



SIDE-BY-SIDE:
The blessings of marriage
Gen. 2.18-25

I have four goals for this series of message on marriage and relationships:

1. I want your marriage (or relationship) to honor God.
2. I want your marriage to be the marriage God is pleased to bless.
3. I want your marriage to last.
4. I want your marriage to be a blessing to this church.

A quick recap of this series on marriage:

The _____ of marriage (Gen. 2.24; Eph. 5.22-33): One man and one woman _____ in marriage.

The _____ of marriage: _____ what is and is not marriage.

The _____ of marriage: _____ into our lives/marriages that could wreck them.

The _____ of our marriages: the different _____ our marriages go through and their corresponding _____.

I. God made man for _____ (v. 18)

HELPER: an _____;

II. God _____ man's need for _____ (vv. 19-20)

III. God _____ man's companion for community (vv. 21-25)

1. God _____ a deep sleep to come over Adam.

2. God _____ one of Adam's ribs.

3. God _____ the rib into woman.

4. God _____ woman and _____ her to man.

THE blessings of marriage:

1. _____

2. _____ together as husband and wife.

3. _____ what true love is all about.

4. _____: "The beautiful exchange¹:
Losing our 'selves' means we let go of all that God has called us not to be in exchange for all He has called us to be. Through every season of marriage, we're invited to take part in this beautiful exchange time and time again, becoming better and better along the way.

We're invited to exchange our selfishness for _____;
Vulnerability for _____,
Pride for _____,
Assumptions for _____,
Insecurities for _____,
Façade for _____,
Infatuation for _____,
Independence for _____,
All that we are _____, for all that God calls us to _____².

5. _____: the extended family

6. _____ the church.

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¹ Debra Fileta, *Choosing Marriage* (Eugene, OR: 2018), 203.

² Fileta, 211.