



Morningside Church

Sermon Discussion Guide

Title: The Provision of God

Date: September 13, 2026

Scripture Text: Genesis 2:4-25

Notes:

We continue our look at the book of Genesis by taking a closer look at Day 6 of creation. [Gen. 1:1-2:3](#) covered the six days of creation and the 7th day when God paused to celebrate the conclusion of creation, which was “very good” ([1:31](#)). The rest of Gen 2 takes a deeper dive into Day 6 giving us more detail on how the animals and people were created. In the process we see that God provided a place to live and a person to love.

I. God Provided a Place to Live ([Gen. 2:4-17](#))

In [v. 4-5](#), Days 1-2 are summarized. Day 3 was when God created vegetation ([Gen. 1:9-13](#)). God created man and provided a place for him to live, a garden called Eden (which means “delight” or “pleasant”). God placed the man in the garden. He gave the man a job, to “cultivate it and keep” the garden ([2:15](#)).

- God included the man as part of His work of creation. What are examples of God including us in His work today?
- How is God including us in His work for our benefit?
- How was the man able to know God better by obeying God’s direction?
- How is being part of God’s work an opportunity to be more intimate with Him?
- [1 Cor. 12:4-7](#) describes how Christians are uniquely gifted by the Holy Spirit for the common good (mutual benefit of the whole body of believers). How has God gifted you?
- How can your gifting by the Holy Spirit benefit the body of believers?

In [vv. 16-17](#) we see God’s command to the man of a prohibition from eating of a specific tree. From any tree in the garden the man could eat save the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

- With the prohibition from eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, the man would have the opportunity to choose if he would obey God. By the man’s obedience, he was able to express his love to God ([John 14:15](#), “if you love Me, you will keep my commandments”). How do you demonstrate your love for God?



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II. God Provided a Person to Love (Gen. 2:18-25)

God provided a place for the man to live and a job to keep it up. God recognized it was not good for the man to be alone ([2:18](#)). God brought all the animals to the man to name. There was none that were found to be compatible with the man.

- How does God's recognition that it was not good for the man to be alone show that God is concerned with not only our physical condition, but also mental, and emotional?
- The Bible doesn't tell us, but why do you think God brought all the animals to the man before creating woman?

Since there was not found a helper suitable for the man, God caused a deep sleep to come over the man. He took a rib and fashioned a woman. In [v. 23](#) we see the man's response to the woman God created for him. In a nutshell, he said 'Wow!'.

- By the first union of the man and woman God instituted marriage. What are elements of the first marriage that still apply to today?
- Elements of the first marriage include:
 - Marriage is between one man and one woman
 - The design of marriage includes:
 - Procreation, recreation, cooperation, and communication
 - Why is the inclusion of each of these important to having an effective marriage?
- In marriage, the husband and wife should *complete* one another, not *compete* with one another.
 - Describe a couple you know that is the picture of a husband and wife 'completing' each other.
- How can selfishness play a role in destroying a marriage?
- How can building a marriage on God's design ([Eph. 5:22-33](#)) help turn selfishness into selflessness?

In a marriage based on God's design, you have no time to worry about your needs because you are too busy tending to the needs of your spouse! They in turn are the one's responsible for your needs.

The man realized the special gift the woman was. The unique creation of the woman was she was the only thing God created on the 6th day that was not from the "dust of the ground". She was special and uniquely suited for the man. When was the last time you looked at your spouse and said "Wow!"?

"If the union of Adam and Eve is a great mystery in Christ and in the church, it is certain that as Eve was bone of the bones of her husband and flesh of his flesh, we also are members of Christ's body, bones of his bones and flesh of his flesh." Ambrose (339-397)