

February 16, 2020
La Jolla Christian Fellowship
Genesis: Behind the Curtain: Ep. 4 Eve
Genesis 1:19-25
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¹⁹ Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals. But for Adam no suitable helper was found. ²¹ So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. ²² Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. ²³ The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." ²⁴ That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. ²⁵ Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

Genesis 2 speaks of the relational connection of man and woman

The Purpose Of Formation: God's intentional formative process is meant to give purpose and meaning to the creation.¹

Vs. 19 " Now the Lord God formed out of the ground"
Earth From Nothing— Man From The Ground— Woman Took From Man

Wholly Insufficient: God intentionally formed man incomplete and insufficient for the task which he was called to.

- Man was created physically insufficient for his task.
- Man was created emotionally insufficient for his task.

¹ Romans 1:21 For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

Taken from The Man: Vs. 21 *So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh.*

- Woman was created from bone.
- Woman was drawn out from near the heart.

United We Stand: Vs. 23-24 *The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." ²⁴ That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is **united to his wife**, and they become one flesh.*

- **Vs. 24** is a hinge pin for Christian sexual ethics.
- Man is said to "cleave" or "cling" to his wife.
- Ultimate physical unity is meant to suggest holistic unity.

Shameless Relationships: Vs. 25 *Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.*

Food For The Journey

Use these questions and challenges to go deeper in community groups or in personal reflection this week.

1. Why was it important for God to form woman from out of the man rather than as a separate being from nothing or just the ground?
2. How are women different from men? Are they?
3. Woman was formed from a bone near a man's heart. What if anything do you think God was trying to say by creating in this way?
4. Man is meant to cling or cleave to his wife. Does this word bring a different understanding to our long held beliefs about male female relationships?
5. Why were man and woman naked and unashamed before the fall and not so after? What changed and why?