

Series: Striving Together as a Family

IT IS NOT GOOD THAT THE MAN SHOULD BE ALONE

GENESIS 2

Text: Genesis 2:18

Genesis 2:18

¹⁸ *And the LORD God said, **It is not good that the man should be alone**; I will make him an help meet for him.*

Introduction:

In our text we are given the details of the establishment of the home and family. At its origin there was not sin in the world and everything was perfect.

Then the fall of man came and sin entered the world.

With sin came all the problems of the curse.

With these problems came problem in the home.

Not long after man sinned the first murder took place.

Let's consider this passage today as we begin this series "Striving Together as a Family"

Note:

1. THE LORD'S INSIGHT (VS. 18)

Genesis 2:18

¹⁸ *And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.*

Note:

A. The Father's Concern

The Garden of Eden was a perfect place where God, man and the animal kingdom enjoyed perfect peace and harmony. It was a good place. In fact, looking back on the Lord's creative efforts in chapter 1, it is clear that the Lord thought it was good as well.

Genesis 1:4

⁴ *And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.*

Genesis 1:10

¹⁰ *And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.*

Genesis 1:12

¹² *And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose*

seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:18

¹⁸ And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:21

²¹ And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:25

²⁵ And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:31

³¹ And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

When God looked at the work of creation, He declared it all good until he stated that it wasn't good that man should be alone.

Not only do we see God's concern but also note:

B. The Father's Conclusion

Man needed a helper or a mate. The word helpmeet has the idea of a completer.

God's intention in making the woman was to compliment and complete the man.

Not only do we see the "Father's Insight" but note also:

2. THE FATHER'S INTERVENTION (VS. 19-22)

Genesis 2:19-22

¹⁹ And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. ²⁰ And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him. ²¹ And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; ²² And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

Note:

A. A Desire Shaped By God (vs. 19-20)

In these verses, God has the entirety of the animal kingdom pass before Adam. He tells Adam to look at them and to give them names and whatever Adam called them, that was their name.

No doubt God was also shaping a desire in Adam for a companion.

No doubt as Adam saw all these animals pass before him he must have noticed that every one of them had a mate, and that he was the only creature who seemed to be alone.

Not only do we see a desire shaped by God but also we see:

B. This Desire Satisfied By God

The Lord never awakens a desire that He isn't prepared to fulfill in His own way and in His own time. Our problem is that we have these desires in us and we set about satisfying them on our own, and in our own time.

Note there were three things involved in providing Adam his helper.

- It Involved Sleep

When it came time for God to make a helpmeet for Adam, He caused Adam to go to sleep while He did His work.

Adam was totally uninvolved in the selection process.

It was God who made this happen in his life.

Lesson for those who are desirous of a spouse:

The best thing you can do is just let that area of your life go to sleep and trust the Lord to bring that person into your life in His time and in His way.

Most today do just the opposite, which is an indication of a lack of faith.

If God can be trusted to save your soul do you not think that He can also be trusted to bring you the mate He wants you to have?

- It Involved Surgery

While Adam was asleep, God performed surgery on Adam, opened him up and took out a rib. It was from this rib that God made the woman.

Remember:

Surgery always involves pain. Often, finding a mate involves pain and even after a mate has been secured and vows have been exchanged, there are still painful times. However, we must learn to trust the Lord during the difficult times and to remember our commitment made to our spouse.

We must fight for our marriages.

Not only did it involve sleep and surgery but also:

- It Involved Symbolism

Notice where the woman came from:

In taking her from the side of man, God was painting a picture that speaks volumes about what the marriage relationship should be.

"Eve was made by God not out of Adam's head to rule over him, nor out of his feet to be trampled upon by him, but out of his side to be equal with him, from under his arm to be protected and from near his heart to be loved."

Note not only the Father's Insight and Intervention but also:

3. THE FATHER'S INSTITUTION (VS. 23-25)

Genesis 2:23-25

²³ *And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.* ²⁴ *Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.* ²⁵ *And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.*

These verses constitute what was the first marriage ceremony. There are three aspects that were involved in that first marriage ceremony that will go a long way in helping our relationships.

A. Marriage Involves a Response (vs. 23)

The lesson here is that in any marriage, there must be that element of heartfelt love and the sure knowledge that this is THE person God has created just for me.

Marriage is not something to be entered into lightly.

It should be prayed about and strictly observed according to the Lord's commandments.

If His Word is ignored, there can be nothing but trouble in the marriage relationship!

It involves a response and that response is to say yes to the word and work of God and to that person that God has picked and prepared just for you.

B. Marriage Involves a Responsibility (vs. 24)

Genesis 2:24

²⁴ *Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.*

Adam goes on to say that a man is to "leave" his parents and "cleave" to his wife. This is a two-step process that many couple would do well to consider this.

- To leave means to place every other relationship except of course our relationship with the Lord at a lower priority than the marriage relationship.
- Leaving means that every activity outside of the marriage relationship must take a backseat.

This includes things like businesses, hobbies, friends, careers, sports, even church work.

Outside of one's relationship with God, there is no other relationship as important as the one you have with your spouse.

- To cleave means to "adhere to, to stick to, to be bound together by some strong bond."

Cleaving isn't an instant thing. Rather, it is a lifelong pursuit.

Close:

We need to strive together as families in serving the Lord not strive against one another.

Over the next few weeks we will consider this thought of striving together as a family.

I would like for your family as we begin this series to come and pray together that the Lord will guide you, strengthen you, and use you as you strive together for the faith as a family.