

***“Our marriage is on the rocks, maybe we should divorce.”***

***“Fine, I’ll call my attorney!”***

There. It’s out.

And now the ugly divorce conflict overshadows everything. But somewhere in the back of your mind, in the folds of memory, is the tug of conscience... divorce is **sin**. And sin has consequences.

And now *new* questions stir your heart. “Will God reject me?” “How can I willfully sin?” “Are there grounds for divorce in the bible?” “Is there Christian divorce?” “Will a legal separation give us some time to work it out?” “What will happen to the kids?” “How will I tell my pastor?” “What will the rest of my life be like?” “Can I forgive?”

**What is the answer?** How can you find your bearings adrift in this storm of emotions and very real terrors? Can there be resolution of this impossible dispute without divorce?

And then *this* startling thought paralyzes you...

***“Even if I wanted to, I can’t stop divorce from happening.”***

**But God can!** The same God who commands obedience, who hates divorce, also gives grace and the power to overcome sin and its effects. He has given very, very powerful promises to those who believe, seek Him, and persist in doing His will.

### **FAQ’s**

**What is Christian mediation?** It is not counseling and it is not legal advice. It does not go on and on. It does not employ psychology. It is *firm* instruction and coaching in the *application* of the scriptural promises that deal with disputes and broken relationships. God has ordained it. He has described its processes in scripture. He commands reconciliation and He empowers those who seek it.

**Who is trained to do it?** Certified Christian Conciliators, graduates of the extensive program of the Institute for Christian Conciliation, division of Peacemaker Ministries.

**How much does it cost?** Charges average \$75 per hour. The total cost depends on the number of sessions and rate of progress. There is homework to accomplish between sessions. The speed with which the concepts are understood, and applied determines the course of the coaching. The goal is to radically alter the way in which spouses interact. Spouses are coached individually. Ideally both spouses are coached concurrently though often the most willing spouse precedes the other in the beginning. Each spouse gains confidence in the scripture and applies it. The crisis then typically begins to abate as God changes hearts. Ultimately both attend a face-to-face mediation in which they jointly before God reach new agreements about their relationship in the presence of a peacemaking mediator.

**How long does the whole process take?** Typically 60 to 90 days, far less time than the required waiting period for finalizing a divorce. The Christian mediation process may even substitute for the costly secular mediation frequently required by the courts.

**Can it be done at a distance?** Nearly all of the steps of conciliation can be done between coach and client over the phone or internet, even free Skype video.

**What is the success rate?** At CMS we have found that if both parties are believers and both make a serious effort to absorb and apply the scripture, success is 100%.

**What is the first step?** Read the materials on the CMS website. Then contact us for a no-cost intake session, homework assignment, and to schedule follow-up conferences. <http://christianmediationservicesllc.com>