

God's Intention for Marriage
The LORD's Grand Design
Genesis 1-3

I. Coworkers for God's glory (1:26-27)

A. Significant phrase "image bearers, male and female"

B. Implications for marriage.

- Equal but different roles—we are different by design. "Form fits function"

II. Children for God's glory (1:28)

A. Significant phrase "fill the earth" with more image bearers

B. Implications for marriage.

III. Completer for God's glory (2:18)

A. Significant phrase— "helper suitable"

B. Implications for marriage

- Role confusion causes a lot of conflict in marriage just like it does in any relationship.

IV. Companionship for God's glory (2:18)

A. Significant phrases, "not good for man to be alone;" "Bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh;" "naked and not ashamed."

B. Implications for marriage

V. Covenant Relationship for God's glory (2:22-23; cf. also Ephesians 5: 31-32)

A. Significant phrase "this is now bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh"

- Covenant = "a sacred commitment to live in sealed allegiance to one another for life."

B. Implications for marriage

VI. Caution! The fall distorts everything. (Genesis 3)

A. Significant phrases---(3:6-12; 17)

The heart (mind, will, affections, emotions) becomes corrupted because of giving into wrong desires.

B. Implications for marriage

Conclusion:

Have you submitted yourself to God's authority as clearly stated in the Bible?

What energy are you putting into your marriage?

How much do you trust your desires?

Have you ruled divorce out of your vocabulary?

Ask yourself the question: "What's it like for my poor spouse to have to live with me?"

Write a prayer of commitment to the Lord: