

# The Marriage Covenant

Genesis 2:18-25  
Small Group Questions

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23-29, 2025

(1) Read Genesis 2:15-25.

- (a) How do verses 15-17 and 18-25 connect?
- (b) How is what happens in verses 18-25 feed into the major purpose of Genesis 2:4-25? (Think about the focus of chapter 2 on God's covenantal dealings with humanity.)

(2) In verse 18 God says that it is not good for man to be alone.

- (a) If there is no corruption or moral evil in the world at that point, in what sense is Adam's being alone "not good"? (Think in terms of what man is made for in Genesis 1:28)
- (b) How is Eve essential for Adam to be what God calls him to be?

(3) In what sense is woman to be man's *helper*?

- (a) Does Eve's coming alongside Adam as his helper teach that woman is inferior to man? Why not?
- (b) What do you see about the way the word *helper* or *help* (same Hebrew word) is used in these?

Exodus 18:4

Psalms 70:5

Psalms 124:8

Deuteronomy 33:7

Psalms 121:1

Psalms 146:5

(4) Why should we understand marriage as a covenant? (Malachi 2:14; Proverbs 2:16-17)

(5) Discuss these aspects of the marriage covenant, anchoring them to Genesis 2:18-25 and bringing in other Scripture passages as you are able – along the way, focus on how these can be more faithfully and diligently pursued within Sylvania Church (don't be afraid to get specific!):

- (a) Divine design
- (b) Equal distinction (equal before God, different in calling and function)
- (c) Exclusive union
- (d) Unrivalled priority
- (e) Intimate communion

(6) Why is it absolutely essential for us to follow marriage all the way to the end of its trajectory, which is Christ and the Church (Ephesians 5:22-33)? What difference does this make to the daily reality of marriage?