



SMALL GROUPS

Life alone isn't living. We SHARE community.

Beautiful Design

Week 7 – Woman's Purpose

Pastor Bob began the sermon this week telling us we may have some wrong perspectives that don't line up with God's, and that we might need to "check some things at the door." What perspectives might he be talking about? Is there anything you specifically needed to "check?"

Having the resources to help someone in need, then being able to extend that help, usually brings on a very gratifying feeling. We feel useful and valuable—like we have a part to play. God gave woman a specific part to play in His beautiful design. He created her to be a helper.

Read Genesis 2:18-25.

Genesis 2:18 tells us that God wanted to make a helper fit for the man. Depending on the translation, "fit" could be replaced with "like," "comparable," or "suitable." God made a helper like Adam in the sense that she was human and fit for him because she would be the complement to help him in the work of establishing order for human flourishing.*

What do you think human flourishing means?

We learned that "helper" is actually the Hebrew word ezer and is most often used to describe the way God helps man. Being a helper is not inherently inferior. A helper is one who helps someone who holds the primary responsibility but cannot accomplish it on his own.*

When you hear the word helper, what comes to mind?* How have you heard "help meet" defined prior to this week's sermon?

What's significant about the method God used in verse 22?

How did Adam respond to the creation of Eve?*

Eve was created to complete Adam. HUSBANDS: How does your wife complete you or make you better? *

Read the following Proverbs: 11:9, 11:17, 15:1, 15:4

MEN: Do you agree with what Pastor Bob said about the level of influence the women in your life (wives, mothers, sisters, etc) have over you?

WOMEN: Are you more likely to use this “power” for good or for evil?

Read Ephesians 5:22-33

How is marriage a picture of the gospel?

MEN: What does it say the wives should do in verses 22-23? Why do you think this passage sometimes gets a negative connotation? *

MEN: What is the most challenging responsibility for husbands verses 25-28?*

WOMEN: How do you feel about the standards for wives in verses 22-23?*

WOMEN: How do you find enjoyment in God’s unique design for you as a woman?*

WOMEN: Who do you think has the harder role? *

For women, it’s easy to think women have it hard, especially if overlooking the role of the husband to love them as Christ loved the church. That is a weighty responsibility for man. The language in Ephesians 5 reminds us that men, with Jesus as their example, should not use their power to oppress but should give up themselves out of love. Neither role is an easy task, but when men and women live in these roles, it is a picture of the gospel.*

What would the gospel look like if Jesus treated the church the way people tend to treat their spouses?

Read Matthew 18:16-20

Whether you’re a man or a woman, single or married, or whether or not you have children, it is your God-given purpose to make disciples.

How can you specifically work to make disciples now?