**Genesis: Back To the Beginning**

**1st Marriage**

**Genesis 2:18-24**

**Daily Time With Truth**

As you read these daily scriptures, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What is God saying to me?
2. What do I want to say to God in response?
3. How will I live out this truth?

**Day 1: 1 Cor 11:9 (TPT)**

By the same token, the man was not created because the woman needed him; the woman was created because the man needed her.

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**Day 2: Ecclesiastes 4:9-11 (NLV)**

Two are better than one, because they have good pay for their work. For if one of them falls, the other can help him up. But it is hard for the one who falls when there is no one to lift him up. And if two lie down together, they keep warm. But how can one be warm alone?

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**Day 3: Ephesians 5:31-33 (TPT)**

For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother when he gets married and be joined to his wife. The two become one. This is hard to understand, but it shows that the church is the body of Christ. So every man must love his wife as he loves himself. Every wife must respect her husband.

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**Day 4: Mark 10: 7-8 (TPT)**

For this reason a man will leave his parents and be wedded to his wife. And the husband and wife] will be joined as one flesh, and after that they no longer exist as two, but one flesh.

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**Day 5: Proverbs 18:22 (TPT)**

When a man finds a wife, he has found a treasure! For she is the gift of God to bring him joy and pleasure. But the one who divorces a good woman loses what is good from his house.To choose an adulteress is both stupid and ungodly.

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**Discussion Questions:**

1. Defend the statement that the family serves as the foundation of society. What can you do to “stand up” for marriage in our community?

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1. What is the significance of Genesis 2:24?

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1. This past Sunday we learned that the *“helper”* is one who supplies what is lacking in another person. What are some areas your spouse supplies what you may be lacking?

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1. What is the significance of Eve being taken from Adam and not Adam being taken from Eve?

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1. God desires us to share our lives with each other. What are some ways you share your life with others?

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1. The original pattern for marriage is **Knowledge:** courtship, dating and engagement. **Covenant**: marriage ceremony, legal document. **Confirmation:** sex, live together. When these are out of order, there is always trouble. Why?

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1. Read Genesis 2:25 What is the significance of this verse?

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**Digging Deeper:**

**2:18-24** God’s creative work was not complete until He made woman. He could have made her from the dust of the ground, as he made man. God chose, however, to make her from the man’s flesh and bone. In so doing, he illustrated for us that in marriage man and woman symbolically become one flesh. This is a mystical union of the couple’s hearts and lives. Throughout the Bible, God treats this special partnership seriously. If you are married or planning to be married, are you willing to keep the commitment that makes the two of you one? The goal in marriage should be more than friendship; it should be oneness.

**2:21-22** God forms and equips men and women for various tasks, but all these tasks lead to the same goal- honoring God. Man gives life to woman; woman gives life to the world. Each role carries privileges; there is no room for thinking that one sex is superior to the other.

**2:24** God gave marriage as a gift to Adam and Eve. They were created perfect for each other. Marriage was not just for convenience, nor was it brought about by any culture. It was instituted by God and has three basic aspects: (1) the man leaves his parents and, in a public act, promises himself to his wife; (2) the man and woman are joined together by taking responsibility for each other’s welfare and by loving the mate above all others; (3) the two become one flesh in the intimacy and commitment of sexual union, which is reserved for marriage. Strong marriages include all three of these aspects.

**2:25** Have you ever noticed how a little child can run naked through a room full of strangers without embarrassment? He is not aware of his nakedness, just as Adam and Eve were not embarrassed in their innocence. But after Adam and Eve sinned, shame and awkwardness followed, creating barriers between themselves and God. We often experience these same barriers in marriage. Ideally a husband and wife have no barriers, feeling no embarrassment in exposing themselves to each other or to God. But, like Adam and Eve (3:7), we put on fig leaves (barriers) because we have areas we don’t want our spouse, or God, to know about. Then we hide, just as Adam and Eve hid from God. In marriage, lack of spiritual, emotional, and intellectual intimacy usually precedes a breakdown of physical intimacy. In the same way, when we fail to expose our secret thoughts to God, we break our lines of communication with him. **Life Application Study Bible Commentary**

1. How did God uniquely create man and woman to complement each other in order to become one – physically, emotionally and spiritually?

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1. Have you experienced seasons of intimacy with no barriers and no shame in your marriage and in your relationship with God? How does shame creep in and how can we recognize the barriers to intimacy and address them?

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