

**THE STORY — Week 10**  
**A Picture of God's Design for Relationship**  
**Genesis 2:15-25**

**Our Rules for the Road**

1. The Bible was written for me but not to me.
2. The Bible is a library with different literary genres (**Narrative**, Poetry & Discourse)
3. The Bible must be read in Context (Ancient, Situational & Biblical)
4. The Bible must be read with an understanding of language and words (Repeated words drive dominant themes)
5. The Bible is a unified story that leads to Jesus

**Gods plan and design for relationship**

**Genesis 2:15-25** *"The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will certainly die.' The Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.' Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them all to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals. But for Adam no suitable helper was found. So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. Then the lord god made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. The man said, 'This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called "woman," for she was taken out of man.' That is why a man leaves his mother and father and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame."*

**God's Plan for Men**

**1. Responsibility**

- a. To God

**Genesis 2:7** *"Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being."*

b. To Work

**Genesis 2:15** “The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to **work** it...”

c. To Creation

**Genesis 2:15** “The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and **take care of it.**”

## 2. Rules/ Restrictions

a. Obedient

**Genesis 2:17** (ESV) “But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat...”

“To know God is to know that our obedience is due to Him.” — CS Lewis

b. Self Controlled

**2 Timothy 1:7** (ESV) “[F]or God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.”

“Self-control is not control by oneself through one’s own willpower but rather control of oneself through the power of the holy spirit” — Jerry Bridges

**Psalms 119:9** (ESV) “How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.”

## 3. Relationship

**Genesis 2:18** “The Lord God said ‘It is **not good** for man to be alone.’”

**Genesis 2:20-21** “The man gave names to the livestock, the birds in the sky, and all the wild animals. But for Adam no suitable helper was found.”

## God’s Plan for Women

1. Know your Worth

**Genesis 2:18** *“I will make a suitable helper for him.”*

The Hebrew word for helper is *EZER*, which means “helper.”

Used 21 times, but the only other use of the word is to describe God.

**Psalms 33:20** (ESV) *“Our soul waits on the Lord; He is our help (EZER) and our shield.”*

**Proverbs 31:10** *“A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies.”*

2. Know your Valuable Role

**1 Corinthians 11:12** *“For as woman came from man, so also man is born of woman...”*

**Proverbs 31:11-30** *“Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life. She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands. She is like the merchant ships, bringing food from afar. She gets up while it is still night; she provides food for her family and portions for her female servants. She considers a field and buys it; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard. She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks. She sees that trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night. In her hand she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers. She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy. When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet. She makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in fine linen and purple. Her husband is respected at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land. She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies the merchants with sashes. She is clothed with dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: ‘Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.’ Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.”*

“A woman’s heart should be so hidden in God that a man has to seek Him just to find her.” — Max Lucado

**God’s Plan for Marriage**

- a. Your spouse is 2nd most important relationship

**Genesis 2:24** *“That is why a man leaves his father and mother...”*

- b. There is a “oneness” in the relationship

**Genesis 2:23** *“This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called ‘woman,’ for she was taken out of man.”*

**Genesis 2:24** (ESV) *“[A]nd hold fast to his wife and they shall become one flesh.”*

**Matthew 19:6** (ESV) *“So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”*

- c. Sexual freedom within the confines of marriage

**Genesis 2:25** *“Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.”*

**1 Corinthians 7:3-5** *“The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife and likewise the wife to her husband. The wife does not have authority over her own body but yields it to her husband. In the same way, the husband does not have authority over his own body but yields it to his wife. Do not deprive each other except perhaps by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self control.”*

### **God’s Purpose for Marriage**

**Genesis 1:28** *“God blessed them and said to them, ‘Be fruitful and increase in number...’”*