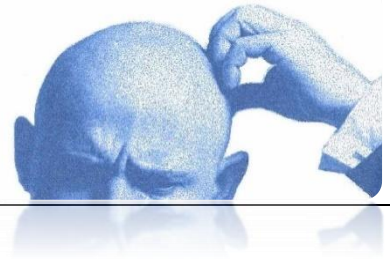


Sexuality

Small Group Questions



The following questions are intended to start conversations.

Use only the ones your group finds helpful. Explore others as they come up.

Our preaching series this fall will explore Genesis 1-11 (Origins). Questions will be provided each week to help you think about these stories *BEFORE* you listen to the sermon. It is our hope that this will encourage your own study and prepare you for the upcoming sermon.

- Read **Genesis 2:4-25**. What stands out to you in this text?
- In sharp contrast to the goodness of creation (Gen. 1:3, 9, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31), Genesis 2:18 indicates that something was *not* good. What does God say is not good?
- How does God seek to address this?
- The Hebrew word “helper” (‘ÊZER, v. 18) as used elsewhere in the OT refers almost exclusively to God as the one who helps his people (see Exo. 18:4, Ps. 27:9, Ps. 121:2). What does this tell us about the role of women?
- Re-read **Genesis 1:26-27**. What is significant about God creating male and female? How does gender image God?
- Clearly man and woman are created to compliment each other (see Gen. 2:23-24). Is there any correlation between becoming “one flesh” and how we image God?
- Read **Ephesians 5:21-33**. How does Paul understand this teaching?
- Does the Genesis story suggest heterosexual marriage as the only way to address loneliness? If so, how is this story good news for people not in that place?
- Much was lost when sin entered the world. How does Genesis 3 imagine sin affecting sexuality (compare 2:25 and 3:7)? What does this mean in our current context? Is this true of all people or just some?
- What is God’s response to this? Read carefully.

In the coming week you are invited to read Genesis 3:1-24.

- What stood out to you in this story?
- Was there anything confusing or troubling?
- Did anything make you think differently about God?
- How might this change the way we live?