

SERMON-BASED STUDY: GOD'S LOVE STORY

Genesis 2:18-24, 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.

Notes:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 What does Genesis 2:18 reveal about God's design for humans and the importance of companionship?
- 2 What does the term "helper" mean in this context? How does it relate to the idea of partnership and strength?

What is significant about the way God created the woman?

DIGGING DEEPER

A

Ephesians 5:25-33, ESV – ²⁵ *Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,* ²⁶ *that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,* ²⁷ *so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.* ²⁸ *In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.* ²⁹ *For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church,* ³⁰ *because we are members of his body.* ³¹ *“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.”* ³² *This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.* ³³ *However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.*

4

Looking at Ephesians 5:25-27, what has Christ done for, continuing to do and going to do in the future with His church? Why?

5

How does marriage mirror Christ’s relationship with His church? Why does Paul say, *this mystery is profound*?

6

In light of Genesis 2:24, why does Paul exhort husbands to *love their wives as their own bodies*?

B

Genesis 2:24, ESV – *Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.*

7

What does the phrase *leave his father and his mother* imply about family relationships before and after marriage? How can a married couple make their marriage a priority?

8

What does it mean to hold fast? How can this level of commitment and connection be obtained in a marriage?

TAKING IT HOME

How does this message challenge or deepen your understanding of your own relationships, whether married or single? What practical steps can you take to cultivate a stronger, more God-honoring partnership in your own marriage or in your future relationships?

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Genesis 1:27

Matthew 19:4-6

Ephesians 4:32