

BETTER Together

PART TWO: IT WILL NEVER LAST?

Everyone loves a good LOVE story right? However, anyone who has been in a relationship for more than 5 minutes knows that is not the way they usually work! The truth is, life doesn't resolve itself in 90 minutes. A healthy marriage takes work. A healthy and God-honoring relationship takes work. It takes selflessness and it takes a serious commitment to unity.

BIG IDEA: The key to “Happily Ever After” is WE before ME.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What do you think of when you hear the word “holy”?
2. Think about your closest relationships. What do you think is the purpose of those relationships?
3. With your Bible or Bible App, read Genesis 2:15-25

The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it. But the Lord God warned him, “You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden—except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die.” Then the Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.” So the Lord God formed from the ground all the wild animals and all the birds of the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would call them, and the man chose a name for each one. He gave names to all the livestock, all the birds of the sky, and all the wild animals. But still there was no helper just right for him. So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep. While the man slept, the Lord God took out one of the man's ribs and closed up the opening. Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib, and he brought her to the man. “At last!” the man exclaimed. “This one is bone from my bone, and flesh from my flesh! She will be called ‘woman,’ because she was taken from ‘man.’” This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one. Now the man and his wife were both naked, but they felt no shame.

Genesis 2:15-25 (NLT)

4. Why did God make two humans instead of just one? How would you have felt if you were Adam and you woke up with another human being next to you? How would you have felt if you were Eve?
5. According to the verses you just read, what did Adam and Eve feel? What relationship have you been in where you felt no shame? What role does shame play in relationship failures? How is shame connected to selfishness?
6. In the message, Carlo and Jaemi said: “When you start a relationship on the faulty foundation of sex, money, looks, or having your emotional needs met you are setting yourself up for failure.” Why do you think relationships fail?
7. Carlo also said, “God wants us to have holy marriages more than just happy marriages.” How does that understanding of marriage fight against the status quo of marriage? How does this understanding impact

ALL relationships?

8. With your Bible or Bible App, read 1 Corinthians 7:8-34
9. According to the verses you just read, how can a person experience life long unity and freedom, regardless of whether they are single or married?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

How about your relationships? What will you do when it looks like there will be no happily-ever-after? What do you do when everything starts to fall apart? This week, instead of turning to shame or selfishness, choose:

- Connection – deepen your friendships
- Conversion – Keep Jesus at the center of your relationship
- Construction – cultivate shared interests
- Collection – build healthy and holy memories together
- Conviction – take divorce off the table if you are married/take living together off of the table if you are single

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