

THE ENCOURAGEMENT PLACE

Genesis 2:18-25

18

And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

19

And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.

20

And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

21

And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

22

And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

23

And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

24

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. Mt 19:5 Mark 10:7 1 Cor 6:16 Eph 5:31

25

And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

Introduction:

- a. going home / homecoming
- b. place most familiar
- c. home – comfort and encouragement

I. Adam and Eve, the first couple

Genesis 2:21-23

21

And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

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And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

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And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

- A. Adam, the first lonely person.
- B. Adam's deep sleep, the first anesthesia.
- C. Adam's rib removed, the first surgery.
- D. Adam and Eve's joining, the first marriage.
- E. Adam could never be whole again without Eve who had his missing rib.

II. Three principles of encouragement in marriage

Genesis 2:24, 25

24

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. Mt 19:5 Mark 10:7 1 Cor 6:16 Eph 5:31

25

And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

A. Responsibility of marriage - "leave father and mother" - Genesis 2:24.

B. Commitment to intimacy - "united to his wife and the two became one flesh"

Genesis 2:24

24

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. Mt 19:5 Mark 10:7 1 Cor 6:16 Eph 5:31

C. Commitment to TRANSPARENCY - "both naked and they were not ashamed"

Genesis 2:25

25

And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

EPHESIANS 4:22-27

22

That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

4

23

And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

24

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

25

Wherefore putting away lying, speaking every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. Zech 8:16

26

Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:

27

Neither give place to the devil.

III. God's plan for marriage:

A. A life long commitment – till death do we part.

B. Work it out with longsuffering.

C. Greatest place for encouragement.

Conclusion:

A. the church is the bride of Christ

[Ephesians 5:21-33](#)

21

Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

22

Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

5

23

For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

24

Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

25

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26

That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27

That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

28

So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

29

For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

30

For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

31

For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. [Gen 2:24](#) [Matt 19:5](#) [Mark 10:7](#)
[1 Cor 6:16](#)

32

This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

33

Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

B. many blessings, obligations, and relationships in the family of God

[Hebrews 10:24,25](#)

24

And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

25

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

C. why not come to the place of encouragement?