

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 2:18-25

¹⁸The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

¹⁹Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. ²⁰So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals.

But for Adam no suitable helper was found. ²¹So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. ²²Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. ²³The man said,

"This is now bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called 'woman,'
for she was taken out of man."

²⁴That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

²⁵Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

DISCUSSION PROMPTS FOR SMALL GROUPS, FRIEND GROUPS & HOUSEHOLDS:

1. **Read Genesis 2:18-25** (*printed above*). What stands out to you and why? What questions does this passage raise in your mind? (Feel free to wrestle with those questions together)
2. What does this passage reveal about male and female human beings, and how might it speak to our relationships in social, vocational and spiritual contexts?
3. In what ways might this text be *misused* to define gender roles, or expectations around marriage and singleness?
4. What kind of a relationship does verse 25 conjure in your mind? Have you ever experienced something close to this? If so, talk about what made that possible.