



# Christian Questions

Think about the Bible like you never have before

Dear Beverly,

Thank you for your question. You told us you met your husband when he was in the process of getting a divorce. After the two of you were married, you accepted Christ as your Savior. You wanted to know if Christ recognizes you as husband and wife since your husband's ex-wife did not commit adultery. He and his ex divorced because of irreconcilable differences.

Although you told us you accepted Christ after you and your husband were married, we were wondering if your husband had accepted Christ when he was married to his first wife. This is an important point because if he was not a Christian at the time of his divorce, he cannot be measured by the Christian principles enumerated in Matthew 5. The high standard Jesus laid out for his followers would not have been applicable to your husband. Conversely, if he were a Christian at the time of his divorce he would be held to those standards.

Since you did not accept Christ until after you were married, you cannot be held to a higher standard. Similarly, if both you and your husband were unbelievers when you married, neither of you can be held retroactively to a higher scriptural standard when you actually followed the laws of the land, presumably in good conscience. As we do not have information regarding your husband's acceptance or lack of acceptance of Christ when he was married to his first wife, we cannot be conclusive with an answer as to whether Christ recognizes you as husband and wife. However, we can offer some encouragement if your husband was a Christian and divorced for unscriptural reasons.

Remarriage after a divorce on inappropriate grounds is still marriage in the eyes of God. Your present covenant of marriage must be honored while learning and applying the spiritual lessons from past sins. You must prayerfully ask the Lord for forgiveness and guidance. Along with prayer, commitment is the ultimate determining factor in the success or failure of any marriage. Marriage is sacred. Allow Christ's light to shine brightly through you. "Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, 'children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.'" (Philippians 2:14-15)

We hope we have encouraged you. Be sure to sign up for our weekly newsletter at [ChristianQuestions.com](http://ChristianQuestions.com) to receive the CQ Rewind Show Notes each week. The service is free without obligation and will provide you with scriptural perspective on many questions and topics.

Sincerely,

Christian Questions

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