
Series: Relationship Realities: Getting Real About Marriage
Extreme Makeover or Making the Best of a Bad Situation

Genesis 2:18-24 (NIV)

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

¹⁹Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. ²⁰So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field.

But for Adam no suitable helper was found. ²¹So 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 closed up the place with flesh. ²²Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

²³The 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."

²⁴For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

1. God Designed man and woman to be in relationship from the very beginning.

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

- The default mode for humanity is to find a mate for life.
- The suitable helper for Adam was not to duplicate his efforts, but to compensate for his shortcomings.
- The marriage of a man and a woman is the foundational building block for society.

2. God created the woman out of the man to create the closest relationship possible.

vv. 21, 22 *"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 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."*

- God created Adam, then said, "I think I can do better than that," and then created Eve.
- God used a rib to symbolize that the woman would work side by side with the man.
- Of all the bones God could have used, he used the one closest to man's heart.

3. The bond of marriage takes two people and makes them into one entity.

v. 24 *"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh."*

Genesis 2:24 (KJV)

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

For two people to have a successful marriage, two things must happen:

- Leaving
- Cleaving

From just a rib, God made the ultimate extreme makeover to form a suitable mate for the man he had created and set up the social order that would sustain mankind for all generations.