

The Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone; therefore, I will make a _____ for him.” (*Gen. 2:18*)

NIV = *helper suitable*

Holman = *helper complementary*

CEV = *partner suitable*

NEB = *partner*

NKJV = *helper comparable*

God created man/woman to be **helpers**
or **partners.**

“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be _____ to his wife, and they will become one flesh (*Gen. 2:24*)

NIV = *united* NLT = *joined*

Holman = *bonded* CEV = *married*

”For this reason” there is to be a
commitment involving mind, will, and body.

“For this reason a man will leave...”
(all translations)

This type of connection necessarily involves the **subordination** of all other bonds/priorities.

THIS IS MARRIAGE!

- **covenant**

- **permanent**

- earthly **illustration** of Christ and church

No longer will you [Jerusalem] be called Deserted or Desolate. You will be called Hephzibah [delightful] and Beulah [married]. As a young **man** marries a **maiden**, so your sons will marry you [Jerusalem]. As a **bridegroom** rejoices over his **bride**, so will your God rejoice over you (*Isaiah 62:1-5*).

Jesus replied, “Haven’t you read that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them **male and female**’ and said, ‘For this reason a man will... be **united** to his **wife**’?”

(Mt. 19:4)

It is impossible for God to honor
same sex marriage.

A happy marriage is a source of confidence at home and respect in the community (*Prov. 31*). This contributes greatly to the stability of society. This is God's design!

Cohabitation seeks reward without risk.
It is a self-centered **simulation** of marriage.
It is not marriage. Marriage is a commitment
witnessed by, God, government, and
community.

Cohabitation sends mixed messages.
There is nothing about it to honor
(Heb. 13:4).

The prostitute reduces you to a loaf of bread (not good!), but the adulterer/ess preys upon your very life (much worse!). (*Prov. 6:26*)

* Point = Adultery messes with the emotional bonding of marriage.

A man who commits adultery lacks judgment. Whoever does so destroys himself (and many others!).

(Prov. 6:32)

Adultery leaves only **negative consequences.**

When adultery has happened, we believe that forgiveness/reconciliation are **possible** and strongly encourage humility, repentance, and restoration.

God has a statement for every victim of adultery who has been asked to “forgive” and for every perpetrator of adultery who does not want to ask for forgiveness.

**DO TO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD HAVE
THEM DO TO YOU** (*Jesus... Luke 6:31*).

SINGLENES. Neither marriage nor
sexual intimacy is essential for wholeness!

Singleness has unique blessings and is therefore God's calling or best alternative for some individuals.

Wives, submit to your husbands as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything for this pleases the Lord. Parents, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged. *(Col. 3:18-21)*

In your family, insist on **communication**
and **discipline.**

“Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ”. (*Eph. 5:21*)

Mutual submission is God’s **expectation** for all families.