

God's Plan For Marriage
Genesis 2:18-25

Russell Cook
West End Church of Christ
Knoxville, TN

1. It is sad to say that there are many things being said about marriage these days that may be less encouraging. A lot of people see marriage as an outdated institution in our culture.
 - a. The divorce rate is high. Nationwide, 1 out of every 3 marriages ends in divorce.
 - b. Because of the high divorce rate many of our young people are choosing to just live with each other. A recent Gallup Poll showed that the family of mom, dad and the kids now only makes up about 25% of America.
 - c. Then there is the new attention given to an old problem of homosexuality, now described a "same sex marriages." Nothing could be more contradictory.
 - d. Our young people are hearing marriage redefined as never before. We need to continue to reinforce what the Bible teaches about God's plan for marriage.

- I. It Is Not Good For Man To Be Alone. (Gen. 2:18) "The Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.'"**
 - A. In Genesis 1:31, it says, "**God saw all that He had made, and it was very good.**"
 - B. God realized that it was not good for Adam to be alone.

- II. So God Provided a "Helper" For Man. (Gen. 2:18) "I will make a helper suitable for him."**
 - A. God had a solution for the aloneness of man.
 - B. Here are three qualifications for a marriage partner:
 1. Will this person add to my holiness before God?
 2. Will this person support me in my times of crises and need?
 3. Is the person a gift sent by God into my life?

- III. No Suitable Helper Was Found. (Gen. 2:20) "But for Adam no suitable helper was found."**
 - A. This is interesting because here are all these animals and they can all be of help to him.
 - B. Marriage is about two people dying to their own selfish nature in order to help both of them become more holy or more like Christ.

- IV. For This Reason A Man Will Be United To His Wife. (Gen. 2:24)**

The Bible describes 4 building blocks essential to a successful marriage.

 - A. Building Block #1: Severance.
 - B. Building Block #2: Permanence.
 - C. Building Block #3: Oneness.
 - D. Building Block #4: Intimacy.