

# The Bittersweet of Marriage

Mark 10:1-12

## I. The Bitterness of Marriage

### A. Self-centered disposition

*“Our nature, by the corruption of the first sin, [being] so deeply curved in on itself that it not only bends the best gifts of God towards itself and enjoys them (as is plain in the works—righteous and hypocrites), or rather even uses God himself in order to attain these gifts, but it also fails to realize that it so wickedly, curvedly, and viciously seeks all things, even God, for its own sake.” Luther*

### B. Misplaced authority

### C. Hardness of heart

*“If our views of marriage are romantic and idealistic, we underestimate the influence of sin on human life. If they are too pessimistic and cynical, we misunderstand marriage’s divine origin... The trouble is not within the institution of marriage but within ourselves.”*

## II. The Sweetness of Marriage

### A. Marriage is FROM God

### B. Marriage is BY God

### C. Marriage is FOR God

## **D. Marriage is WITH God**

### **A history of marriage according to Scripture:**

Good

Not good

Very good

Very bad

Worse and worse

In spite of bad, it is good and getting better

Better than better