

# SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

## A BEAUTIFUL DESIGN: BEAUTY IN DISTINCTION

### Genesis 2:15-24

#### DISCUSSION 1: INTRODUCTION

1. What are examples in church and culture today of the strife, confusion, fear, mistrust, and division between men and women?
2. What are examples in the church where male and female relationships have not been lived out biblically? What are problems on polar ends of the spectrum when it comes to “male leadership”?
3. Think of some of the perceived or stated roles between men and women in the church or in marriage. How might we determine if those are rooted in tradition, culture, or the Bible?

#### DISCUSSION 2: MEN AND WOMEN ARE INTERDEPENDENT

1. What are implications of the statement that it’s not good for man to be alone?
2. We believe men and women are equal in dignity and value, distinct in roles, but also *dependent on the other gender*. What are ways men and women benefit from being around one another? What might be dangers or losses if men were only around men or women were only around women?
3. What were the four categories for how people sort out male-female roles? Summarize each of them.

#### DISCUSSION 3: MANHOOD AND WOMANHOOD

1. What are some distinctive hallmarks of biblical manhood and biblical womanhood?
2. For the men, what do you think are some of the pictures or visions of manhood thrown at you today? What makes it hard to then understand and apply biblical manhood in this context?
3. For the women, what do you think are some of the pictures or visions of womanhood thrown at you today? What makes it hard to then understand and apply biblical womanhood in this context?
4. What are connotations we might have with the words “leader” and “helper”? Do they tend to be positive or negative? Why?
5. How does the Bible tend to talk about a leader and a helper? Why might this help us see the term differently?
6. What are some personal struggles or challenges you face when it comes to understanding and applying biblical manhood or womanhood you’d like prayer or encouragement for?

#### FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. Does God ever do anything bad or design anything in creation poorly? Why can we trust Him with His design for manhood and womanhood?
2. What are some descriptions of biblical manhood and womanhood?
3. How can you honor God and serve others in light of who he’s made you to be?

## FOR FURTHER STUDY

- See [Resources on Manhood & Womanhood](#) at [fishers.yourchurch.com/sermons](http://fishers.yourchurch.com/sermons)
- [College Park Church Fishers statement](#) from the elders on our beliefs and practices
- [“Complementarianism for Dummies”](#) by Mary Kassian at [thegospelcoalition.org](http://thegospelcoalition.org)
- [“Why I’m Complementarian”](#) by Gavin Ortlund at [ftc.co](http://ftc.co) and [“Four Dangers for Complementarians”](#) by Gavin Ortlund at [thegospelcoalition.org](http://thegospelcoalition.org)
- [“The Meaning of Manhood”](#) by Phillip Holmes at [desiringgod.org](http://desiringgod.org)
- [“Beginning at the Beginning”](#) by Jasmine Holmes at [jasminelholmes.com](http://jasminelholmes.com)

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR SPOUSES

1. What are some of the unique challenges you feel as a husband or wife?
2. What are things your spouse does well in living out biblical manhood or womanhood in marriage?
3. What is one thing your spouse could do different to encourage you as you try to live out your role?
4. What questions or applications did this sermon raise that you think would be helpful to talk through?