

“The Beginning of Relationships”
The Beginning of Everything Series
Genesis 2: 4-25

1. Hook

Q: Summarize the Macro-Creation story of Genesis One

- *“In the beginning God...”*
- *“Made everything from nothing by His command...”*
- *“And created mankind in his image, male and female...”*
- *“God blessed the Sabbath and made it holy; rest/work”*

Q: See is anyone can name the forms and the filling for each day?

- **Day 1-3 he provides “forms” to chaos**
- **Day 4-6 he fills “void” with creatures**

Q: How does “Image of God” and what we talked about last time in small groups inform the sermon from last Sunday? How important is it to simply acknowledge we were created male and female by God? And that both are equally his image?

*** “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; *male and female he created them.*” (Genesis 1: 27)**

2. Book

A. God Forms Man (2: 4-7)

- **God “formed” man—used to describe a potter with clay (Isa. 29: 16), so from dirt and water God made mud and formed man.**
- *Q: How does it feel to know you came from dirt?*

- *Q: How does it feel to know God breathed his Spirit into you and gave you life?*
- *Q: Can anyone create a “living being” beside God?*

B. God Prepares the Garden for Man (2: 8-17)

- **“park or orchard” probably in Armenia near Persian Gulf**
- *“Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil” – Q: What is it for?*
- *“Tree of Life” – Q: What is it for?*

Scott argued we all need three things: 1) vocation, 2) purpose and 3) prohibition. Do you agree? Why or why not?

C. . God Builds Woman for Man (2: 18-25)

“It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.” (Genesis 2: 18)

- **Man names all the animals—dominion over them.**

Q: Does Adam have dominion over the woman since he gives her a name later as well? Before the Fall and sin entering the world, would there be any problem with man’s leadership or his dominion?

- **None was suitable for man, so God placed man in deep sleep (21)**

Q: Why do you think no animal was suitable to help?

Q: Why do you think God chose to create woman from man—and then have woman be the one who gives birth to man?

“God took one of the man’s ribs and closed up the place with flesh. Then the Lord God made woman from the rib...and brought her to man.”

<i>Bone</i>	→	<i>From my bones</i>
<i>Flesh</i>	→	<i>From my flesh</i>

“She shall be called ishshan for she was taken out of isha”

Q: In some divine way is the sexual urge inside of us a “desire to merge” what was once together back to one flesh again?

Q: If so, how does sex outside of marriage pull asunder what has merged?

*Read: **God’s Prescript Marriage:** “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his (sing.) wife, and they will become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.” (Genesis 2: 24-25)*

Q: Scott argued that this passage prescribes what God desires in marriage, and also therefore what he does not desire. Do you agree?

3. Look

Q: Do you agree that God’s general principle is that it is “Not good” to be alone... Does that mean everyone needs to be married? What does it mean?

Q: If God orchestrated first wedding—then is marriage first and foremost His domain? How do we balance the state’s involvement in defining marriage and what Genesis teaches us?

Q: Are we seeing in our culture the ramifications of not better heeding the warning of Jesus about marriage when he said: “What God joins together, man should not pull apart” (Mark 10: 7-9)?

4. Took:

#1. God Does Provide:

*** Use this week to think of all the ways God is providing for you: vocation, purpose, community and even prohibitions to keep you safe. Thank God for your “good”!**

#2. General Principle: It is not Good to be alone.

*** Consider others who may be alone and how you can be community for them.**

#3 General Principle: Woman is climax of creation and to be cherished.

- **Show honor to everyone, but especially woman. If you are a man teach younger men to honor women and if you are a woman teach younger women to expect men to treat them with dignity and respect—or find others who will.**
- **Ponder what it mean as a woman to be a “helper” for man**
- *...“Not made out of his head to top him, nor out of his feet to be trampled upon by him, but out of his side to be equal with him, under his arm to be protected, and near his heart to be beloved.” –Matthew Henry*