

Read Genesis 1:24-2:7, 2:15-25. What do these passages tell us about God's design for mankind? How are we different from the rest of creation? Are we the same in any ways?

What does it mean that Adam and Eve were created in God's image?

What do these passages teach us about the relationships between the genders? What does it mean that Eve was created to be a helper suitable for Adam?

- Steve said in his sermon that biblically, being a man means sacrificially taking responsibility and protecting, and being a woman means peacefully and contentedly supporting and nurturing. What do you think of these distinctions? Do you agree with them? Where does the Bible teach this?
- What do you struggle with/disagree with? If you disagree, where in the Bible do you go to base your ideas of masculinity and femininity?
- Practically, how do these roles play out in day to day life?

Practically, how do these roles play out in marriage? What circumstances complicate this?

- Read Ephesians 5:22-33. Aaron said that God's purpose for marriage is for the couple to grow in holiness and to show the gospel to the world.
- How do the different genders interacting biblically in marriage help the couple to grow in holiness?
- How do the different genders interacting biblically in marriage show the gospel to the world?
- How does your marriage do this? What are some areas in which you can improve, with God's help?
- What role does sex play in God's purpose for marriage? (Genesis 2:24)

Why is God's design for marriage important to know, even as a single person?