

Faith Family Worship Guide – Week 20

MEMORIZE

Genesis 2:22-23 – And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. 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."

READ

Read Genesis 2:18-23.

When we read the account of creation in Genesis we see that Adam, a male, was created first. However, as we study this particular passage we see that God recognized it wasn't good for "man" to be alone. God had created Him for relationship and partnership. Therefore, God created the proper helper and partner for Him: woman. In our corporate Worship Gatherings this week we will be further examining the biblical role of womanhood. For your time in family worship, though, our focus is simply to recognize that God created male and female in His image with equal dignity and worth, but with unique differences, to help and relate to one another.

Questions:

Why did God decide Adam needed Eve?
How are men and women alike?
How are they different?

Bottom Line: God created male and female in His image with equal dignity and worth, but with unique differences, to help and relate to one another.

SING

God's Word is clear in regards to the role of womanhood. Women are perfectly and beautifully created as image bearers of God, reflecting His character and glorifying Him in their wonderful and unique roles. For example, women possess nurturing, caring, and helping attributes within their nature because they were made in the likeness of God who is nurturing, caring, and helping towards His children. Yes, it's true that sin has tainted this picture, however, we mustn't use our fallen nature as an excuse to give in to our culture's godless ideology that the role of man and woman are the same. We must stand for God's truth amidst our culture and celebrate the beautiful role of womanhood that God has ordained for our delight and for His glory! Let's continue to worship as we sing the old, victorious hymn, A Mighty Fortress Is Our God. Penned by the famous, influential figure of the Protestant Reformation, Martin Luther, he wrote, "And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us. We will not fear for God had willed his truth to triumph through us!" Amen!

Visit our website for a link to this song: www.brookhills.org/gathering/this_week.html.

SUGGESTIONS

These suggestions were created by the age-group ministry leaders as a way to help parents better communicate the biblical truths discussed in the Family Worship Guide. These suggestions are intended to help parents facilitate God-centered discussions with their children. Parents should prayerfully use these suggestions, and any other means necessary, to help their children discover the truths of God's word and worship him together.

Preschool

- Before you begin you will need to gather some play-dough or modeling clay.
- Read Genesis 2: 22-23 with your preschooler.
- Explain to your preschooler that the Bible tells us that God created the world and everything in it. That means that God created us too. God created man first, then He created woman.
- The first man was called Adam, and God made Adam in His own image. This means that man's relationship with God was different than with God's other creations, like animals. People can have a relationship with God. God wants us to know Him as our creator. We need God!

- Next, tell your preschooler that the Bible also tells us that God created us to have relationships with each other. God knew Adam would need a helper or partner so that he would not be alone. So, God caused Adam to fall asleep and took one rib from Adam's side and used it to make a woman. Adam knew that God made the woman from his own flesh and bone. Now, Adam would not be lonely and he would have a suitable partner called Eve. God created Adam and Eve to have a relationship with Him and each other.
- Ask, "Could Adam make a helper for himself, when he was alone?" No because Adam was just a man, and man needs God. God can do anything and He made a helper for Adam.
- Take the modeling clay and ask your preschooler to make a person shape for each member of your family. (Mommy, Daddy, Sister, Brother, etc.) As you are forming the shapes together, talk to your child about how God made each member of your family special, like He did when He made Adam and Eve. God made men and women in His image, but we are not exactly like God. Only Jesus is like God.
- Pray and thank God for making your family in His image and for the relationships with have with Him, our creator, and each other.

Children

- Before reading the scripture passage, ask, "What are some ways you have noticed that boys and girls are different (not just on the outside, but in the ways they play, talk, act, etc.)?" Consider making a list on a chalkboard or piece of paper about how boys and girls are different.
- Say, "Let's read about how God made men and women and see how He made them differently."
- Read Genesis 2:7 to see how God created men and Genesis 2:18-23 to see how God created woman.
- Ask the following questions and discuss answers with your children.
 - Do you remember how God made man? Was it different from the way he made woman?" (Adam was made from the dust, but the woman was created out of Adam's rib)
 - Why do you think God created men and women in different ways?
 - Why do you think the woman would be a better helper for man than the other animals would be? (Parents, you can get creative here. Imagine the man dancing with an elephant, or eating breakfast with a horse, or having a rabbit help him plant and care for the trees in the garden.)
 - So why do you think the woman was a perfect helper for Adam? (She could talk with him, be his friend, help him with the work of the garden, and worship God with him.)
- Even though God created men and women to be different, does that mean that one is better than the other? Man was created first, before the woman; does that mean men are more important than women? (No, men and women are both unique, but of equal value to God. Both are created in the image of God.)
- Talk about what the world would be like if there were only men or only women. Highlight how unique men and women are but how both are equally valuable and worthy in God's eyes.
- Pray and thank God for making both men and women in His image, and thank God for making each of us unique!

Students

- Start your time together by playing a "battle of the sexes" game. You can have female family members make up questions for the guys to answer, and then have the guys do the same for the girls. You can make it a competition to see which gender can answer the most questions correctly. If you need a little help, you can visit www.quizlet.com and type in "battle of the sexes" in the search box. Once you have a winner, ask your students why they believe the genders are so different from one another.
- Now read Genesis 2:18-23 and ask the "Questions" listed above with your students. Take some time to look deeper at God's intention behind the way in which He created men and women differently. Ask your students to list the differences between men and women.
- Now read Psalm 139:13-17 together. Point out the fact that not only did God create men and women differently, but He did it intentionally. God created the unique characteristics of men and women to compliment one another. Now ask your students what would be missing if one gender were missing. How would the world be different? Do they see that without both unique and valuable sets of characteristics that it would be "not good?" At this point, the issue of same-sex marriage and a homosexual lifestyle is very likely to come up. Be sure not to avoid this issue but to address it from Scripture. For help doing this you can visit www.radical.net and download the message "The Gospel and Homosexuality."