

MDR Values

The values of Men's Divorce Recovery reflect the basic commands of Jesus. Jesus was not complex. Our values, therefore, reflect the simple commands of Christ:

- **The Great Commandment**, to love God and people.
- **The Great Commission**, as we go, being and making devoted followers of Jesus Christ.
- **The Cultural Mandate**, to care for and steward the gifts and things God has given to us.

1. **The Great Commandment, to love God and people. MDR Exists to Reflect back to God His Love for Us and Our Love for Him and His Creation.**

Matthew 22:34–40:

Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

God is love and everything MDR stands for and does must reflect God's love. Our first value, then, is to love God. The means by which we do this in our particular context is to love the men, women and children impacted by the scourge of

divorce. More specifically, MDR exists to demonstrate God's love toward men who have experienced divorce and lead them by truth and example to become unashamed worshipers of God and radical lovers of people.

2. **The Great Commission, as we go, being and making devoted followers of Jesus Christ.**

Matthew 28:16–20:

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

We value making devoted followers of Jesus Christ. Jesus' command is to make disciples *in whatever context* we find ourselves or others. Divorce is just one of a multitude of painful places where Jesus does his amazing work of grace. **Our ultimate goal is to make devoted and joyful followers of Jesus.**

3. **The Cultural Mandate, to care for and steward the gifts and things God has given to us.**

Genesis 1.28:

God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

Men devastated by divorce are no less capable of or responsible for fulfilling the Cultural Mandate. **MDR exists to take men from a weakened, battered state to become *resilient, strong and wise assets to their world.***

We believe men can recover from the devastation of divorce, and, through the grace of God, be better men in the end. MDR men will come to see themselves as grateful givers to the world rather than self-centered takers.