has divorced parents. Those in divorced families face unique challenges. There is hurt, feelings of abandonment, shuffling from one house to another, and a struggle for “normalcy,” if there is such a thing. Those who have had their lives torn apart as a result of divorce may feel abandoned. *[Have a student read Psalm 27:10.]*

Divorce is difficult for everyone involved. This is why this promise in Psalm 27:10 is so important. God is there for those who are going through a divorce. Hold this promise close, but not too close where you don’t share it with others. You can be a great help to someone who is hurting from divorce.

So, what can you do if a friend or family member comes to you and shares the news that their parents are splitting up? How do you act? What do you say? What are the steps in forming this alliance?

1. Be **hospitable** (Romans 12:13)

*[Read Romans 12:13.]* Romans 12 includes a list of behaviors for a Christian. One of these behaviors is hospitality, found here in verse 13. This word “*hospitable*” means *“given to generous and* [*cordial*](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/cordial#h1) *reception of guests.”* Being hospitable means to go out of your way to show kindness.

You could text them regularly with uplifting Bible verses. Smile when you see them. Be kind. While there may be sadness in their home, provide them joy in your friendship. One of the best ways to be hospitable is to simply include them and treat them like a normal human being; be a friend!

According to the book, *Between Two Worlds* by Elizabeth Marquardt*,* two-thirds of teenagers in the church never received any help during this difficult time. How sad is that? You can help change that sad statistic into a joyful transformation. So, be hospitable. Also, help bear their burden.

1. Bear their **burden** (Galatians 6:2)

*[Read Galatians 6:2.]*

As this verse in Galatians points out, bearing the burdens of others is part of the Christian’s job description. Pray for them, with them, and over them. Help carry the weight they have to carry. Put yourself in their shoes; consider the weight of a life-changing event like a divorce in the home. Listen to them. Give them a place to talk, and when they do, listen. This is not a place for judgment, but a place for a listening ear and a shoulder to cry on. Sometimes the best thing you can do is just listen, not try to give advice.

1. Bring them to the **Healer** (Psalm 27:10)

*[Re-read Psalm 27:10.]* In the end, no matter how much encouragement, burden-bearing, and kindness you show someone who is enduring the pain of a divorce, they need the ultimate Healer. Encourage your friend or family member to go to God. Remind them of the truth of Psalm 27:10. Depending on the personality of the person, you could share this in person or if you feel it is more appropriate, this can be done through a text message, social media, or a card. As you pray for your friend, ask God to simply be true to His Word. Pray that they will experience the truth of the Lord lifting them up.

1. “Do—or do not. There is no **try**.” (1 Timothy 4:12)

If you have seen Star Wars, the character Yoda gives this iconic line, “Do—or do not. There is no try.” Essentially, he is asking for an actual commitment to do something. Luke Skywalker had the training, and at that part of the movie, it was time to perform.

You may have ***heard*** of the dark side of divorce, you may have ***experienced*** the dark side of divorce, or you may have ***seen*** its effects in other families close to you. Besides helping a friend, you may think that there is very little you can do to prevent divorce now. Maybe you have seen the effects of divorce and have the mentality that if you get married you will ***try*** to stay married, ***try*** not to divorce.

Listen, it must be more than just a “try” to stay married, “try” not divorce in the future. It is a do/do not situation. Do stay married. Do not get divorced. There is no “try.”

This type of thinking must begin right now. You need to prepare to be a good spouse now. As a teenager, marriage is probably not in your immediate plans. So, what does this have to do with you now? Turn to 1 Timothy 4:12. *[Read 1 Timothy 4:12.]*

Don’t let your age stop you from preparing for marriage now. Don’t make your age an excuse not to do something about your future marriage. Just as this verse suggests, there are areas in your life that need work now. If you struggle in your purity, it will not magically get better when you say, “I do.” If your words are not always kind and compassionate, your vocabulary will not suddenly make a turnaround after your wedding ceremony.

Do some work now, so you don’t have more work to do when you have a spouse and family. So, work on being unselfish in your home now. Respect those you share a bathroom with now. Each layer of selfishness and disrespect you shed now will only benefit you in a future marriage that steers clear of divorce. **Be the force against divorce** in the present for your future. “Do...there is no try.”

Another commitment you need to consider is removing the word divorce from your future vocabulary. Most Christian premarital counselors will encourage the couple never to bring this word up in conversation and especially during arguments. It needs to be something that is off the table.

