**A Biblical View of the Family**

*The Priority of Marriage in God’s Plan*

**Genesis 1-2**

**Genesis 1**

**Foundational Truth: Men and Women are Equally God’s Image Bearers.**

 Genesis 1:26-28

**God’s Divine Will for Mankind**

 Gen. 1:28

* ***Multiply & fill the Earth***
* ***Rule over the earth as God’s Vice-Regents***

Psalm 8

**Genesis 2**

**Foundational Truth: Marriage is the First Human Institution God Establishes.**

* ***Creation of the Man First*** (Gen. 2:7-8)
* ***Put in the Garden to Work it and take care of it*** (NIV) (Gen 2:15)
* ***It is Not Good for Man to be Alone*** (Gen 2:18-20)
* ***God Creates Eve to be Adam’s Partner*** (Gen 2:21-23)
* ***God Institutes Marriage: “The Two Become One”*** (Gen. 2:24-25)

**Implications for Marriage from Genesis 1-2**

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**Digging Deeper into Genesis 1-2**

**Ice Breaker:** Tony said the traditional definition of family is a married woman and and man with children. This has obviously changed today. List out all the different “types” of families that are promoted today.

**Read Genesis 1:26-28**

**1. As God’s image bearers, we have great worth and significance to God (see Genesis 9:6). Discuss the implications that God’s divine Will has for our daily lives:**

* *Multiply & Fill the Earth*
* *Rule over the Earth as God’s Vice-Regents*

Read Psalm 8

*What are your thoughts on God making us as ‘****living’*** *images as opposed to pagan worship that made ‘****inanimate’*** *images as their gods?*

**2. Read Through Genesis chapter 2 and discuss the following questions and concepts.**

* *Why is it not good for man to be alone? What are the implications today for singleness? (2:18-20)*
* *Ladies only: What are your thoughts on Eve being called Adam’s helper? How does the fact that God is our helper inform your thoughts (see Psalm 33:20 & 70:5)? Tony said that Eve was Adam’s helper to accomplish God’s will and not his own will. How does this inform your thoughts?*
* *Define and discuss what it means for “two to become one.” Discuss that odd fact that the man is specifically called to “leave his father and mother” and it doesn’t say anything about the woman doing that.*

**3. Discuss some of the Implications for Marriage from Genesis 1-2**

* *The union of Husband and wife is more important than the Parent child relationship (discuss buble illustration).*
* *The Physical Act of intercourse is what consummates a marriage (1 Cor 6:15-20).*
* *The Sum is greater than the parts.*
* *Marriage excludes all third parties.*
* *Marriage is designed to last for Life (Matthew 19:3-9).*
* *Marriage, Sex, and Children are a package, to separate them has created untold pain in our world.*