



# THE BEGINNING Genesis 1-11

## *The Design of Marriage (Part 2)*

Genesis 2:18-25

(page 2/large print page 2 or 3)

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1. The Problem: Designed for More Than Solitude (2:18-20)

2. The Provision: A Partner of Strength and Purpose (2:18-22)

3. The Proclamation: Covenant Joy and Recognition (2:23)

a. Celebratory Words

b. Complimentary Words

c. Covenantal Words

4. The Pattern: God's Design for Marriage (2:24-25)

a. Leaving

b. Cleaving

c. Weaving

d. Declaring

### **Quick Review**

1. Was there anything in the passage that challenged or encouraged you?
2. How did this passage of Scripture help you see Christ better?

### **Digging Deeper**

1. How does Genesis 2:24–25 establish a pattern for marriage? (Consider: leaving, cleaving, weaving, declaring.)
2. Ephesians 5:31–32 connects Genesis 2 to Christ and the church. How does understanding marriage as a picture of the gospel shape your view of what marriage is for?
3. In what ways has our culture's understanding of marriage drifted from God's design in this passage? How might Christians recover a biblical vision of marriage?

### **Taking It Home**

1. If you are married, how have you experienced God using your marriage to shape you into Christlikeness? Where is he calling you to grow in covenant faithfulness right now?
2. If you are single, how does this passage still speak to your life? How can you honor God's design for marriage in the way you support others, form friendships, or pursue your own relationships?
3. The message emphasized the permanence of vows over the sentimentality of feelings. In light of this, consider Psalm 15:4 and Matthew 5:37 in your commitments.
4. In what ways does shame (emotional, physical, spiritual) affect your experience of intimacy and vulnerability? How does the gospel help us live "naked and unashamed" in marriage or in community? If you're not married, how can you live with greater intimacy and vulnerability in your relationships?