Session Two

# Side by Side

God's Original Design for Men and Women

# **Questions for Personal Reflection or Group Discussion**

# **Supplemental Notes**

- > Hebrew words
  - Genesis 1:27 "ādām" human (human beings, mankind)
    - "zākār" male
    - "neqēba" female
- Genesis 2:18 "ezer" helper (used to describe God or military ally, coming alongside to rescue or save in a time of need)
  - 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)

#### **Opening Thoughts, Prior to the Video**

1. What are some typical modern implications of being a "helper"?

## **Closing Thoughts, After the Video**

1. The last presenter on the video was Anne Zaki, a professor at the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Cairo, Egypt. She has applied to be the first ordained woman in the Middle East.

What part of her story stood out to you?

2. Do you see male hierarchy in the creation story? Why or why not?

- 3. In Genesis 1, to whom does God give the command to rule over all the creatures?
- 4. God created woman as a "helper" to the man. Considering the other times this word "helper" is used in the Old Testament, what do you think it really means?

5. How would you respond to someone who said Genesis 3:16 ("he will rule over you") is a biblical affirmation of male hierarchy?

6. What are some other consequences of the humans' fall into sin (Genesis 3:16-19)? Are they all to be embraced as God's intent?

## **Additional References**

Still Side by Side, pages 3-5

https://www.cbeinternational.org/sites/default/files/SSBS-a4-ENGLISH-complete web.pdf

Identity in Creation and Christ (Part 1) / Mimi Haddad

https://www.cbeinternational.org/blogs/identity-creation-and-christ-part-1

Identity in Creation and Christ (Part 2) / Mimi Haddad

https://www.cbeinternational.org/blogs/identity-creation-and-christ-part-2

Short Answers to Challenging Texts: Genesis 1-3

https://www.cbeinternational.org/resources/article/other/short-answers-challenging-texts-genesis-1-3

Evidence for Equality in Genesis 1-3 / Richard Hess

https://www.cbeinternational.org/resources/article/other/evidence-equality-genesis-1-3