

THE MEANING OF A HAPPY MARRIAGE

Matthew 19:1-15

Key Verses: 19:4-5

"'Haven't you read,' he replied, 'that at the beginning the Creator "made them male and female," and said, "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh"?'"

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. As Jesus traveled on toward Jerusalem where was he and what was he doing? (1,2) Who approached him and with what question? (3) Why did they want to test him and how was their question a test?
2. What does their question reveal about their view of marriage and of women? Read verses 4-6. What was Jesus' answer? What did Jesus teach about the meaning of marriage?
3. Read verses 7-9. What was the Pharisees' idea about Moses' law and divorce? How was Moses' situation different? According to Jesus, why did Moses give a law about divorce? Why do most people want to divorce their spouses? (9)
4. Read verses 10-12. What was the disciples' reaction? What was their misunderstanding of marriage? Why are some people afraid of marriage? What did Jesus teach them about the renunciation of marriage?
5. Read verses 13-15. While they were talking, who interrupted? How were the disciples different from Jesus in their response? What did Jesus say and do? What does it mean to come to Jesus like a little child?