

## **“Humans Created for Community/Intimacy”**

Genesis 2:18-25

For the week of October 25, 2020

### **Truth or Mythology?**

Read Genesis 2:18-25.

The creation of woman is clear cut in that Eve was taken from Adam's side and formed separately. Evolution does not explain this, nor does theistic evolution. This is either true or it is not. What did Jesus say about this? Read Matthew 19:3-6. Was Jesus deceived? Why or why not? Understanding Jesus' response, how should this reassure us in creation and God's Word?

### **Significance**

What is significant about God creating woman last? In the ascending order of creation, is she the pinnacle? Or being made after man is she an afterthought? Or something else?

### **Helper**

Read verse 18. For the first time, God saw something that was not good – the aloneness of man. God never intended for man to be alone, either in the marital or social sense.

Different versions of the Bible translate “helper” in a variety of ways. Here are a few:

“Helper meet” (suitable, adapted, completing) (Amplified)

“A companion who is just right for him” (NLT)

“A helper suitable” (NIV, NASB)

“A help meet for him” (KJV)

How do you define “helper?” Does “helper” sound like a lesser person? Why or why not?

## Having Purpose but Lonely

Read verses 19-20. Before God created the woman, He first brought to Adam all the living creatures He had made. What was Adam's "job" and how did it provide purpose in his life? Why do you think God gave Adam responsibility since He could have just allowed Adam to "kick back" and bask in the Garden of Eden?

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Studies conclude that there are benefits in working. People in work tend to enjoy happier lives than those who are not in work. Our physical and mental health is generally improved through work. We recover from sickness quicker and are at less risk of long term illness and incapacity. Working gives people a sense of pride, identity and personal achievement.

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After naming the animals, what was Adam's conclusion (verse 20b)? Why would Adam feel alone when he had God as a companion?

## Woman Created

Read verses 21-22.

Earlier, in making Adam, God used the "dust of the ground" to form his body and "breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being" (Genesis 2:7). But with Eve, He used existing tissue and didn't start from scratch. Why? And why did God use Adam's rib to create Eve?

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Interesting fact: Ribs have amazing regenerative powers. Portions of rib bone and cartilage removed in bone graft surgery will regrow in a few months' time, as long as the connective tissue around the rib is left intact. This means that Adam's loss of a rib was only temporary...and we say wow!

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## Wife

Read verses 23- 25. This is the first mention in the Bible of the word "wife." What does it mean to be a godly wife? Read Proverbs 31 and list the traits and characteristics of a godly wife.

Now list other traits and characteristics you believe are important to be a godly wife. Discuss in your group.

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Christian minister and author Matthew Henry says this: "The woman was taken from Adam's side – not from his head to rule over him, not from his feet to be trampled on, but from his side to be equal with him, from under his arm to be protected, from close to his heart to be loved."

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## **Husband**

Not to be omitted, let's look at what is needed to be a godly husband. First, neither men nor women can be everything God wants them to be in their own strength. So the first thing is that one must surrender their life to Jesus Christ. To be "godly" means we must have God. When His Spirit lives in us, He empowers us to live godly lives. Read the following passages and list the traits and characteristics of a godly husband:

Philippians 2:3-4

1 Peter 3:7

Ephesians 5:15-33

1 Peter 3:7

Now list other traits and characteristics you believe are important to be a godly husband. Discuss in your group.

## **The First Wedding**

Reread verses 23-24. This is the description of the world's earliest wedding. It took place in paradise and it was planned by God. What are the key takeaways that you glean from this passage about marriage?

## **Community**

While Genesis 2 focuses on the foundation of any community – marriage – the implication is that we were created for relationship with each other. We were created to be in community. As we have been experiencing the pandemic and the restrictions resulting in minimal contact with others, what are your thoughts of the importance of community, specifically community in our church family?

## **Prayer**

Praise God for the loving care He reveals in our passage. Thank Him for the way He made you. Ask Him to enable you each to fulfill His purpose for you.