

GOD'S GOOD DESIGN FOR MARRIAGE & SINGLENESS, PT. 1

GENESIS 2:18-25

CHURCH GROUP SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE – NOVEMBER 16, 2025

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 2:18-25 (ESV)

18 Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." 19 Now out of the ground the Lord God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. 20 The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. 21 So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. 22 And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. 23 Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones

and flesh of my flesh;

she shall be called Woman,

because she was taken out of Man."

24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

ICE BREAKER QUESTION

What is one marriage you've seen (in family, friends, fiction) that encapsulates your view of a "good marriage"? Why?

SERMON RECAP

Pastor David taught four truths from Genesis 2 about God's good design for marriage:

1. God designs marriage for our good.
 - Marriage displays equal dignity between man and woman.
 - Marriage reflects beneficial complementarity.
 - Marriage is designed for total intimacy—physical, emotional, relational, mental, and spiritual.
2. God designs marriage for the display of the gospel.
 - Marriage is a living picture of Christ's sacrificial love for the church and the church's joyful response to Him (Ephesians 5).
 - Husbands show Christ's love through selfless, sacrificial headship.
 - Wives show the church's love by respecting and following godly headship.
3. God designs marriage to depend on His grace.
 - The main problem in every marriage is sin; the only solution is a Savior.
 - Only Jesus can overcome guilt, shame, and relational brokenness.
 - Healthy marriages grow through daily dependence on God's grace.
4. God designs marriage for the spread of His glory.
 - Marriage is ultimately about God, not us.
 - The purpose of marriage is to magnify the Lord together.
 - The most significant question for marriage: Is Jesus the Lord of your life?
 - Earthly marriage points forward to the marriage supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19; 21).



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Observation: What does this passage say?

1. Read Genesis 2:18–25 aloud as a group. Before interpreting or applying the passage, share observations.
 - What problem does God identify in verse 18, and what solution does He provide?
 - What stands out about Adam naming the animals in verses 19–20?
 - What does God do for Adam in verses 21–22?
 - How does Adam respond to seeing the woman (v. 23)?
 - How does God define marriage in verse 24?
2. What does the passage teach about the nature of the relationship between the man and the woman?
3. How would you summarize the main point of Genesis 2:18–25 in your own words?

Interpretation: What does the passage mean?

1. Marriage for our good:
 - What does “helper fit for him” mean in context? Consider how this word is used elsewhere (Exodus 18:4; Psalm 10:14; Psalm 121:1–2; Isaiah 41:13).
 - How does the passage affirm God’s design for total intimacy in marriage?
2. Marriage as gospel display:
 - Read Ephesians 5:22–33. How does Paul connect Genesis 2:24 to Christ and the church?
 - What level of significance is placed on marriage if it represents Christ and the church?
3. Marriage and grace:
 - How does Genesis 3 help us understand why marriages struggle?
 - Why is daily dependence on Jesus essential for marriage?
4. Marriage for God’s glory:
 - What does it mean to view marriage not as “what’s best for me” but “what brings the most glory to God”?
 - How does Revelation 19:6–9 reshape our understanding of earthly marriage?

Application: How can we apply this passage to our lives?

1. Marriage for our good:
 - If you are married, how has God used your marriage for good in your life and the life of others? In what ways might God continue to do that in the future?
 - If you are single, what good have you seen through marriages in your life (friends and family)?
2. Marriage as gospel display:
 - If you are married, how might God be calling you today to better reflect Christ and the church to the world through your marriage?
 - If you are single, how can you encourage married friends toward Christ-centered marriage?
3. Marriage and grace:
 - What sin attitudes/patterns hinder God’s good design for your marriage or marriages around you?
 - How can the gospel free husbands and wives to confess sin, repent, and pursue reconciliation?
4. Marriage for God’s glory:
 - What specific steps can you take this week—married or single—to display God’s glory in his good design for marriage?
 - How does keeping the “marriage supper of the Lamb” in view shape your perspective today?