

Sept 30, 2018



Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

**The Oaks
Baptist Church**
Grand Prairie, Texas

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A Suitable Helper for Adam Genesis 2:15-25

Aim and Application of the Lesson

The lesson reviews how God saw a need for Adam and made another human being as a **Suitable Helper for Adam**. The study's aim is to remember that God created woman to be with man. The study's application is to remember that husbands and wives are called to honor God's plan for marriage.

(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)

Lesson Introduction and Background

As I approached my wedding, I found myself reflecting on it a lot. What does it mean to be a wife? This lesson reveals God's heart for marriage and its intent. It began with Adam. Everything was brand-new. It was just God, Adam, and the animals. Although Adam lived in paradise and enjoyed an amazing communion with God, there was something missing. Adam was alone. Although he loved God, there was no other earthly being who could relate to him. God knew that Adam needed an earthly companion who could help him and be his companion along life's way. In literary circles, a foil is a character that serves as a contrast to another. The foil is often quite distinct in nature from the character being contrasted. This can serve to emphasize traits in both characters that might get overlooked otherwise. In some ways Eve was Adam's foil. In the first marriage, God provided in Eve someone similar to Adam, but also distinctly different. Eve was not like any being Adam had ever seen. She looked, thought, and even experienced emotions in a way that was unique to her. She was not merely a female copy of Adam. How many of you have a mate who seems to be your exact opposite? My husband and I fit the bill, He loves math; I like English. He enjoys westerns; I like classic historical movies. What is both strange and amazing is how our strengths complement each other's weaknesses. This blending of two people is what God intended. He knew that we would need this intertwining in order to face the challenges in life. He saw that people had a need for companionship. That is why Christian couples should not work independently of each other (1 Cor. 11:11). They are not separate but a unit ordained in a lifelong covenant before God (Matt. 19:5). With Christ as their Head, they become that "threefold cord ... not quickly broken" (Eccles. 4:12). God knows each person before he is even born (cf. Ps. 139:16), so He knows both members of a couple. He knows the right timing to bring a couple together. Since God also knows what is best for each of us, we can trust Him to bring us that person designed specifically to share our lives. When we remain faithful and committed to our spouse, we exercise trust in His wisdom in the area of marriage. Is this always easy? Hardly! I know that my husband is God's answer for my earthly companion, however. That is why I see it through, even when it is tough. We are no longer two people but one unit (Eph. 5:31). Our marriage covenant is not just for us but for God as well. Are you married? If you are, how well are you doing at truly giving yourself to this relationship? Ask God to show you how to grow in love and understanding. Are you single? Do not despair. There are reasons for whatever state God has us in at this time. Remember, Paul was single and one of the Lord's greatest missionaries. It may simply be that the timing is not right and that you still have things that you can best do while you are single. Whatever the case, we can praise God for the blessings of companionship that marriage brings.

(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

God created husband and wife to complement each other

POEM FOR THE WEEK:

If men and women yield to God
And of His love partake,
The marriage bond that joins
two hearts No power on earth
can break. —D. De Haan

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:

Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh

(Gen 2:24 NKJV)

(from "Our Daily Bread", Mar 20, 2010)

New Series: Beginnings

**UNIT: The Beginning of
Human History**

NEXT WEEK

A Reckless Choice

(Gen 3:1-13)

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

Assignments for Man (2:15-17)

Assignment to work (15)

Man must work to eat (2 Thes. 3:10)

Man must always work so they can share with those in need (Ephes. 4:28)

Any work for God is never in vain (1 Cor. 15:58)

All work should be to the glory of God (1 Cor 10:31)

Assignment of obedience (16-17)

Obedience is better because it delights God (1 Sam 15:22)

Obedience leads to righteousness (Rom 6:16)

Obedience leads to the praise of God by others (2 Cor 9:13)

Obedience keeps us remaining in God's love (John 15:10)

Obedience leads to the reward of blessings (Deut. 28:1-6)

Obedience brings the reward of freedom (James 1:25)

Obedience is the key to work (Matthew 21:28-31)

Obedience rejected results in death (Rom 6:23)

Additional general requirements (15)

Three good requirements (Micah 6:8)

Five things God has asked of man (Deut 10:12-13)

Man must always take care of home and family (1 Tim. 5:8)

Devotion to service to the saints (1 Cor. 16:15-16)

Helper Needed for Man (2:18-20)

A Helper to combat loneliness (18)

God delivers and finds homes for the lonely (Ps 68:6)

Take comfort in knowing that when we feel the loneliest, God shows His strength to us (Kings 19:9-11)

God is always our refuge when no one else seems concerned (Psalm 142:4-5)

When we need someone and no one is there Jesus is always at our side (2 Tim. 4:16-17)

Why helper is needed (19-20)

Two are better than one (Eccl 4:8-12)

A helper because sometimes the burden is too heavy for one (Num 11:14-17)

A helper because one person can make the other better (Prov 27:17)

A helper for interdependence (1 Cor 11:11-12)

A helper who is both good and a blessing from God (Prov 18:22)

Creation of Woman as Helper (Gen 2:21-25)

Woman was created from man (21-23)

The first woman came from man (1 Cor 11:8-9)

Adam was created before Eve (1 Tim 2:13)

How God views the wife (24-25)

Husband and wife are of one body, just as the Church is one body (Eph 5:28-30)

Husband and wife are God's in both body and spirit as one (Mal 2:15)

The wife is the glory of man (1 Cor. 11:7)

The noble wife is a blessing and praise of her husband (Proverbs 31:10-12; 27-28)

Many women have been helpers all through the Bible (Acts 9:36)

The great Timothy had women who helped him (Acts 16:1)