

THIS IS HOW WE DO IT PT 3
Growth Group Notes Week 2
PASTOR BOB RICE: SUNDAY APRIL 22, 2018

Main Text: Genesis 2:15-25

¹⁵ Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.

¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;

¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

¹⁸ And the LORD God said, "*It is not good* that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."

¹⁹ Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought *them* to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that *was* its name.

²⁰ So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.

²¹ And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.

²² Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to 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 a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

²⁵ And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

Series Verse

Proverbs 29:18 (New International Version)

¹⁸ Where there is no revelation, people cast off restraint;

but blessed is the one who heeds wisdom's instruction.

Series Premise

We live in the midst of a crisis in our culture, which if not addressed properly will destroy our way of life.

The news headlines tell it all; Mass shootings, mental illness, political corruption, war, violence, and a host of other problems are but symptoms of a larger looming cause.

The cause in part is purposelessness. What I mean by purposelessness is, people don't objectively know who they are, why they are here, what they are to do, how they should live, and to whom will they give an account. These are the most basic questions of human existence.

The solution to the pending crisis is the truth of God, revealed in his Holy Word, the Bible. God's Word was predictive of our current crisis.

Review

¹ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

1. **Gen. 1:1 God is the sole author of the universe; Therefore, God is the sole Authority of the universe that he created**
2. **The source and end of objective Truth, or Reality is summed up in 3 phrases**
 - God said... the will of God expressed
 - And it was... the will of God performed
 - And it was good. The will of God performed
3. **God alone reserves the right to determine what is good or evil.**
4. **Man's purpose (glorify God) 3 ways**
 - Look like God (moral excellence, personal sovereignty, freedom)
 - Take charge (management)
 - Multiply (replicate grow increase reproduce)
5. **God's plan was for man to live in abundance**
6. **God established the Sabbath**
 - The purpose of the Sabbath is rest
 - Every believer should have a Sabbath

Notes

Genesis chapter 2 is a treasure trove of wisdom on marriage.

1. **Marriage is God's idea, so God's design should be followed to insure a happy healthy marriage.**
2. **Before God gave man a wife, He gave him a job.**

Gen. 2:15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.

3. God told man what to do but not how to do it.

- Creativity is a gift from God, that should be cultivated and used.
- Vision – Your mental picture of a mature future that includes every aspect of life
- Establishing, guarding, and fulfilling God’s vision for the family is the man’s responsibility.

4. God always gives moral boundaries of man to separate what belongs to God and what belongs to man.

Gen. 2:16 “And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;”

¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

- God always hold something back for himself to make sure that we know and remember who is the “owner” and who is the “manager.”
- The word “Knowledge” means intimate relations with.
- The tree was off limits because only God is able to determine that which is good and evil.
- The tithe is the modern example of the “tree of the knowledge of good and evil.”

5. The female was created as an equal helper to perform a different task than the male.

Gen. 2:18 “And the LORD God said, “It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.”

- “Comparable” has the connotation of equality.
- Therefore, a wife is the executive helper in charge of family operations, i.e. the COO of the family.
- The wife is accountable to her husband.
- The husband is responsible to God for the family, the wife is not.

6. The woman’s job was to protect the man’s heart.

Gen. 2:21 “And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.”

- There are 206 bones in the human body. God chose the rib to express the function of the woman.

- i. To be close to his heart
- ii. To protect his heart

7. The man's Job is to verbally encourage the woman.

Gen. 2:22 "Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man."

Gen. 2:23 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."*

8. The man is to make his wife his number one relationship in life.

Gen. 2:24 "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh."

9. Total intimacy is the goal of marriage.

Gen. 2:25 "And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed."

- **If intimacy is the goal, distance is the enemy.**
- **Shame is the major cause of distance.**
- **Criticism is the major source of shame in most relationships.**

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Questions:

1. From Sunday's Sermon, was there a particular point, comment, or scripture that caught your attention or challenged you?

2. According to Genesis 2:15, what is man's responsibility to God in his home?

3. Define and discuss the terms "Vision" and "Creativity." Give some practical examples of how a man or single person should establish, articulate, and implement these principles in their homes.

4. According to Genesis 2:22-23, what is the man's main responsibility to his wife?

5. Genesis 2:18 says “*It is not good that man should be alone*” list some possible reasons why it was not good.

6. What is God’s role of the wife in the marriage relationship according to Genesis 2:18? Give some real life examples of how they can be applied.

7. What is the wife’s’ main responsibility to her husband extrapolated from Genesis 2:21? Give some real life examples of how they can be applied.

8. Explain the concept of “leaving and cleaving” found in Genesis 2:24. Give some real life examples of how they can be applied.

9. What is intimacy? How is it achieved? What are some things that can frustrate intimacy? How does shame and criticism frustrate intimacy?
