Introduction: Last time we began examining how a proper understanding of grace should impact our marriage and discovered that “bad grace” promotes two lies about marriage. Today, we will examine a third misunderstanding about divorce and remarriage.

Lie #1: “I can marry whomever I want.”

Lie #2: “I can cheat without any lasting consequences.”

Lie #3: “I can end my marriage if I am unhappy.”

I. Good Grace Recognizes That Divorce And Remarriage Are Permissible In Two Situations

A. Adultery (Matthew 19:3-9)

Matthew 19:3 “Some Pharisees came to Jesus, testing Him and asking, ‘Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause at all?’”

Matthew 19:4-6 “And He answered and said, ‘Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE, ⁵ and said, ‘FOR THIS CAUSE A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH? ⁶ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.’”

Matthew 19:9 “And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery.”

Romans 7:2 “For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living; but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband.”

1 Corinthians 7:39 “A wife is bound as long as her husband lives; but if her husband is dead, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord.”
B. Desertion (1 Corinthians 7:10-16)

1 Corinthians 7:10  “To the married I give instructions, not I; but the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband.”

1 Corinthians 7:11  “(But if she does leave, she must remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not divorce his wife.”

1 Corinthians 7:12  “But to the rest I say, not the Lord, that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he must not divorce her.”

1 Corinthians 7:15  “Yet if the unbelieving one leaves, let him leave; the brother or the sister is not under bondage in such cases, but God has called us to peace.”

II. Good Grace Emphasizes God’s Desire For Permanence in Marriage
(Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:5-6)

Genesis 2:24  “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife and they shall be one flesh.” (KJV)

Matthew 19:5  “FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND HIS MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH.”

Deuteronomy 10:20  “You shall fear the LORD your God; you shall serve Him, and cling to Him, and you shall swear by His name.”

Joshua 22:5  “Only be very careful to follow the commandment and the Law which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, to love the LORD your God and walk in all His ways, and keep His commandments and cling to Him, and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul.”

Matthew 19:6  “So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, no person is to separate.”

Conclusion