

Truth and Culture

Male & Female (Part 1)

Genesis 1-3

MAIN IDEAS

- Man and woman are created equal
- Different genders, different roles
- Adam abdicates headship role
- Eve is tempted and sins
- Adam refuses to take responsibility and blames Eve

According to Genesis 1:26-30 what commands and privileges are given to both man and woman? What does this tell us about their shared responsibility?

What do we learn about their differences and how do they complement each other? See Genesis 2:19-22, 1 Corinthians 11:7-9, and 1 Timothy 2:11-14.

Was Adam's headship role a result of the fall into sin? Read Genesis 2:16-18, 21-24, 3:1-13; and 1 Corinthians 11:7-9. How is it explained?

Who is to be blamed for the sin in the Garden, the man, the woman or the serpent?

What is the relationship between the image of God in Christ and the image of God in you? Consider Colossians 1:15-22.

PERSONAL RESPONSE

What evidence of the image of God do you see in yourself? Reflect on the qualities that set you apart from other animals.

Reflect also on the way sin has marred God's image in you and your need for transformation into the likeness of Jesus. See: Ephesians 2:8-10 and Ephesians 4:24.

Notice that in Genesis 1:26 God says, “Let us make man in our image,” then in verse 27 we read, “male and female he created them.” What does this suggest about the image of God in men and women? Based on their differences (see “Main Ideas” above), reflect on the following questions:

- Do you appreciate your role as a man/woman in God’s plan? What in the culture makes it difficult to live out that role?
- How can men demonstrate their headship role in the Church while respecting the complementary role of women? What are the dangers and the opportunities?

GROUP RESPONSE

What is the role of men’s and women’s ministries in DEC? How can they best nurture and support a healthy view of gender and gender roles?

In your small group, discuss the greatest challenge(s) to being a godly man/woman in our culture. Come up with two or three ways we can speak truth to our culture through our actions rather than our words.

REPRODUCE

Men, identify another man in your life who exhibits the qualities of godly headship. Ask him for his advice about strengthening those qualities in your own life.

Ladies, identify another woman in your life who exhibits the qualities of godly submission. Ask her for her advice about strengthening those qualities in your own life.

Pray for those in your circle of friends who are being shaped or influenced by our culture, that God would give you opportunities to speak and/or live out the truth of God.

KEY VERSES

From the sermon:

- Genesis 1:26-27
- Genesis 2:16-18

From the study:

- Genesis 2:19-24
- Genesis 3:1-131
- Corinthians 11:7-9

- Ephesians 2:8-10
- Ephesians 4:24
- Colossians 1:15-22
- 1 Timothy 2:11-14