1. Never turn to the **dark side**. (Psalm 34:18)

Maybe this has happened to you. Maybe you have experienced the dark side of divorce. You have listened to your parents shouting at each other, you have been to trials with divorce lawyers, or you are being shuttled from one parent’s house to another. Divorce is a very difficult experience for anyone.

Teacher’s Note: *Here is an opportunity to express how sorry you are that they are going through this. With the sensitive matter that divorce can be, especially with the high possibility of students in the audience experiencing divorce first-hand, it might be wise to express your sympathy and compassion as you begin to close your lesson. It is also a great time to remind the students that divorce is not their fault. It is unwise and inappropriate for a student to place the blame for their parent’s divorce on themselves.*

This was not God’s intention for marriage, and divorce can cause pain, difficulty, and also temptation.

1. The **pain** of divorce (Psalm 34:18)

Let’s begin with the pain. When someone hits you in the face, you probably don’t want to go out for milkshakes with the person who punched you. You’re probably not too happy to have your face discolored and your nose rearranged. With a divorce, the pain you feel is different. Often, you are not sure who to be angry with or whose fault it is for the pain you feel. Your emotions are likely running all over the place.

Instead of acting out, take your pain to God. *[Read Psalm 34:18.]* You may feel abandoned; but not only is God there for your broken heart He is also near and seeks to heal your pain.

1. The **difficulty** of divorce

Difficulty is something you can expect with a divorce. You might find yourself feeling like you need to choose sides. You find yourself caught in the middle. Finances may become a struggle as a result of a family split. Serious difficulties could very well be on the horizon and those difficulties can make you weak or they have the ability to make you stronger. Don’t forget that those who chose to get divorced are going through a difficult time as well. As difficult as it may be, you can be the one that brings joy. Your attitude, obedience, and respect could be part of the glue that helps bring some level of harmony in the middle of the difficulty.

1. The **temptation** in divorce

Finally, with any challenge comes temptation. If it is your parents who get divorced, there may be a temptation to rebel against your parents or to play them against one another. They have caused you pain, so the temptation may be to pay them back for the tears you have shed, the pain in your heart, and the difficulty you’ve endured. You may feel justified in acting out your pain with poor relationship choices, joining the party scene, harming yourself, or taking it out on your parents by showing them little love or respect.

If you’re tempted to turn your back on your parents and God because of the pain of divorce, ask yourself these questions.

● What good will this behavior bring?

● Will anyone, including yourself, be happy as a result of lashing out?

● Divorce was not right, but will doing more wrong make everything right again?

No one here will tell you going through a divorce is easy. But, just as life can be full of trials and problems, at some point it does have something to do with your reaction to it. Will you rise up and, as it says in 1 Timothy 4:12, “let no one despise your youth?” Sure, you will be sad, mad, have hard days, and hurt during and after a divorce, but you can be an example even in the dark days. Your positive attitude and godly actions can **be the force against divorce.**

CONNECTION

1. New **hope** is found in God (Romans 5:3-5; 8:38-39)

As we close our lesson time, let’s turn to Romans 5:3-5. *[Read Romans 5:3-5.]*

It may not seem fair that you have to endure the consequences of the choices of your parents. Look to these verses often. In your tribulation, which in this case is a divorced family, there are three things it can produce if you trust God.

First, it produces perseverance. You become patient in God’s plan for your life. Your faith doesn’t waver as a result of difficulty, but actually brings you greater purpose and dependence on the Lord.

Second, this divorce could build character. Suddenly, respecting your parents becomes a little more of a challenge when they live in different houses. You could find yourself wanting to cheat the system a little to get an extra Christmas present or to borrow a few extra bucks. Will you fight these temptations? If you do, you will build the character that will serve you well in your Christian life.

Finally, this divorce may result in hope. Sure, you may hope your family gets back together or you hope there will be peace in your home, but that may not happen. The hope this passage is speaking of is the hope that God’s love will never disappoint, even if family members cause you pain. The hope that if you trust in God, your eternity is settled, even when you travel back and forth from house to house.

Whether you have experienced the fallout of a divorce or you want to provide encouragement to someone who is experiencing divorce, it takes trust. You must trust that what the Lord promises is true if you are ever going to share those promises with others. If divorce is a reality in your family’s life, now is the time to trust God even more.

