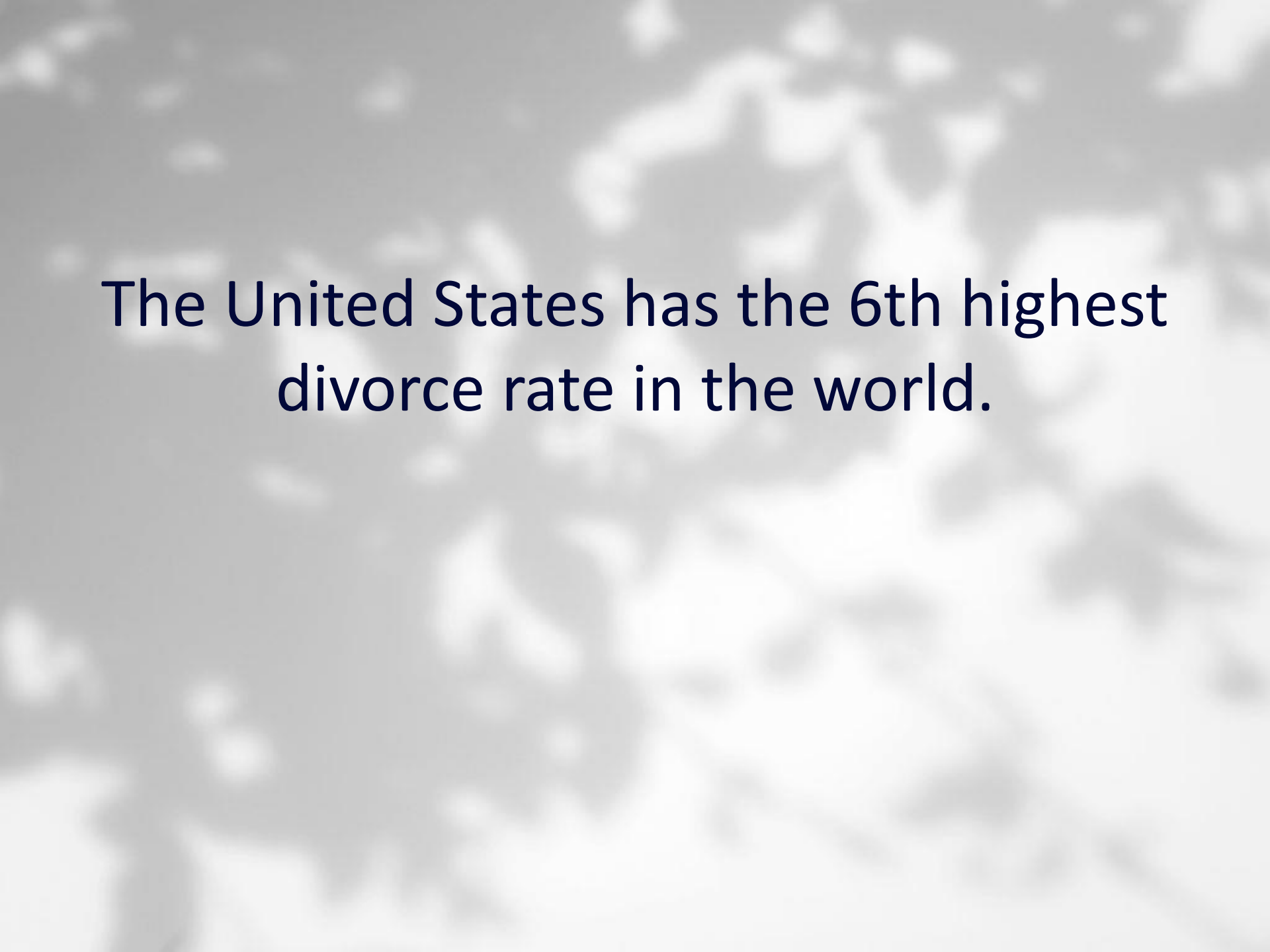


March 16, 2025

Almost 50 percent of all marriages in the United States will end in divorce or separation.



The United States has the 6th highest divorce rate in the world.

- Researchers estimate that 41 percent of all first marriages end in divorce.
- 60 percent of second marriages end in divorce.
- 73 percent of all third marriages end in divorce.

- Every 16 seconds, there is a marriage in the U.S.
- That equates to 230 marriages per hour,
- 5,520 Marriages per day,
- 38,762 marriages per week and
- 2,015,603 per year.

- Every 42 seconds, there is one divorce in the U.S.
- That equates to 86 divorces per hour,
- 2,046 divorces per day,
- 14,364 divorces per week, and
- 746,971 divorces per year

The average first marriage that ends in divorce lasts about 8 years.

People wait an average of three years after a divorce to remarry (if they remarry at all).

60 percent of all divorces involve individuals aged 25 to 39.

