

Sermon Title: Foundation Project **Sermon Title:** Why Am I Here?

Date: 10/16/2022

Genesis 2:4-25

Big idea - You need to know the reasons why you exist.

Reason #1. To enjoy a relationship with Him.

Chapter 2 announces God's personal Name – *Yahweh* – "I AM." It describes God, who is powerful yet personal and relational. When God created, He simply spoke most things into being. Not so with humankind.

Genesis 2:7 Communicates artistry. God crafted a work of art.

Genesis 3:19 - once we die, our bodies go back to dust.

Genesis 2:7 You have a spiritual God-breathed element, the capacity for spiritual understanding (Job 32:8).

He has pressed His imprint on your soul. Your body will someday die but your spirit will live forever.

Reason #2. To Enjoy His Creation.

Genesis 2:8–10

God provided everything necessary. This bears a striking resemblance to the new heaven and new earth that will be. Revelation 22:2

He also designed human labor to be rewarding.

God designed human labor to reflect the work that God Himself does. He ordained it to enrich and refresh. Genesis 2:15

He gave humankind great freedom to enjoy His creation - All within the bounds of one command. Genesis 2:16-17

One tree preserved life. The other tree introduced evil alongside innocence, corrupting it. Transgression of one command would lead to physical and spiritual death. Genesis 3:22

God wasn't about to sentence humans to live forever estranged from Him. Humans would be barred from eating of the tree of life until the fulfillment of God's plan to redeem us from death by dying for us on a cross. By means of the cross He would bridge the gap that separates fallen humans from a holy God, to restore the availability of the relationship He yearns for you to enjoy with Him.

Reason #3. To Enjoy Community.

Genesis 2:18

God declares man's incompleteness. Adam was alone – the only aspect of creation that God says is "not good." God designed us for community. That's obvious. Ecclesiastes 4:9–12

We live at our best when we participate in community. It pleases God when He sees us living in a harmonious community with others. We rarely fulfill God's purpose for us apart from community.

Notice that, next, God creates a helper. Genesis 2:21–25
The word *Helper* (Gen 2:18) refers to "one who provides what is lacking." The woman God created was to help the man do what he could not do alone. She would be <u>suitable</u> for him.

The woman is an equal bearer of the image of God. Genesis 1:27 There is no competition, no tension, and no conflict. God's plan for marriage comes from this creation. One man and woman united for life. The man was never to browbeat or abuse the woman. The woman was never to disrespect the man.

This is also the basis for the understanding that God's vision for marriage can never be fulfilled by the union of two people of the same sex. To uphold God's design for marriage is neither hatred nor arrogance. It is respect for God's creation.

Do you grasp how truly unique you are? You are not an accident. He wants your life to be meaningful and your labor to be an act of worship. He wants you to live in harmony with the people in whose lives He has placed you. He wants you to know Him and to live with Him forever.

Discussion Questions:

- What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?
- How would our culture change if more people accepted that God created people to enjoy a relationship with Him?
- God created humans and animals differently. Describe the differences and the impacts of those differences.
- Explain how hard work glorifies God. How does God view laziness?
- What would the world look like today if sinful man was allowed to eat from the tree of life and live forever
- God created you to enjoy His creation. What parts of His creation do you enjoy the most? The least?

Reading Guide week 1

October 16	Genesis 1:1-2:25	Creation
October 17	Genesis 3:1-24	Fall
October 18	Genesis 6:5-7:24	The Flood
October 19	Genesis 8:1-9:17	God's Covenant with Noah
October 20	Genesis 11:1-9	Tower of Babel
October 21	Genesis 12:1-20	The Call of Abram
October 22	Genesis 15:1-21	God's Covenant with Abram