

Sermon Summary for 18th March, 2018

“JESUS TEACHES ON MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE”

Deuteronomy 24: 1-4; Mark 10: 1-12 (Rev. Francis Yaw Boamah)

Jesus is on His final journey from Galilee to Jerusalem and, in characteristic fashion, He is teaching.

Not all in the crowd are there to learn or are friendly. The Pharisees are there to test Him (Verse 2) i.e. catch Him off guard. They ask a question in the hope that Jesus will incriminate Himself by misinterpreting the Law. But as He has often done, Jesus cuts through the details and the legalities and points to the heart of the matter - the will and purpose of God. He seems to tell them, “The real question you should be asking is, ‘What was God’s intention when He instituted marriage?’” To answer that question, He takes them to Genesis 1:27 and 2:24. What does He say and what does it mean?

But before that what do we do with Verses 3-5? What is wrong is the sinfulness of the human heart not God’s original purpose or Moses’s command. A heart that is hardened towards God will also be hardened against people, whether a spouse or a child or an in-law. No respect for God means no respect for people who are made in God’s image. That was the real problem. Moses had no choice but to give them that concession.

Jesus now teaches them that:

- Marriage was God’s idea. (Mark 10:6) He instituted marriage from the beginning. (see also Genesis 2:18)
- Marriage is complementary. (Mark 10:6) It is between one man and one woman.
- Marriage is nuclear (Mark 10:7) (Gen. 2:18) One mature man and one mature woman. It is one plus one that equals one!
- Marriage is exclusive (man and wife). “... and the two shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two but one flesh.” (Mark 10:8) You are not supposed to have this kind of relationship with anyone else. No ‘farm’ and ‘garden’ business. “Forsaking all others, be faithful to him/her till death shall separate you.”
- Marriage is based on permanence. “What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.” (Mark 10:9 ESV) It is one man, one wife for life.

While the spiritual element is of vital importance in marriage, the emphasis here is that marriage is a physical union: the two become one flesh, not one spirit. As such, only a physical cause can break it - either death (Romans 7:1-3) or sexual immorality (Matthew 5:32, 19:9), what has come to be termed as the “exception clause” which Mark does not include.

Privately, the Lord further explained the matter to His questioning disciples (Mark 10:10-12) who by now had become quite sceptical about marriage (Matthew 19:10). To re-marry after divorce, except when granted on the grounds of fornication, would make the person guilty of committing adultery. If a newly married husband discovered that his wife was not a virgin, then he could put her away. The Law of Moses did not give adultery as grounds for divorce because both the adulterer and adulteress were stoned to death (Lev. 20:10; Deut. 22:22; John 8:1-11).

Conclusion

Mark warns us that no one should separate those who have been united by God in marriage. A divorce may be legal according to our laws but still not right in the eyes of God. God expects married people to practice commitment to each other and to the Lord. Love and respect (Eph. 5:33) not duty. If two Christians cannot continue in marriage, it only shows that their hearts are hardened towards God. Either one of them is, or both of them are unwilling to submit to God. Too many Christians are beginning to see divorce as “an easy way out”, and do not take seriously their vows of commitment to each other and to God but the day is coming when each of us will have to give an account to God on how we treated our spouses.

This Week’s Prayer Topics

✠ Pray for all pregnant women in LIC; against birth complications; and that the Lord will keep them safe and healthy to term. (Psalm 139:13-16; Mark 11:24; Psalm 127:3)

✠ Pray against every demonic hold over the prayer life of church members; that the bondage of prayerlessness will be completely broken (1 John 5:14-15; Mark 11:22-24)

✠ Pray against every attack on Christian marriages; that the Holy Spirit will clothe every struggling marriage with love, forgiveness and reconciliation; and that these marriages will stand the test of time and fulfill their God assigned purpose (1 Sam. 17:45; Eph. 5:24-28)

CONGRATULATIONS!!! BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS

Mar 25: Mr. Cudjoe Amenyah
Mar 25: Ms. Ruth Allotey
Mar 25: Dr. Richmond Aryeetey
Mar 26: Ms. Francisca Dzodzomuo
Mar 26: Ms. Akpene Amenumey
Mar 26: Mr. Mc George Mensah
Mar 26: Ms. Priscilla Aseye Nanam
Mar 27: Ms. Sarah Agblah
Mar 27: Mr. Augustine Yeboeh
Mar 28: Ms. Deborah Allotey
Mar 28: Ms. Esther Kwapong
Mar 28: Mr. Samuel Takyi Anshah
Mar 29: Nana Jeremy Amattoe
Mar 29: Maame Ama Adomako
Mar 29: Mrs. Abigail Bediako Alou
Mar 29: Dr. Felix Ankamah Asante
Mar 29: Ms. Ayodele Sawyerr
Mar 29: Mr. Fiifi Smith-Quayson
Mar 30: Ms. Kafui Yawa Kwadzo
Mar 30: Mrs. Naomi Simpson
Mar 30: Mrs. Nana Esi Idun-Arkhurst
Mar 30: Mrs. Abena Aryee
Mar 31: Mrs. Nana Nyaako Agyeman-Bilson
Mar 31: Joseph Adom Adu-Amoani
Mar 31: Mrs. Faustina Afranie
Mar 31: Ms. Mary Eddy-Doh

