



2/16/2020  
Genesis 2:24-25

## BIG IDEA

Marriage is God's divine institution for society.

## LOOKING BACK

*As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.*

*Invite members to share any questions or points that came up in their family discussions regarding last week's study. Invite them to share ways God continued to speak to them as they sought to apply those truths throughout the week.*

- Are there any marriages you look up to or admire? What is it about those marriages that makes them admirable?
- Why do you think marriage is important to God?

## LOOKING IN

*Unpack the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic.*

| Ask a volunteer to read *Genesis 2:24-25*.

- What does it mean that man and woman in a marriage should be one flesh? Why is this foundational for understanding what marriage is designed to be?
- What are some reasons why shame might enter into marriage? How does shame impact God's design for marriage?
- Why would God set the context for human sexual expression? Why would He get involved at all?
- How does being made in the image of God affect personal sexual expression?
- Many will argue that Jesus said nothing about same-sex marriage. Read Matthew 19:4-6. How is such an argument ultimately not true? To what did Jesus appeal when questioned about marriage?
- Why must the church continue to stand up and advocate for true marriage? What are some ways we can do this? Why is doing this ultimately seeking the good of our culture?
- Practically, what does it look like to "leave" your parents in marriage? To hold fast or cling to your spouse?
- What are some challenges we might face in living that out (leaving and cleaving) in the way God intends?
- How does a healthy view of marriage promote a healthy view of the gospel, and vice versa?

Genesis 2:24 expresses God's original intention for marriage: spouses rely on each other to meet their needs. The one-flesh relationship involves all areas of life: physical, spiritual, mental, and emotional. The mystery of how two individuals join together to fulfill their roles in marriage parallels the relationship between Christ and His church.

## LOOKING FORWARD

*Help your group identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.*

- In your own words, how would you explain the main goal of a Christian marriage?
- What elements do you believe are vital to a good, godly marriage? Which of these needs the most attention in your marriage? What is something you can do to focus on it?

## FAMILIES

*Use the following questions and truths to disciple your children throughout the week.*

- What questions do you have about God's design for marriage?
- What questions do you have about God's design for sex?

## PRAY

Thank God for His divine institution of marriage and for what it shows you about His love. Ask Him to strengthen the marriages in your group based on the truths of His Word.

## COMMENTARY

### | *Genesis 2:24-25*

God's timeless design for marriage is declared here. The one flesh relationship certainly involves sexual union, but also includes a husband and wife coming together in spiritual, mental, and emotional harmony. Because the devastating effects of sin had not yet ravaged nature or humanity, there was no need for clothing. Adam and Eve could live without the barriers needed to shield them from their environment and each other without a sense of shame.