

God's Design for Marriage

A. The First Marriage as a Pattern – Genesis 2:18-25

*Note: This account takes place on day six of the original creation week. (Gen. 1:24-31)

1. Adam's task of naming the animals showed him that he was _____. (Gen. 2:18-20)
 - a. *Where did the idea of pairing a man with a woman originate?*
 - b. *What did God say he wanted to make for the first man?*
 - c. *What does the word "helper" (ēzer) indicate?*
 - d. *What does this text show us about the value of women?*
2. _____ perfectly met Adam's need by providing a woman. (Gen. 2:21-23)
 - a. *How much work did Adam do to meet this need?*
 - b. *Where was the woman taken from, indicating equality with the man?*
 - c. *How did Adam respond to affirm God's good design?*
3. The first marriage is meant to be a _____ for all marriages to follow. (Gen. 2:24-25)
 - a. *What indicates the priority of the marriage relationship?*
 - b. *What indicates the permanence and unity of a marriage?*
 - c. *What indicates the intimacy and purity of marriage?*

B. Reflecting Christ's Relationship with the Church – Ephesians 5:22-33

*Note: This instruction is an extension of how the Holy Spirit can lead individuals who are saved (Eph. 2:8-10) and seeking God's will (Eph. 5:15-21).

1. A Spirit-led wife's unique role is modeled after _____. (Eph. 5:22-24)
 - a. *What is Christ to the church?*

 - b. *What is the godly response to headship?*

2. A Spirit-led husband's unique role is modeled after _____. (Eph. 5:25-28)
 - a. *What did Christ do for the church?*

 - b. *What is Christ's goal for the church?*

3. The _____ and _____ of Christ's relationship with His church is a key comparison to God's plan for our marriages. (Eph. 5:29-33)
 - a. *Is there any risk for a member of the body of Christ to be severed from Christ's love?*

 - b. *Does Christ see members of His body as worthy of His care?*

 - c. *Do members of Christ's body have the privilege of knowing they are secure?*