The Church, Part Six

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The Next Generation

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Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. 28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it," ...

Matthew 19:3 And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?" 4 He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, 5 and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh? 6 So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

1. God created the _	, male and female.

Genesis 2:7 then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature... 15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. ... 18 Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." 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. 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. 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

2. God created male and female absolutely equal in value and worth — yet with different gender
3. God created marriage between a man and a woman to be monogamous,, procreative, and permanent.
4. God created human sexuality as a gift to be and practiced exclusively within the marriage covenant between one man and one woman for unity, pleasure, and children.
5. The grace and to live out God's good plan for gender, gender roles, marriage, sexuality, and parenting are found in Jesus Christ.
6. God created as the fundamental building block of all of human society.
7. Parents are for their child's upbringing in matters of spiritual, academic, and personal training. The means each parent uses to fulfill this responsibility will vary from family to family.
Additional Verses: Malachi 2:13-16, Ephesians 5:23-32, Matthew 5:27-30, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Deuteronomy 6:4-7
Discussion Questions: 1. What did you learn from this teaching? What stood out to you? 2. Based on your background, how is your perception of gender and roles different than what the Bible teaches? 3. Have you seen godly fruit in your life from living God's plan for gender, marriage, and sexual purity? Explain. 4. What is a lie you have heard from our culture related to these topics (gender, roles, marriage, sexuality, and parenting) and what is the biblical answer to that lie? 5. What instruction (good or bad) did your parents impress on your heart? What truths do you want to impress on your (biological and/or spiritual) children's heart?

Next Week's Message: Unique Unity

6. Pray for our church's impact on the next generation.