

Made for Each Other

Genesis 2:18-25 | Ryan Pfeiffer | February, 16, 2025

INTRO. Imagine the person to your rt, left, front of & behind you not here

Imagine you are the only person who showed up to church today!

Relationships can make us feel crowded/ busy... like surf line up. Relationships can be messy, dramatic, complicated, hurtful, traumatizing

BUT... Relationships bring meaning, belonging, joy, new life, new ideas, help

18 The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

We were made for relationships... we were made for each other.

ILLUS... Have you seen Castaway?? That scene when Mr Wilson floats away!

This passage captures the fundamental need we all have for companionship... thru friendships, teammates, marriage, family...

It focuses the fundamental purpose for existing on Relationship... with God and one another

Matthew 22:37Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

FOCUS. We're going to look at the goodness of companionship and the gift of marriage.

THE GOODNESS OF COMPANIONSHIP. READ vss 19-20.

God's created us to be in perfect relationship with all his creation.

Have you ever had an animal come up to you out of the wild? Hummingbird!

As good as relationship with animals and creation are... we were made for human connection... that gets us to a crucial concept in v20.

Vs 18, 20 "no suitable helper was found." ... This phrase is KEY.

Two Hebrew words: Helper (ezer) + Suitable (kenegdo)

Helper (ezer) = help, helper, strength... 75% of time its used of God.

- Psalm 121:1 Where does my help (ezer) come from? My help (ezer) comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.
- Psalm 70:5 O God. You are my help (ezer) and my deliverer.



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Suitable (kenego) = Opposite, in front of, face to face. To Correspond to.

This term speaks to the kind of companion this help will come from:

- 1. Equality and balance. The helper is not inferior (like the animals) and not superior (like God), but stands opposite or face to face with as an equal.
- 2. Complementary role: One who provides strengths & perspectives the other lacks
- 3. Relational Partnership: Both people fulfill each others needs to fulfill a purpose.

This is a relationship of partnership not subordination. That's key.

What does all this say about our need for companionship? (Marriage in a min)

- God sees our loneliness and is faithful to bring life-giving friendships.
- Whatever God has given us to accomplish whoever God has called us to be... we can't do it alone.

Jesus didn't set out to accomplish his work alone... he gathered friends.

Showing we can live meaningful, relationally rich lives outside marriage.

Matthew 22:30 At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven.

But we do need people in our life that bring strengths/ gifts we don't have.

1 Peter 4:10 Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

- We can embrace each others differences as gifts that fulfill our limits
- We don't have to try and be like everyone else... our difference matters

THE GIFT OF MARRIAGE. READ vss 21-25.

Everything we have learned about the ezer-kenegdo partnership is uniquely fulfilled in marriage.

- 1) The woman is drawn from Adams side... Hebrew can mean rib or side. Speaks to her side-by-side relationship. Partnership of equals. She is not above Adam... and she is not beneath him... she is his equal.
- 2) The woman and the man have the capacity to form a special bond.



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That special bond is called in verse 24 "one flesh" union.

Speaks to the physical, spiritual and emotional union of a married couple.

Vs25 Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

- 1. We're talking about sexuality, intimacy and vulnerability.
- In a mysterious way... there is a fusion of spirit and body to one another.

It's filled with pleasure (hardwired into our biology)... and power (reproduce life!)

Don't we see both of these qualities in God? 1) "It's good!" 2) Power-new life.

It's why sex is made for the protective context and covering of marriage.

The commitment of marriage provides the safety for the vulnerability and the power of this unique bond.

Sex is more than a physical act... its profoundly spiritual and sacred.

There's something more to this "one flesh" union that even more mysterious.

The word for ONE is the Hebrew word echad.

Used to describe God... Deuteronomy 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is (echad) one.

Later in John 17 Jesus describes 1) himself as one with his Father. 2) The Church one with God. 3) The church one with one another.

Christopher West, Fill These Hearts, God, sex and the universal longing—

Somehow in a mysterious way beyond anything we can think or imagine, all that is masculine in our humanity will be in union with all that is feminine in our humanity and that one organic union of humanity will be the 'one body' the 'one virgin Bride' of Christ in union with him forever.