

Genesis 2:18-25
Beginnings Series
Discussion Questions

How would you define human flourishing? What picture of the flourishing life does our culture most often hold up for us?

Read Genesis 2:18-20

- Throughout Genesis 1, God repeatedly declares His creation "good." What does God mean by "good," and how does that help us understand why it is "not good" for the human to be alone?
- What do these verses reveal about God's character and His care for humanity?
- Why does God bring the animals to the human to be named? What does this teach us about humanity's role within creation?

Read Genesis 2:21-25

- God took from the side of the human, and the one human became two humans. What made this newly formed human a suitable helper?
- The word *ezer* ("helper") is frequently used of God throughout the Old Testament. How should that shape our understanding of strength, partnership, and service in relationships? How is it that the two are able to accomplish more than they were ever able to accomplish alone?
- Genesis describes marriage as two becoming "one flesh." What does this mean? And how does, Ephesians 5:25-33, help us understand what marriage is meant to look like more fully? How does that differ from the way marriage is commonly viewed today?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

- Paul says, "Such were some of you," reminding us that every one of us has fallen short of God's design for human flourishing. Why is it important to remember that all of us need redemption, not just "other people"?
- Paul also reminds the Corinthians that their past no longer defines them. According to verse 11, what has God done for people who have failed to live according to His design? How does that provide hope for us today?

Where do you find it hardest to trust God's design—for gender, marriage, sexuality, singleness, family, or something else? What makes that area difficult to surrender to Him?

Looking back, where have you seen God bring healing, restoration, or redemption out of your brokenness? How does that give you confidence to surrender other areas of your life to Him?