

# **SRMBC Family Bible Study**

## **The Gift of Singleness/The Gift of Marriage**

**November 13, 2019**

***Reverend Thomas A. Keys, Pastor***

### **Part II: The Gift of Marriage: God's Design for Marriage**

#### **Genesis 1:26 – 2:25**

To build a house we need a design and a blueprint from an architect. We want the design to be both beautiful and comfortable, a house that fulfills our dreams. To build a beautiful, satisfying marriage to fill that house we also need a wise designer's plan.

#### **Group Discussion.**

How would you design the foundation for a satisfying marriage? What essential materials would you use?

#### **Natural Perks**

- Companionship – help Someone to share life with.
- Someone who can me eat better and dress better.
- A cleaner house and Car.
- Having Someone to share good news with.
- Finally, being free from answering the question "When are you getting married?"
- To fulfill sexual needs in the way God intends.
- To have someone to lean on in times of trouble/grief.
- To have children and a family (Remote, Dishwasher, Lawnmower, etc.)
- To help with driving directions

#### **Spiritual Perks**

- To have someone to pray with and pray for me
- To have a ministry Partner to help fulfill God's calling
- To provide a Godly witness to the World through my marriage and family
- Being able to share church and worship with.
- To be part of God's mission raise up the next generation of Christians
- To fulfill God's will for you to marry this person.
- To fulfill my partner's sexual needs in the way God intends.

God the Master Creator, reveals His design in this section of Genesis:

#### **Read Genesis 1:26 – 2:17**

1. God created man and woman in His image (1:26). What various male and female characteristics help you understand what the image of God is?

### A Male's Perspective

**Worker.** *Every boy and every man is on a quest. where he senses his larger purpose and destiny lie.*

**Provider.** *A man places great stock in providing for himself and his family.*

**Risk Taker.** *To seize and make the most of his opportunities, a boy or a man must be willing to take chances.*

**Initiator.** *All of this presumes a certain willingness and ability to "take the bull by the horns" and make things happen.*

**Protector.** *There's an obvious connection between protector and being active.*

**Father/Husband.** *being an example and teaching the Children*

### A Women's Perspective

**Values intimacy.** *A woman cares more about being. She finds the reason for her being in relationship.*

**Wisdom/Discernment.** *a woman does not enter into things indiscriminately. She chooses slowly and receives wisely.*

**Prefers modesty.** *she possesses something very precious. Modesty is fundamental to her nature.*

**Caring.** *She is inclined to the needy, or the hurting compassion and care.*

**Uses words.** *Women talk to communicate feelings and thoughts. As a result, women tend to use more words than men.*

**Wields "soft power"** *which shapes humanity, family, marriage*

**Mother/Wife.** *Teaching providing for the Home and Family*

2. God declares all He has created is very good (1:31). This includes being male and female. how can God's "very good" help you accept and respect the uniqueness of your gender?

- Since both male and Female as God has designed it are Very Good – I am "very good" in the way He made me.
- I can appreciate (even if I don't always understand") the "very goodness" of the opposite sex.
- Regardless what the society, media, or culture says, the "very good" characteristics of my gender (not the sinful ones) are part of the very image of God.

Note: God, of course, is neither male nor female. He transcends all such categories. It is only as these two distinct halves of humanity come together that the image of God in man is most fully and completely revealed.

3. What responsibilities and resources did God give to the man and the woman (1:26 – 30; 2:8 – 9, 15 – 7)?

<b><u>Responsibilities Given By God</u></b>	
<b>Scriptures</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>let them have dominion over the fish of the sea over the birds of the air and over the cattle over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” (1:26)</b>	To oversee and steward over all the animals that God has created
<b>Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it. (1:27)</b>	To nurture one another and procreate - creating children and families to fill the earth.
<b>Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. (2:15)</b>	To keep and take care of (till) the garden. (the man has a J.O.B.)
<b>...but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.” (2:17)</b>	To know (Understand the difference) and obey God’s commandment not to eat of the forbidden tree.

<b><u>Resources Given By God</u></b>	
<b>Scriptures</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image (1:26)</b>	God Himself is the greatest resource.
<b>male and female He created them. (1:27)</b>	The man and the woman is a resource for and to one another
<b>the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” (1:27)</b>	Every animal God created is for to use for his good and God’s glory (Serve people and use things)
<b>And God said, “See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. (1:29)</b>	An unlimited supply and source of nourishment provided by God.
<b>The Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat. (2:8 -9; 15)</b>	An unlimited supply and source of nourishment that follows God’s set order (seedtime and harvest)

## Read Genesis 2:18 – 25

4. For the first time God declares something in His creation “not good” (2:18). Put yourself in the man’s place. How would the parade of animals intensify your loneliness?
  - Adam, while enjoying the beauty of God’s creation – he could see that each of the animals has a mate that is a complement to them.
  - The animals are good and can provide some companionship, but not the kind that Adam needs or desires.
  - There is not one of the animals that can understand or have an intimate conversation about life or about God.
  - He can’t see how there would be more people like him – seeing that there is no mate.
5. What tone of voice do you think the man used in his reaction to the woman (2:23)?
  - **A Voice Of Excitement/Fulfillment** – Finally This Is Now... ”
  - **A Voice Of Commitment** – Bone Of My Bones. Flesh Of My Flesh
  - **A Voice Of Acknowledgement** - Woman – Taken Out Of Man (Part Of Me – I Am Not Complete Without Her)

**Insight:** Adam, when awaking, possibly felt the missing rib – and then seeing the woman made from his rib and realized this is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh.

6. What marriage principles do you draw from verse 2:24?
  - Marriage Is a Divine Institution Given by God as a Part of the Created Order.
  - Marriage Is the Union of a Man and a Woman to Become One Flesh.
  - The Man and Woman Have Different Functions in the Marriage Relationship.
  - Sexual Relationships in the Marriage Relationship (One Man-One Woman) are a gift of God.
  - Man and Woman in the Marriage Relationship have been joined by God
  - Husband and Wife are to Love and Cherish each other as gifts from God
  - The differences between men and women are to compliment not to cause conflict.

Therefore, a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. (Gen. 2:24)

7. Why was there no shame or self-consciousness between the man and the woman (2:25)? Why do you think that fact is noted here?

- It shows the Honor and Holiness of God - Ordained Marriage – as He has designed it
- Because it was without sin (Before the Fall of Man)
- They were both in close relationship with God and with one another.
- They knew they were made for each other and that marriage is “very good”
- This Closeness and intimacy is a picture of our relationship with God

8. How has this passage helped you see that God provides for our emotional, physical and spiritual needs in His marriage design?

- God has uniquely Created man and woman with different Characteristics to meet one another's needs
- God has designed male and female for companionship, procreation and mutual enjoyment.
- The Woman was created to help the man accomplish God's will for his life in the earth.
- The Man was created to provide, protect, and be the priest for the woman and the family.
- Man and Woman in married relationship are picture of Salvation As they share serve and Worship God together

*Pray for a deeper understanding of what the creation account has to say about building a Christian marriage.*

### *Keys For Living*



Regardless of the government or the society says, God has forever set the design for marriage as one man and one woman for life (Cf. Gen. 2:24, Matt. 19:4 – 6).



Marriage is God's way of using the differing gifts and characteristics of men and women to complement one another, bring children into world - all for His Glory.



A God-designed marriage is an example and representation of the relationship that Jesus has with His church – The Bride of Christ (Eph. 5:31 – 32).