

These questions are for the February 15, 2026, message, “More Good News about Marriage.” Please read the sermon passage (Genesis 2:18-25) out loud.

Passage Outline

The purposes of marriage:

1. Permanent: a new identity (Gen 2:21-24).
 - a. “Bone of my bones, flesh of my flesh”: a change in who I am.
 - b. “Leave his father and mother”: a change in loyalty.
 - c. “Hold fast”: stuck like glue.
 - d. The danger to guard against: a hard heart (Matt 19:4-9).
2. Physical: to be one flesh (Gen 2:24-25).
 - a. Sex is powerful, effecting both body and spirit (1 Cor 6:16-20).
 - i. God forbids premarital and extramarital sex.
 - ii. Sex is given only for those who have pledged loyalty for life (covenant).
 - b. Sex is a unifier, bonding two people and giving this testimony:
 - i. “I belong to you only.”
 - ii. “I belong to you fully.”
 - iii. “I belong to you permanently.”
3. Theological: to glorify God (Gen 2:24).
 - a. The first Adam: no suitable helper, God made him sleep, rib taken from side, Adam loves her, but Adam failed her.
 - b. The last Adam: no faithful ones, God made Him “sleep,” in crucifixion, pierced through His side for love, Jesus loves the church, Jesus purifies His bride, is raised from the dead.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Permanent. In this new covenant, husband and wife are joined together in body and spirit, so that two become one. What are some crucial ways in which they must be one? (Like heart, faith in Christ, parenting, money and in-laws.) What are some ways in which it is good that they are not completely the same? (Like communication style, preferences, planner/spontaneous, emotive vs cognitive.)
2. Based on #1, above: We noted that Jesus taught that we must guard against a “hard heart” (Matt 19:4-9). Discuss keeping a soft and humble heart before the Lord and before your spouse. How can we make “what we want” soft, humble and holy?
3. Based on #2, above: In a culture that makes everything physical, the power of physical intimacy is only for those who are married. Discuss the idea that sex communicates “I belong to you only,” “I belong to you fully,” “I belong to you permanently.”
4. Based on #3, above: Marriage is an echo of God’s faithfulness. The last Adam (Jesus) loves us, died for us, lives for us, pursues us and will one day “present us without any blemish.” Talk about how God’s love for you in Jesus Christ has changed you, sanctified you, made you joyful and heightened your love for marriage.