**Session Two** 



God's Original Design for Men and Women

## **Supplemental Notes**

#### > Hebrew words

- Genesis 1:27 "ādām" human (human beings, mankind)
  - "zākār" male
  - "negēba" female
- o Genesis 2:18 "ezer" helper (word used to describe God or military ally)
  - Deuteronomy 33:7,26
  - Psalm 33:20
  - Psalm 70:5
  - Psalm 77:1
  - Psalm 115:9-11
  - Psalm 121:1-2
  - Psalm 124:8
- Genesis 2:18 "kenegdo" suitable (corresponding to, facing)

### **Bible Verses and Significant Quotes**

### What does the creation narrative teach about men and women?

Then God said, "Let us make human beings so that they are like us. Let them rule over the fish in the seas and the birds in the sky. Let them rule over the livestock and all the wild animals. And let them rule over all the creatures that move along the ground." Genesis 1:26 NIRV

"The 'adam' (human) is created in the image of God, in the likeness of God, given the exact same mandate, to be fruitful and multiply, to subdue the earth and to rule." Dallaire

Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. Genesis 2:22

"You can't say because something was created first it has more authority. In that case, the animals would have authority over people." Hess

The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

Genesis 2:18

"The answer to aloneness is not hierarchy, it is 'known-ness'." Roese

"The most significant use of 'helper' (ēzer) in the Old Testament is when God is Israel's helper." Pierce

"The NIV translates 'suitable' (kenegdo) ... I think it would be more accurate to say a helper who is <u>corresponding to him,</u> like a mutual partner." Pierce

## What are the consequences of sin on male/female relationships?

Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you. Genesis 3:16

"Is that prescriptive, is it what God wants? Or is it descriptive of one of the tragic results of the fall, of sin?" Thulson

"This sense of domination over each other needs to be redeemed in Christ, in the new creation that we have in Christ."
Pierce

"I think we need to move beyond patriarchy to partnership, beyond law, old covenant to grace. And, beyond just creation to a new creation in Christ." Pierce

"Why do Christians keep emphasizing the curse when we're actually living under the cross?" Fong

# How do we follow God's original design?

"Is it the culture that's supposed to dictate the shape and boundaries of my call? Or, is it my understanding of Scripture and my sense of call that is supposed to shape and re-shape and transform my culture?" Zaki

"This re-positioning is not new...not a western idea...not feminist...this is the original design that God has created and preserved for women that cannot be filled in any other way." Zaki