

## **THE KING'S DESIGN FOR MARRIAGE, PART 4**

### **MATTHEW 19:10-12**

What kind of a God is it who asks everything of us? The same God who “did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all; and with this gift how can he fail to lavish upon us all he has to give?” He gives all. He asks all.

-Elizabeth Elliott

#### **I. A Hard Conclusion**

## II. The Heart Motivation

## Small Group Study Questions

### **Into the Bible:**

1. From Paul's discussion in I Corinthians 7, it is clear that he recognizes the freedom of Christian individuals to choose marriage or singleness. But he is also clear that with that freedom comes the requirement to live within the limitations that God has placed on us regardless of which state we choose or are in due to circumstances. What gives Christ the right to establish these limitations? (I Corinthians 6:19-20) What is his purpose in doing so?

## **Application:**

2. When the disciples react to Jesus' teaching in this passage, in effect they are telling him that no one could live up to those standards. In his teachings during the Sermon on the Mount Christ raised the bar on the behavioral standards of the Pharisees (Matthew 5:20). Even in the Beatitudes it's clear that they are not a list of things to do in order to become blessed, but a recognition that those who are blessed exhibit those characteristics. How do we even try to live up to Christ's seemingly impossibly high standards? (Romans 8:5-9, Galatians 5:16-24)

## **For Families:**

3. Talk with your children about why God puts rules over us.