

### III. Conclusion

A. Marriage is a gift given by God to complete us. Both a man and a woman is made complete with the other.

B. Genesis 2 explains why we ache inside for something better: We were made for something better.

Collins: *“All this makes me ache inside at what has been lost; am I not right to suppose that this is because the author ached as well?”*

Gary Thomas: *“A wedding calls us to our highest and our best – in fact, to almost impossible – ideals. It's the way we want to live. But marriage reminds us of the daily reality of living as sinful human beings in a radically broken world. We aspire after love but far too often descend into hate.”*

### LIVE THE STORY

*The Gospel is intended to be learned and lived in community. The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.*

- What is the difference between aloneness as described in 2:18 and loneliness? How does God solve the problem?
- In what ways does Gen. 2:18-25 describe an ideal we all strive for, and in what ways does it speak to what has been lost?
- What does it mean to say that sex is holy and not secular?
- How does Genesis 2:18-25 reveal that living together before marriage can never be a way to a healthier marriage?
- Most of us don't start our marriages like Adam and Eve, and most aren't begun as far off base as David and Bathsheba. What can each of those marriages tell us about God's grace and will for our lives? What do each tell us about redemption?
- Why do you think the world is so obsessed with sex? How does this create an opportunity for the Gospel?

### Truth for Understanding Our World (Part 5)

Jerry Cisar — October 11, 2015

Text: Genesis 2:18-25

### Introduction

### I. Making It Good (2:18-20)

- A. When God declares something is not good... it is not good.
- i. **For man to be alone.** It isn't just company that he needs, but an equal partner with vital differences.
    - a) *Aloneness* is different than *loneliness*.
    - b) It means that there is nothing inherently holy about remaining single or celibate for life, as if there were something less holy about the married life.
  - ii. “a helper suitable for him” (NIV), *“fit for him”* (ESV).
    - a) *a partner, one who corresponds to him*
    - b) He lacks both the ability to fill and multiply the world by himself, and the ability to subdue the world for the benefit of mankind by himself.
- B. God performs the first surgery in human history. (2:21-25)

*“Every marriage is a union; not a union of two strangers, but rather a reunion, a reconstitution, so to speak, of the primordial unity.”* (Jewish rabbi)

C. What conclusions are we to draw from this?

i. A man shall leave his father and mother.

ii. and *hold fast* to his wife

iii. *And the two will become one flesh.*

D. There is no shame from sex in the marriage covenant.

i. Hebrews 13:4

ii. They were intimate with each other... without shame.

**II. How does this help me understand...**

A. Sex

i. Sex is holy.

a) To say it is holy is to say that God has rule over it.

b) The marriage relationship is the relationship God uses to describe His relationship to His people.

ii. At the end of Genesis 2, we have we have arrived back at the “*very good*” of 1:31.

B. Fornication

i. Sex outside of marriage treats as unholy what God has claimed rights over. It rejects God's rule over sexuality. It declares sex unholy; that sex is secular.

ii. “*We need to find out if we are compatible before we make the commitment of getting married.*”

iii. Sin brings with it, not the promised bliss that the tempter offers, but shame and brokenness.

C. Adultery: Breaking the Marriage Covenant

i. Matthew 19:3-8

ii. Polygamy

D. Homosexuality & Gay Marriage

i. This is certainly a difficult topic.

ii. Another of the same-sex does not complete.

iii. Marriage was created by God to fulfill His purpose for humanity. A purpose to subdue and multiply.