

**Marriage**  
**Jim Burgen**  
**Oct 15th, 2023**

**// Bible References**

Genesis 2:18, 21-25; Matt 19:3-12

**// Community Question: What are some common beliefs about how to act in romantic relationships and marriage?**

**// Discussion Questions**

1. Read Genesis 2:18 Pastor Jim Burgen discussed that humans are created to live in relationship with others and not alone. In what ways can we develop godly relationships and our marriage? How can we demonstrate our love for others through godly relationships and our marriage?
2. Read Genesis 2:21-25. The sermon explains that the image of the rib being taken from the man to create the woman represents unity and exclusivity. Why is the concept of 'two becoming one' important in the context of marriage? How can you work towards unity in your own marriage or future marriage, and what obstacles might you encounter?
3. Jim Burgen emphasized the importance of sacrificial love, forgiveness, and choosing to love and uphold the dignity of one's spouse. What role does marriage vows, sacrificial love, and forgiveness play in a successful marriage? Can you recall a time when your marriage vow, sacrificial love, or forgiveness was vital in your relationships? How did that impact the relationship?
4. Read Matt 19:3-10 The sermon references Jesus' teachings on divorce and stresses that God's plan for marriage remains the same despite the chaos in the world. How can we apply Jesus' teachings on divorce to our own lives? What are some practical ways to uphold the sanctity of marriage and avoid divorce in your own marriage or future marriage?
5. Read Matt 19:11-12. Burgen communicates a hard teaching from Jesus and addresses the struggles faced by single individuals, reminding them to trust in God's faithfulness. How can single individuals follow this hard teaching and honor God's plan for relationships? If you are single, how can you stay focused on God's design for relationships and maintain your faith during periods of singleness?

**// Challenge: What hard teaching is God asking you to follow in your relationships or marriage from now on?**