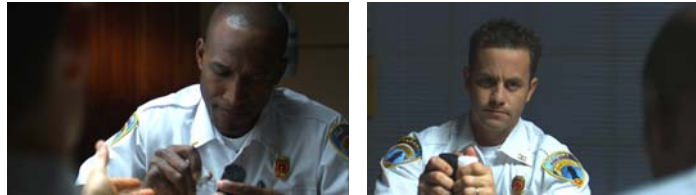




# Salt and Pepper Shakers

Clip No. 3 ... Study by Stephen Kendrick

## CATHOLIC STUDY GUIDE



**THE BURNING QUESTION:** Do you understand the covenant nature of marriage vows?

**SCENE SET-UP:** Capt. Caleb Holt and Lt. Michael Simmons are talking about Caleb's decision to get a divorce. Michael points out that Caleb made a lifelong covenant vow with his wife when he got married. Caleb tries to avoid responsibility for his marriage's failure. Michael superglues salt and pepper shakers together to show how marriage bonds two people together permanently.

**SCENE SELECTION:** Scene 6 (I Want Peace)

**TOPICS DISCUSSED:** Marriage. Covenant. Vows. Commitment. Divorce. Endurance.

**BACKGROUND INFO:** Caleb Holt's motto at work is to "never leave your partner behind." But he doesn't practice this at home with his wife. Both Caleb and Catherine are selfish and blame the other one for the failure of the marriage.

**KEY STUDY SCRIPTURES:** Matthew 19:3-6; Malachi 2:13-16; Ecclesiastes 5:4-5

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What is the difference between how Michael and Caleb view marriage vows?
2. If people really meant and honored their own marriage vows, how would it affect the divorce rate?
3. What does it mean to be committed to someone "for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health"? Do you think people truly understand their vows when they get married?
4. Some people work through their marriage problems and other people get divorced over the same problems. Why do you think that is?
5. Read Ecclesiastes 5:4-5. How should this principle affect marriages (and divorces)?
6. Read Malachi 2:13-16 out loud. To treat your spouse and your vows "treacherously" means you don't take your vows seriously. What does this say about God's opinion of divorce?
7. How are Jesus' words in Matthew 19:3-6 similar to Michael's analogy of super-gluing salt and pepper shakers together?

**"(Jesus) said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate."**  
**Matthew 19:5-6 (NAB)**

**ANSWERING THE BURNING QUESTION:** Will you agree with what God's Word says about the permanence of marriage? Will you honor your own marriage vows that you have spoken before God? Two sinners that are married can make life really difficult and painful for one another. But marriage is a covenant. It stands upon unconditional vows based upon unconditional love. Though divorce is very common in our culture, God's Word should not be ignored when times get tough. Instead of divorcing us, Jesus loved us in our sin and died for us to deliver us (Ephesians 5:20-25). He wants our marriages to reflect His sacrificial selfless love. Commit to love your sinful, imperfect spouse like Christ loves you.



For information about **FIREPROOF**, visit [FireprooftheMovie.com](http://FireprooftheMovie.com)  
For more marriage and ministry resources, visit [FireproofmyMarriage.com](http://FireproofmyMarriage.com)

