

## BIG IDEA

**The pain of divorce is never private and personal; all involved share the suffering.**

## WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO KNOW?

Has your life been impacted by divorce? Explain to the group the effects of divorce on your life and how that experience has shaped you to be who you are today.

**Read Matthew 19:3-9.** Based on what you remember about Cal's message; why did the Pharisees ask Jesus this no-win question? What do you notice about the way Jesus handles their trap?

Think about this quote from Cal, "Marriage has always been used as a metaphor for our relationship with God." Does this change your view on the importance of marriage and if so, how?

**Read 1 Corinthians 7:10-16.** How would you explain this passage in your own words? How does Paul's teaching challenge the double standard of this time regarding men, women, and divorce?

## WHAT IS MY INITIAL REACTION?

**Read Deuteronomy 24:1-4.** What was your initial reaction to reading Israel's ancient law on divorce?

Why is it important to remember that *God is for us* when discussing biblical truths that run counter to the opinions of popular culture?

Develop a theory as to why contempt is the #1 cause of divorce.

## WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

Which of the following action steps is God asking you to take?

- Reject the "right person" myth
- Seal up the back door
- Learn to fight...fairly
- Drop all contempt
- Address problems sooner rather than later
- Attend church together
- Get help before hope dissipates

