

Winter 2010

SMALL GROUP SERIES:

Let There Be Light

Genesis: The Story Begins

Discussion Guide
Week #3

Let There Be Light Genesis: The Story Begins

Week #3: Different & Equal

Genesis 2:18-25 (TNIV)

18 The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

19 Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. 20 So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals.

But for Adam no suitable helper was found. 21 So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. 22 Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

23 The man said,
"This is now bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called 'woman,'
for she was taken out of man."

24 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

25 The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

1 Corinthians 11:11-12 (TNIV)

11 Nevertheless, in the Lord woman is not independent of man, nor is man independent of woman. 12 For as woman came from man, so also man is born of woman. But everything comes from God.

Facilitator's Guide

Facilitator's Tips

Intentional Influence. Transformational community doesn't happen on its' own. It requires members of a group to intentionally steer the group towards the values previously identified. It means that everyone has the chance to fully bring their gifts to the community, intentionally investing who they are into the benefit of others.

What commitments can you make as a leader, and what commitments can your group make to ensure that everyone has space to bring their best to the group?

A few things for you to remember:

- The Small Group Ministry Team is here to help. If you or your group has questions, suggestions, or needs help, please communicate with us. Call or email Scott at schimmel.scott@gmail.com or Rochelle at rochelle@rbcpc.org.
- Don't neglect the power of prayer, as a facilitator and as a regular part of the group dynamics.
- Your small group is filled with amazing, powerful, wonderful, influential people. Trust that God is delighted to meet with you each time your group meets.
- Don't underestimate the need people have for friendship/ community/ camaraderie. Especially in new groups, the relationships people are forming could be some of the most influential connections made this year.

START IT

- What are the biggest differences between men and women?

STUDY IT

- Read the scriptures. What is the process that God takes Adam through as he creates Eve?
- What responsibility does God give Adam in the garden? Why does God include Adam?
- How does God create the woman?
- How does Adam respond to her creation? Why?
- What was God's original intention of creating the woman?
- What was the original intent of the relationship between men and women?
- What has happened to the relationship between the sexes?
- What is sexism, and in what way do you think God wants to restore or redeem sexism?

LIVE IT

- What would change about how you relate to the opposite sex if God were in charge?
- What might change about your small group to appreciate each other?
- What is the best of male and female characteristics? How might those be used to love and serve others?

PRAY IT

- For an awareness of sexism and discrimination, and desire to be transformed through Jesus.
- For the best of men and the best of women to shine in our church and into the community.