Reality is painful sometimes. The reality in the world we live in today is this – divorce happens. Parents decide to part ways. *[Hold up the two pieces of paper again.]* Marriages are tossed to the side, viewed more like these two pieces of paper and less like those two phone books. The husband and wife relationship is supposed to be like the pages of a phonebook, impossible to tear apart.

Regardless of where your family is today, one relationship that cannot be torn apart is your relationship with God. Now more than ever, you need to weave the pages of your life with God and rely on His love. That is a relationship that can never be ripped apart. *[Read Romans 8:38-39.]*

Divorce is a love that has been broken and separated. The love of God will never be broken. Remember this as you encourage others and as you hope to be encouraged. Even in your struggles, where God seems so very far away, God’s love will always be there. Armed with this knowledge, you can **be the force against divorce.**

CHOICE

You could choose to ignore what is happening all around you. You could plug your ears and not want to hear about the divorce. What are you going to do about it? If you ignore it, you are ignoring a chance to help others and perhaps even yourself during difficult times.

Divorce is a tragedy, but just like our lives, God can rescue anything, including divorce. God can use you to encourage, show kindness, and share the love of Christ with those that are hurting.

What about you? What are you doing now to prevent divorce in your future? Much of life is about preparing for the future. God has given us His Word. It is up to us to read and take action. Develop solid spiritual habits now that will make you a better husband or wife someday. In order to do that, choose one relationship weakness to improve on so that you will be a better spouse someday. Mention the weakness to an adult mentor that displays this godly ability and have them help you and keep you accountable.

Will you choose to **be the force against divorce**? If so, will you make that commitment to God right now? If you know of a relationship weakness you need to improve, will you ask God to help you mature in that area? If you know someone who has been impacted by divorce, will you commit to be a source of encouragement to them? If your life has been shattered by divorce, will you ask God for the strength to trust Him in the middle of the dark side of divorce?

Take some time right now to make the commitment to **be the force against divorce**.

*[Give the students some time to pray.]*

NEXT STEPS

**Be the force against divorce.** Help others deal with the pain of divorce. Help them heal, and comfort them in their sadness. Help yourself prevent divorce in your future. Allow God’s Word to change you to be young men and women of God, so one day your marriage will last until death do you part.

Take a moment in your quiet time to write a list of qualities you need to work on in your spiritual life. Look up verses to go with each of those qualities. Pray over these qualities in your prayer time. Keep this list in your Bible until you get married and give the list to your spouse as a present to them. One day you may get to share with them how you have been working hard to be the godly husband or godly wife one day.

But remember this battle is bigger than yourself. Think of others that have been affected by divorce. Contact a family member, friend, classmate, or neighbor that has experienced divorce in their family. Send them a text, a letter, or better yet, sit down and have a conversation and time of prayer with them.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**1. What is your view of divorce?** *(You could allow this to be a lesson on apologetics. There must be conviction and reason for their belief, not just the answer of “it’s wrong” or “it’s right.” Why is it wrong? Why is it right? Why would God say He hates divorce? What are some consequences of a broken marriage?)*

**2. Why is it important to start with God’s definition of marriage when talking about divorce?** *(Without a belief in the institution of marriage in Genesis 2, a discussion of divorce can be fruitless. The Bible must be the foundation for our lives, and this is the perfect place to start in the small group discussion. Don’t be afraid to discuss current trends of marriage and get a sense of where teens are in their convictions.)*

**3. What are some specific things you can do for a friend who has recently experienced divorce?** *(Be sensitive here. There may be someone in the group who is in this current situation. If appropriate, ask them what they need from the group. Ask them to be honest about how someone can best minister to them and others who have been impacted by divorce. If no one is experiencing a divorce, discuss scenarios or even real-life examples of those you can help. List concrete ways to encourage that person. Make sure these things are specific and measurable. Then challenge the group with dates and times these things will be accomplished. Examples might include writing letters of encouragement, inviting them over to join your family around the holidays when things can be difficult, and bringing them along on fishing trips or shopping trips if they do not have much quality time with their parents.)*

**4. What will you do personally to make sure you are a force against divorce?** *(Challenge the students to find something in their life that they need to work on that could put them in danger of divorce later down the road. Examples could include selfishness, struggle with sexual purity, or pride. Discuss ways to work on these character flaws and encourage accountability within the group.)*