

1. In your estimation, what does society typically consider valid reasons for marriage? How does that understanding, then, affect modern views of what is acceptable (or not) for marriage?
2. Read Genesis 2:18. What is striking about this passage as compared to Genesis 1:1–2:3? What does God say isn't good? Why is this so?
3. What is God's solution to what isn't good in Genesis 2:18? How does a true understanding of the word "helper" indicate God's intent for creating Eve? What about Eve was a particularly good fit for Adam?
4. Read Genesis 2:19–20. How does the text reveal Adam's isolation? How does Eve represent a suitable helper in this instance?
5. Read Genesis 2:21–25. How does God's design for marriage reflect his own Trinitarian nature? What are some of the characteristics that define God's intent for marriage?
6. How do vv24-25 instruct us in our marriages today? In what ways can we pursue God's design for marriage based on these verses?
7. Read Matthew 19:9–12 and 1 Corinthians 7:7. Given these two passages, how might those called to singleness affirm God's design for marriage and their own role in fulfilling the Edenic mandate of Genesis 1:26–28?