

Home Builder's

Making Marriage Work in a Broken World

Lesson 2: The Foundation of a Lasting Marriage

Text: Genesis: 2:18-25

Introduction:

Bad foundations lead to shaky structures. The foundation is always the most important part of any building project. Around Houston many foundations settle and sink which leads to problems in the house.

Context:

This passage establishes God's view of marriage. It is the foundational passage for marriage in the Bible. Marriage is designed by God and is part of God's creative design.

- I. The Lord created man(kind) to work and keep the garden. (8-17)
 - A. God planted a bountiful garden. (8-14)
 - B. God placed Adam into the garden to dress and to keep the garden. (15)
 - C. God set Adam's limitations. (16-17)

- II. The Lord supplied what Adam lacked for his work by giving him Eve.
 - A. God declared it is not good for man to be alone and formed Eve for Adam from his rib. (18-22)
 1. God made Adam a "help meet".
 2. She was exactly what Adam needed.
 - B. Adam was excited that God had provided Eve for him. (23)

- III. God's plan for marriage is for a man and woman to leave, cleave, and weave.
 - A. Marriage requires leaving—stopping dependence on parents.
 - B. Marriage requires cleaving—clinging to the spouse.
 1. The spouses must be willing to detach themselves from their current roles and responsibilities to establish new roles and responsibilities.
 - C. Marriage requires weaving—two becoming one.

Big Idea: God instituted marriage to expand humankind's ability to accomplish their purpose of serving him.

Take Home Truth: Your marriage is meant to expand your ability to serve God.

Application:

- Your marriage's foundation is God. Any other foundation will usurp God from His role.
 - The purpose of your life is to know and serve God.
- How might the world try to establish an alternate foundation for marriage?
- What are inadequate foundations for marriage?

For Next Week:

Lesson Title: Say What?! How to talk to and about your spouse

Text(s): James 3:1-18 | Colossians 4:6

Next week we are going to examine communication in marriage. Read James 3:1-18 and consider how the way you talk to and about your spouse affects your marriage.