



GO BACK TO THE BEGINNING

GENESIS 2:4-25

Created for Real Relationships

I. You were created to be _____ upon God. (vv. 4-17)

... then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. v. 7



BE REAL: FIGHT YOUR _____ BY GIVING GOD THANKS FOR WHAT HE'S DONE.

II. You were created to be _____ in community. (vv. 18-23)

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." v. 18



Community gives us a greater purpose beyond personal satisfaction. (1 Cor 12:18-20)

Community points out sinful blind spots in love. (Heb 3:13)

Community inspires us to persevere in our faith. (Heb 10:24)

Community supports us when we fall on hard times. (Eccl 4:9-12)



BE REAL: FIGHT YOUR _____ BY OPENING UP TO OTHERS.

III. You were created to be _____ with your spouse. (vv. 24-25)

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. v. 24



BE REAL: FIGHT YOUR _____ BY NURTURING YOUR SPOUSE AS YOUR OWN FLESH.

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DEVOTIONAL & HOME GROUP STUDY

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal His truth and wisdom as you go through this lesson.

1. Read Genesis 2:4-25. How do these verses describe the relationship between God and Adam as he lived in the garden?

But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:18-20

“The word *help* suggests that the man has governmental priority, but both sexes are mutually dependent on each other. The man is created first, with the woman to help the man, not vice versa (see also 1 Tim 2:13); however, this does not mean ontological superiority or inferiority. The word *helper*, used for God sixteen of the nineteen times it appears in the Old Testament, signifies the woman's essential contribution, not inadequacy.”

BRUCE WALTKE

“Transparency should increase with trust, commitment, and friendship. It involves communicating what we know, think, feel, and are—with the person or persons we choose. We should not be transparent with everyone, however, but only with people who commit themselves to us. A transparent person is an open and vulnerable person.”

TOM CONSTABLE

2. Adam existed in intimate relationship with God, but God knew that he was not complete. Why would Adam need another, created from the dust of the earth as he was, with whom he could be mutually dependent?

3. Would you say you are open to receiving help from others, or are you reluctant to be open and vulnerable? How do you know when you need to ask for help?

4. After hearing the sermon, would you say you need to fight your independence and ask for help sooner or more often? Why or why not?

5. Why is it so important in a marriage to be transparent and vulnerable with one another? What happens to the relationship when one or both spouses won't do that?

6. Everything we have is credited to God, but at times we merely acknowledge this fact instead of thanking Him for what we can't accomplish ourselves. How can you make it a habit to list each day what you're grateful for, especially what you receive in dependence on God or others? Are you ever just thankful for dependence itself?

A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)
“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.” (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:
“Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen.”

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events.



FOR BETTER, FOR WORSE We all know that marriage has its ups and downs, but it's another thing to experience it! Whether you are happily married or just hanging on by a thread, come and be

reminded of God's good agenda through the highs and lows. Beyond that, be encouraged and equipped from the Scriptures to love your spouse with a love that can only come from God. Register today at www.ccbcfamily.org/bw.

MUSIKGARTEN Designed as an interactive music class for you and your newborn, toddler and preschoolers, Musikgarten is where a love for music and musical skills are born through active movement and songs. We'd love to have you and your family join us for this spring semester! Learn more by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/musikgarten.

BAND OF BROTHERS is where men of all ages come to listen, discuss and grow in faith together, and this spring, the study will focus in on the book of Hebrews. Written as a call for disciples of Jesus to understand and remain faithful to the gospel, Hebrews is an incredible portion of Scripture to lean into and discover encouragement for the Christian life. Be a part this January and visit www.ccbcfamily.org/bob to sign up!

FOSTER AND ADOPT MINISTRY Are you a foster or adoptive parent? We would love to connect with you. Are you passionate about serving foster and adoptive families? Serve alongside us! Visit www.ccbcfamily.org/local.

THE OBEDIENT CHRISTIAN LIFE Disciples of Jesus are called to live a life that reflects the hope of our salvation and a surrender to God's will — but how does that play out in everyday life as we relate to ourselves, others and God? Join us for the Discipleship Class, The Obedient Christian Life, taught by Dr. Doug Cecil to find out. Visit www.ccbcfamily.org/ocl.

WOMEN IN THE WORD Make studying God's Word a part of your new year! Women in the Word is a weekly study for women of all ages and stages of life to dive deep into Scripture and learn more about the truth God has given us. Starting this January, Women in the Word will host a study on Romans and focus on the boundless grace of Jesus that sets us free from shame and brings us into new life. Register today at www.ccbcfamily.org/wiw.

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT OF WORSHIP

One of our incredible ministry partners, DASH Network, provides food and shelter for those who are seeking refuge from all over the world. On Friday, Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. in The Den, we'll be having a night of worship to rejoice in what God has continued to do through their ministry and to learn more about how we can step into the needs of those all over the globe. Learn more at www.ccbcfamily.org/worshipnight.



LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD? Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE. The process is quick and easy—text GIVE to 24253 to get started.