

God Designs Marriage: 13 Principles from Genesis

Mk 10:2-9 The Pharisees came and asked Him, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce *his* wife?" testing Him. ³ And He answered and said to them, "What did Moses command you?" ⁴ They said, "Moses permitted *a man* to write a certificate of divorce, and to dismiss *her*." ⁵ And Jesus answered and said to them, "Because of the hardness of your heart he wrote you this precept. ⁶ "But from the beginning of the creation, God ⁷ made them male and female." ⁷ "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸ and the two shall become one flesh"; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹ "Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

Genesis 1:26-28

²⁷ So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

²⁸ Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

1. Marriage Involves Two Genders: Male and Female
2. Marriage Involves Producing Children: Procreation

Genesis 2:15-17

¹⁵ Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.

¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;

¹⁷ "but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

3. Marriage Began with the Man: Given a Place and Purpose
4. Marriage Began with a Command: Man Given Spiritual Leadership
5. Marriage Began with a Warning: Man Told Spiritual Danger

Genesis 2:18-20

¹⁸ And the LORD God said, "*It is* not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."

¹⁹ Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought *them* to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that *was* its name.

²⁰ So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.

6. Marriage Identified What Would Not Work: God, Creation, Animals
7. Marriage Identified What Was Required: A Comparable Helper

Genesis 2:21-25

²¹ And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.

²² Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.

²³ And Adam said: "This *is* now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man."

²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

²⁵ And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

8. Marriage Began From the Man: God Made Woman from the Man
9. Marriage Met the Need: A Comparable Helper
10. Marriage Began a New Entity: Separate One Flesh from Parents
11. Marriage Condoned Sinless Intimacy: Naked and Not Ashamed

Genesis 3:9-19

⁹ Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where *are* you?"

¹⁰ So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself."

¹¹ And He said, "Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?"

¹² Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate."

¹³ And the LORD God said to the woman, "What *is* this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

¹⁴ So the LORD God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, You *are* cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life.

¹⁵ And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."

¹⁶ To the woman He said: "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire *shall be* for your husband, And he shall rule over you."

¹⁷ Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it':

"Cursed *is* the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat *of it* All the days of your life.

¹⁸ Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field.

¹⁹ In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you *are*, And to dust you shall return."

12. Marriage Continued After the Fall: Sin-cursed Husband and Wife
13. Marriage Roles Continued After the Fall: Provider and Mother