



**COME ONE**

**COME ALL**

**FAMILY  
CIRCUS**

**-A SERMON SERIES ON MARRIAGE AND FAMILY-**



# *Setting the Stage*

Our *Sunday morning focus* will be on  
**discovering and examining the Biblical paradigms  
for marriage and family**  
without avoiding the cultural collisions  
that will entail  
but also without looking for a fight.

# *Setting the Stage*

## Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and active,  
sharper than any two-edged sword,  
piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow,  
and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

## II Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable  
for teaching,  
for reproof,  
for correction,  
and for training in righteousness,  
that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

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## Romans 12:2

Do not be conformed to this world,  
but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,  
that by testing you may discern what is the will of God,  
what is good and acceptable and perfect.

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# Genesis 1-2

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as having a soul, a spirit...our humanity...**  
*...the breath of God in each one of us...*  
**...who equally carry the responsibility of caring  
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- **Mankind is defined, first and foremost,  
as having a soul, a spirit...our humanity...**  
*...the breath of God in each one of us...*  
**...who equally carry the responsibility of caring  
for God's creation.**
- **Mankind reveals the image of God in the united yet  
unique expression of male and female...**  
**...who defeat 'aloneness' and covenant with one another  
so that intimacy can unfold in the rich environment  
of safety and commitment.**

**19** Now out of the ground the LORD God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name.

**20** The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field.

But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him.

**21** So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.

**22** And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man He made into a woman and brought her to the man.

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**22** And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man He made into a woman and brought her to the man.

**23** Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man."

**24** Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

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**Biblical marriage is a solemn and public covenant between a man and a woman in the presence of God, intended by God for their mutual joy; for the help and comfort given one another in prosperity and adversity; and, when it is God's will, for the procreation of children and their nurture.**



# Genesis 2:25

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# Genesis 2:25 and 3:7-8

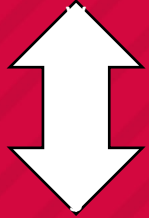
**25** And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

**7** Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. They sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

**8** And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

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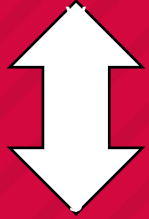
## What happened?

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8 And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the cool of the day; and they hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God.

Mankind's disobedience is not so much depicted as an act of great wickedness or a great transgression as much as it is an act of great foolishness.

They had all the good that they would have needed, but they wanted more....

...they wanted to be like God...

...they wanted God's wisdom without wanting God.

# Genesis 3

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman,

"Did God actually say, '*You shall not eat of any tree in the garden*'?"

2 And the woman said to the serpent,

"We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden,

3 but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'"

4 But the serpent said to the woman,

"You will not surely die.

5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

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# Genesis 3

**6** So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

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# Genesis 3

**9** But the LORD God called to the man and said to him,  
"Where are you?"

**10** And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself."

**11** He said, "Who told you that you were naked?  
Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

**12** The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me,  
she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate."

**13** Then the LORD God said to the woman,  
"What is this that you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."



# Genesis 4

# Genesis 4

**1** Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD."

**2** And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground.

**3** In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground,

**4** and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering,

**5** but for Cain and his offering he had no regard.

So Cain was very angry, and his face fell.

6 The LORD said to Cain,

"Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen?"

7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it."

8 Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him.

9 Then the LORD said to Cain,

"Where is Abel your brother?"

He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?"



**So.....therefore.....what now?**



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- **The foolishness of mankind is not appreciating that we have been made in the image of God with dominion and responsibility but wanting to take the authority which is God's and God's alone.**



## So.....therefore.....what now?

- The foolishness of mankind is not appreciating that we have been made in the image of God with dominion and responsibility but wanting to take the authority which is God's and God's alone.
- **Our shame drives us to hide from one another and from God Himself, and it turns us against one another and therefore denies the responsibility we have to love one another.**