

This verse reminds us we don't need to hide, excuse, or minimize our weakness, brokenness or imperfection. We can fully own the reality that divorce is not a good thing — something, somewhere, somehow went wrong. In his grace, we also have an opportunity, and invitation, to explore ways to honor God while dealing with the consequences and pain that comes with divorce. While not an exhaustive list, we were given some ways to do that:

- *Deal with you*
 - *Embrace, grieving, forgiveness, and surrender*
 - *Practice wisdom*
 - *Value the what and whys of co-parenting*
 - *Recognize re-marriage is a new kind of hard*
 - *Lean into God*
-
- Which of the six truths above stood out to you and why?
 - Even if you are not affected by divorce, or time has passed since your divorce, the invitation to walk through some of these steps may still exist. What can you do this week to work on one of these step you feel God pulling you to? (The Resource List below might provide some helpful next steps.)

Spiritual Practice Moment: Take a few minutes of silence, and imagine God coming close with grace and love. Invite him to guide you through facing the feelings that have come up with this topic of divorce. Allow him to lead you to more freedom and healing through your best next step.

Closing Prayer: God, we come before you and offer our hurt and our relationships. Lead and guide us as we take next steps. Help us to rest in the grace and love you show us in each and every moment.

Resource List:

- DivorceCare.org
- Sacred Marriage, Gary Thomas
- Why Marriages Succeed or Fail, John Gottman
- When the Vow Breaks, by Joseph Warren Kniskern
- Divorce and Remarriage, Rubel Shelly
- What to Do When You Don't Know What to Do, Henry Cloud & John Townsend
- The Smart Stepfamily (series of books), by Ron L. Deal
- The Truth About Children and Divorce, by Robert E. Emer

Right Now Media:

Gain access at eastlakechurch.com/rightnowmedia

- Ministering to Stepfamilies
<https://www.rightnow.org/Content/Series/1264>
- Remarriage Success
<https://www.rightnow.org/Content/Series/1263>
- Fixing a Broken Marriage
<https://www.rightnow.org/Content/Series/184#2>
- The Smart Step Family
<https://www.rightnow.org/Content/Series/1265>