Title: Kingdom People
Text: Matthew 5:31-32
Target: To understand that Jesus reframes the conversation of divorce in order to create HONOR FOR marriage and HEALING to those who have been wounded BY marriage.

1. **Conviction TOWARD Divorce:** “It was also said, ’Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’” (Matthew 5:31)
   - **Marriage is a Picture:**
     i. Created to Complete: Matthew 19:3-5
     ii. Covenant not a Contract: Matthew 19:6
   - **Divorce gave Permission:**
     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 effort to trap Jesus.

2. **Clause 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)
   - **Adultery:** Matthew 19:9
     i. Violates Oneness
     ii. Violates Openness
   - **Abandonment:** 1 Corinthians 7:13, 15
     i. Unbelieving Spouse that Separates
     ii. Unrepentant Spouse that Abdicates
   - **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.

3. **Clarity 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)
   - **God does NOT hate divorced people:** (Malachi 2:13-16)
     i. He hates the carelessness of Divorce
     ii. He hates the consequences of Divorce
   - **Divorce is NOT an unforgivable sin:** (Luke 12:10)
     i. Divorce is not your Identity.
     ii. Remarriage is possible.
   - **Your Pain has Purpose:** (Romans 8:28)
Take Away: **Caution to those thinking about Divorce:**

- Fear is never a good motivator.
- Don’t ignore ongoing problems.
- Fix You versus You Fix