- Lack of commitment 73%
- Argue too much 56%
- Infidelity 55%
- Married too young 46%
- Unrealistic expectations 45%
- Lack of equality in the relationship 44%
- Lack of preparation for marriage 41%
- Domestic Violence or Abuse 25%

- Cohabitation before marriage leads to about 40% more divorces
- Sexual activity before marriage often leads to greater divorce rates

- Divorce rates among self proclaimed Christians are similar to the population at large
- 85% of adults believe it is **NOT** a sin to divorce (even without adultery)
- Around 60% of protestants believe it is **NOT** a sin to divorce (even without adultery)

MDR

Simplifying a Sensitive Subject

Jesus' Simple Teaching

*Marriage
(No Separation)*

*If adultery, the
innocent party may
divorce and remarry*

Our Complex Questions

I was married but it was annulled

I had sex with someone before the divorce was final

I was married before

I was married and divorced, but my ex died

*Marriage
(No Separation)*

My spouse doesn't have a right to be married but I do

My spouse was addicted to pornography

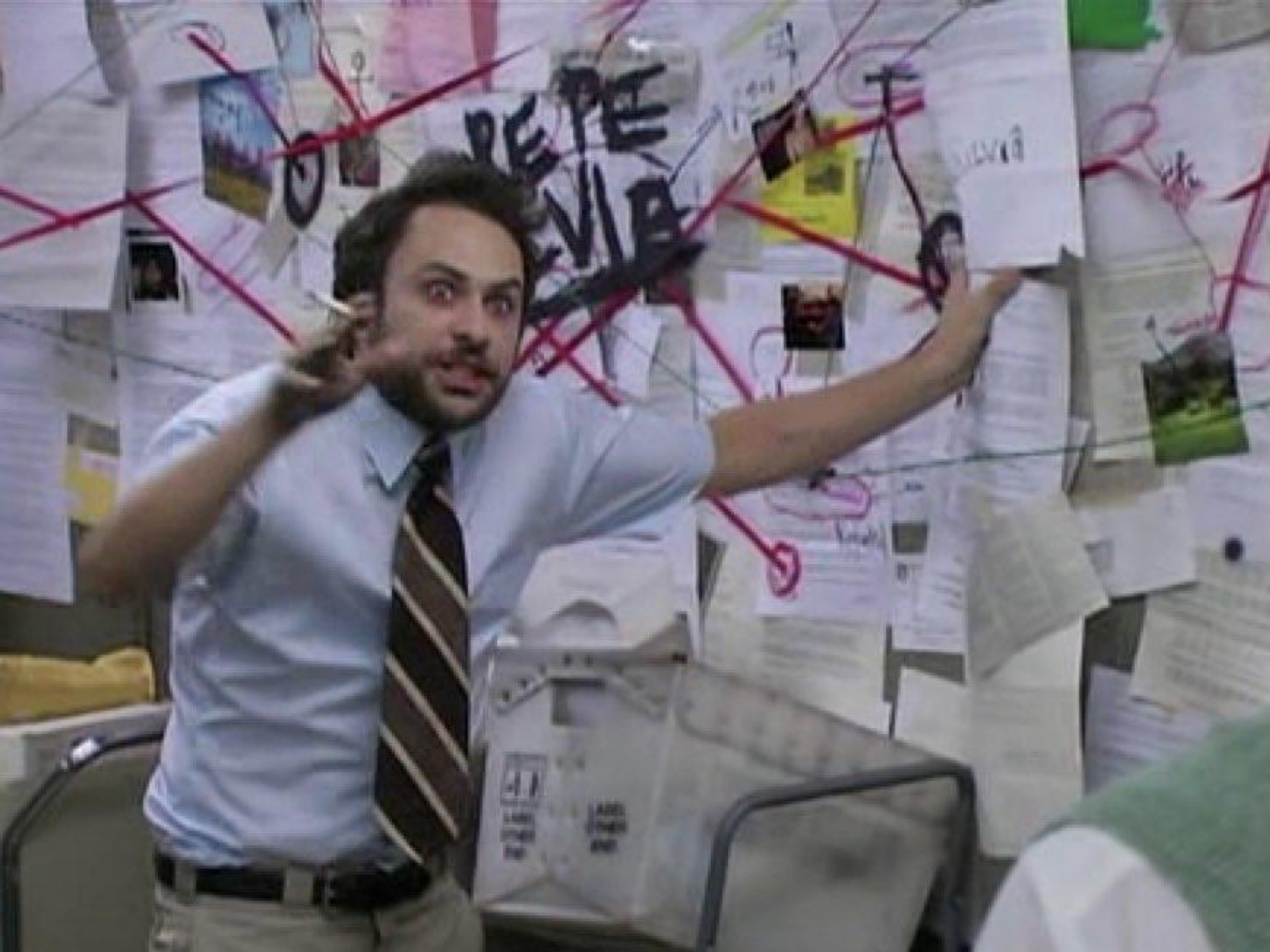
If adultery, the innocent party may divorce and remarry

We both committed adultery

They developed a relationship with someone online

I was married multiple times before becoming a Christian

My husband was abusive



Jesus' Simple Teaching

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**Marriage
(No Separation)**



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The Question about Divorce

- *“Is it lawful to divorce one’s wife for any cause?”*
- *Jesus answers based on creation*
- *Deuteronomy 24:1*
- *They misunderstood / misapplied*
- *“Because of the hardness of your hearts”*

The Created Order

- *The creator and designer of all also designed marriage*
- *After man realized he was alone*
- *Before any other relationship*
- *The ways in which man and woman become one flesh*
- *For the glory of God*
- *For life*

The Exception

- *The exception is not the rule!*
- *There are reasons not to seek a divorce*
- *Only after putting one away for adultery may the innocent spouse remarry*
- *Any question or situation must return to Jesus' simple teaching*

MDR

Simplifying a Sensitive Subject