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Mar 25: Maxwell & Obadiah Twum-Boateng
Mar 25: Alexander & Jaqueline Owusu-Biney
Mar 26: Mr & Mrs. Mills
Mar 27: Jerry & Angela Otchi
Mar 28: Mr. & Mrs. Amanor
Mar 28: Kojo & Nana Yaa Darpaah
Mar 30: Paul & Judith Baiden
Mar 31: Mr. & Mrs. Newman
Mar 31: Mr. & Mrs. Akuoni

WELCOME



TO

LEGON INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHURCH

SUNDAY, 25TH MARCH, 2018



**Influencing Generations
Through Christ-like Discipleship**

Pastors:	Rev. Francis Yaw Boamah	Tel: 024 464 6205
	Rev. (Mrs.) Agnes Phillips	Tel: 026 638 0874
Presiding Elder:	Mr. Larry Yirenkyi-Boafo	AT REST
Church Administrator:	Mr. T.V.O. Lamptey	Tel: 026 742 8150

LEGON INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHURCH (LIC)

Address: P. O. Box LG 756, Legon

Tel: 030-7071717

Email: licadmin@licfamily.org.gh

Website: www.licfamily.org.gh

LIC: SAVED TO SERVE!

The Council of Elders and Pastors heartily welcome you to God's House this Sunday morning: Akwaaba!

YEAR'S THEME: "THE MISSION OF JESUS - A CALL TO PARTNERSHIP"



Activity for 25th March, 2018

'WORPRAPRA' Time in His Presence

Leaders:
William DeLong; Amima Dugan;
Michael Sereboo

Time is **4:00pm @ LIC**

DAILY PRAYER SESSIONS AT LIC

The prayer time runs on Weekdays from Monday through to Friday. It's in session till end of LENT (Thursday, 29th March). *Scripture passage: 2 Chronicles 7: 14-16*

Prayer sessions:

5.30am - 6.30am; 12.00noon - 1.30pm; 6.00pm - 7.30pm

However, our 3-Day Renewal Services will take place on the said dates at 6.30pm.

SUNDAY, 25TH MARCH, 2018 — SERVICE STARTS @ 9: 15AM
(PALM SUNDAY – CHILDREN'S DAY)

Officiant: Miss Abigail Nhyira Egyir-Croffet Kyei

Sermon Topic: **"Let the Little Children come to Me"**

Preacher: **Mr. Theo Aryee**

Lectors: Patricia Kumi; Nii Antieye Antah; Mansa Adwedaa Adu

Notices: Master Nhyira Afful



Scripture Passages: **Exodus 2: 1-10; Luke 18: 15-17; John 12: 12-19**

Opening Hymn: "Children of Jerusalem"

Hymn: "Ride on, ride on in majesty!"

Closing Hymn: "All glory, laud, and honour"

REFLECTION: Hosi`ah-na...

Jesus's historic ride was not into Jerusalem to ascend the throne, but to Calvary to ascend the cross. And so when men joyfully waved palm branches and chorused Hosanna, heaven stood still. The deliverance the people sought was only going to come through His death on the cross. Jesus had the bigger picture in mind. He had to die. He came to die. He was determined to die. We still sing Hosanna, He still has the bigger picture in mind and He will deliver us, whatever it takes.
—JNA (March - 2018)

STUDENTS' SERVICE @ 6:30AM: SUNDAY, 25TH MARCH, 2018

Sermon Topic: "He has done all things well" Preacher: Rev. Mrs. Agnes Phillips

Scripture Passages: Isaiah 35: 1 - 7; Mark 7: 31 - 37 Time: 6:30am

NEXT SUNDAY, 1ST APRIL, 2018: **No Student's Service**

You can join the Main Service. Students' Service resumes on 8th April

GOOD FRIDAY, 30TH MARCH, 2018 (SERVICE BEGINS AT 9:15 AM)

