TARGET: To understand that Jesus reframes the conversation of divorce in order to create ____________ FOR marriage and ____________ to those who have been wounded BY marriage.

I. ______________ TOWARD Divorce: “It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’” (Matthew 5:31)
   A. Marriage is a __________________:
      i. Created to Complete (Matthew 19:3-5)
      ii. Covenant not a Contract (Matthew 19:6)
   B. Divorce gave __________________:
      i. Not a Commandment, but a Concession (Matthew 19:7-9)
      ii. Convenience instead of Commitment (Deuteronomy 24:1-4)

SPECIAL NOTE: This was a controversial conversation in an effort to trap Jesus.

II. __________ FOR Divorce: “But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality (Porneia), makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.” (Matthew 5:32)
   A. Adultery: (Matthew 19:9)
      i. Violates Oneness
      ii. Violates Openness
   B. Abandonment: (1 Corinthians 7:13, 15)
      i. Unbelieving Spouse that Separates
      ii. Unrepentant Spouse that Abdicates
   C. *Abuse: (Romans 13:1)
      i. Report it to the Authorities
      ii. Seek Safety
      iii. Share with CBC Cares

SPECIAL NOTE: Reconciliation is always the goal demonstrated by both parties with counsel.

III. __________ ABOUT Divorce: He declared, “I will make you my wife forever, showing you righteousness and justice, unfailing love and compassion. I will be faithful to you and make you mine, and you will finally know me as the Lord.” (Hosea 2:19-20 NLT)
   A. God does NOT __________ divorced people. (Malachi 2:13-16)
      i. He hates the carelessness of Divorce
      ii. He hates the consequences of Divorce
   B. Divorce is NOT an ______________ sin: (Luke 12:10)
      i. Divorce is not your Identity.
      ii. Remarriage is possible.
   C. Your __________ has Purpose: (Romans 8:28)

TAKE AWAY: ____________ to those thinking about Divorce:
   • Fear is never a good motivator.
   • Don’t ignore ongoing problems.
   • Fix You vs. You Fix