

FOUNDATIONS

for

HUMAN

Flourishing

Scripture Reading

GENESIS 2:18–25

THE MAIN POINT OF GENESIS 2:18–25

Understanding God's good design for human relationships—especially his design for marriage—is crucial for human flourishing.

MARRIAGE IN EDEN

1. God designed humans to live and flourish in relationship with others; he didn't create us to live in isolation (verse 18).
2. God designed most adults to be married and human society to flourish (verses 18-25).

Definition:

Marriage is covenant relationship in which one man and one woman publicly promise each other their exclusive, lifelong, whole-person love, and thereby establish a new family in the community.

MARRIAGE IN EDEN

1. God designed humans to live and flourish in relationship with others; he didn't create us to live in isolation (verse 18).
2. God designed most adults to be married and human society to flourish (verses 18-25).
 - a. Marriage is complementary, and it's the God-designed context for having and raising children.
 - b. Marriage is a covenant of life-long love, and, by God's design, it reflects Christ's inseparable love for his church.
 - c. Marriage involves community recognition of a new family—a new team to colabor in fulfilling God's responsibilities in life.

“Despite the message of *The Notebook*, marriage is not about finding your soul mate as the secret to a meaningful life. Marriage is about something much bigger. It is about sacrificing for your spouse and kids, as well as portraying God’s loving character to the church and the wider world.”

— Sean McDowell, *Chasing Love*, chapter 19