Officiant: Mr. Kofi-Kakraba Afful

Sermon Topic: **"Crucified, Dead and Buried"**

Preacher: Rev. Mrs. Agnes Phillips

Lectors: Mr. Jonathan Ntsiful and Ms. Adelaide Asiedu

Scripture Readings: **Isaiah 56: 6 - 12 and John 19: 16 - 30, 38 - 42**

NEXT SUNDAY, 1ST APRIL, 2018 (EASTER SUNDAY)

Officiant: Dr. Mrs. Shola Safo-Duodu

Sermon Topic: **"Death Could Not Hold its Prey"**

Preacher: Dr. Yaw Perbi

Lectors: Mr. Fred Buame and Ms. Stella Nyarko

Scripture Readings: **Luke 24: 1 - 12 and 1 Cor. 15: 3 - 22**

Notices: Mr. Kofi-Kakraba Afful

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

We publish for the FIRST TIME, the bans between **Mr. Joshua Andrews Asante Okyere Mensah** of LIC and **Ms. Stephanie Afriye Yeboah** of Victory Bible Church International, Destiny Sanctuary, Kasoa. Please inform the Pastors or Presiding Elder if you know of any just and valid reason why these two may not be lawfully joined together in marriage. Kindly keep them in prayer.

ELDERS ON DUTY

SUNDAY, 25TH MARCH, 2018

Reception

NEXT SUNDAY, 1ST APRIL, 2018

Dr. Awo Mana Asiedu (0244-575177)
Mr. K. K. Ohene-Adu (0244-631600)

Mr. Charles MacCarthy (0244353522)
Dr. George T-M. Kwadzo (020-8161624)

Counseling

Prof. Esther Sakyi-Dawson (050 256 8615)
Mrs. Monica Senanu (0244748746)

Mr. Theo Aryee (0204-315133)
Mr. Samuel Owusu Yeboah (0504441114)

PRAYING WITH ONE ANOTHER

The Prayer Ministry requests the under-listed persons to kindly provide the Ministry with their active/current contact numbers and professions as they pray for them this week. The Ministry's week begins on Monday and runs until Saturday.

Ms. Emily Catherine Daher	Mr. Eugene Oduro Birikorang	Master Kwaku Ansong Afanie
Ms. Nancy Henaku	Mrs. Clarinda Mondale Osei	Master Kwame Adomnti Afranie
Mr. Dennis Kwarteng Nsafoah	Mr. Frank Dankyi Osei	Miss Harritte O. Aseda Odoom
Ms. Edna Bimponmaa Yeboah	Miss Jeslyn Zeal	Master Enyidado Kwemina K. Odoom
Ms. Agnes Quansah	Master Aseda Wiredu Kurankye	

Kindly contact the following people with any two specific prayer requests, latest by 12 noon on Wednesday: Mr. Kofi Yeboah - 0244875493 and Mrs. Ruth Opoku - 0509547267. Also, **please update your records with the Church Office.**

3-DAY EASTER RENEWAL PROGRAMME (THEME - "HIS PAIN: OUR GAIN")

Date	Time	Officiant	Sub-Themes	Scriptures	Lectors	Preacher
Tues. 27-Mar	6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Mr. Kwadwo Otu Adaae	Day 1: "His Guilt, Our Innocence"	Ephesians 1: 1 - 23	Mr. Jeffrey Larbi-Akor	Dr. Yaw Perbi
Wed. 28-Mar	6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Dr. Awo Mana Asiedu	Day 2: "His Shame, Our Honour"	Ephesians 2: 1 - 22	Ms. Amma Korkor Dugan	Dr. Yaw Perbi
Maundy Thurs. 29-Mar	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Mr. K. K. Ohene-Adu	Day 3: (Communion Service) "His Fear, Our Power"	Ephesians 3: 1 - 21	Nana Yaw Ofori-Asumadu	Dr. Yaw Perbi
Friday 6-April	10:00pm - 4:00am	Mr. Kofi Yeboah	ALL NIGHT PRAYER MEETING	SHOW US THY GLORY (Exodus 33: 12 - 23)		Dr. Yaw Perbi

◇ **PRAYER MEETINGS:**

Sunday Morning: Prayer for Sunday Activities @ 7:30 am - 7:50 am; Sunday Evening: In the Conference Room @ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm; Monday: In the Vestry @ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm; Wednesday: Prayer & Teaching Service @ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm in the Sanctuary, except for 'Bethesda Moment' which will be from 6.30 - 8.30 pm; Saturday: Prayer for Missions @ 7:00 - 8:30am on the Right Verandah of the Sanctuary; All Night Prayer Meeting: 1st Friday of the Month @ 10 pm - 4:00 am in the Sanctuary.

◇ **BIBLE STUDIES:** Sunday: 8:00 - 9:00am; Monday: 6:45 - 8:00pm