



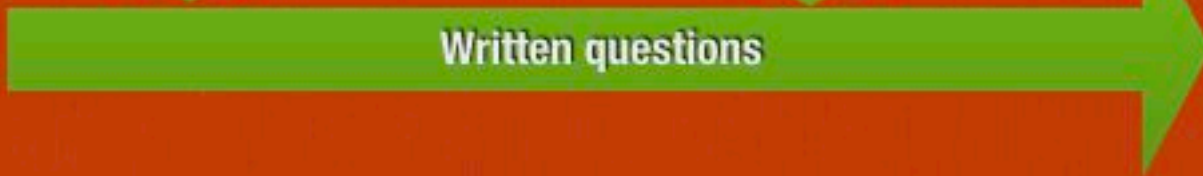
**And it was
very good?**

360Life Church
3rd November 2019

A talk today



A talk next Sunday



Q&A session
next Sunday
Evening

DARE TO BE A DANIEL

Standing Firm and Loving Well in a Culture of Compromise



Photo by Daniela Macchero on Unsplash

A Very Good Place To Start

Genesis 1 & 2

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Then God said, 'Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.'

Genesis 1:26–28

NIV

So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:26–28

NIV

**God blessed them and said to them,
'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill
the earth and subdue it. Rule over the
fish in the sea and the birds in the sky
and over every living creature that
moves on the ground.'**

Genesis 1:26–28

NIV

But for Adam no suitable helper was found. 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. Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

Genesis 2:20b-24

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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.'

That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Genesis 2:20b-24

KEY QUESTION: **What Is Marriage?**

- ✱ **Marriage, as a union between two differences — male and female — is an essential part of the story of creation.**
- ✱ **It is woven into the fabric of a much larger story of creation and redemption.**

“Male/Female marriage ‘is a very profound reality at the heart of that whole story of God’s good creation.’ Therefore, ‘the coming together of male plus female is itself a signpost pointing to that great complementarity of God’s whole creation, of heaven and earth belonging together.”

– N. T. Wright

Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?'

Matthew 19:3-6

NIV

'Haven't you read,' he replied, 'that at the beginning the Creator "made them male and female," and said, "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh"? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.'

Matthew 19:3-6

Quoting Genesis 1:27

Quoting Genesis 2:24

NIV

Marital Sex - A **Good** Gift



- ✱ Affirms oneness, celebrating the marriage union
- ✱ Procreation, celebrating children
- ✱ Pleasure, celebrating joy
- ✱ Manifests God's exclusive loyalty, celebrating His love

**“Sex is a good gift,
but it is not essential
for a good life”**

– Bruce B. Miller

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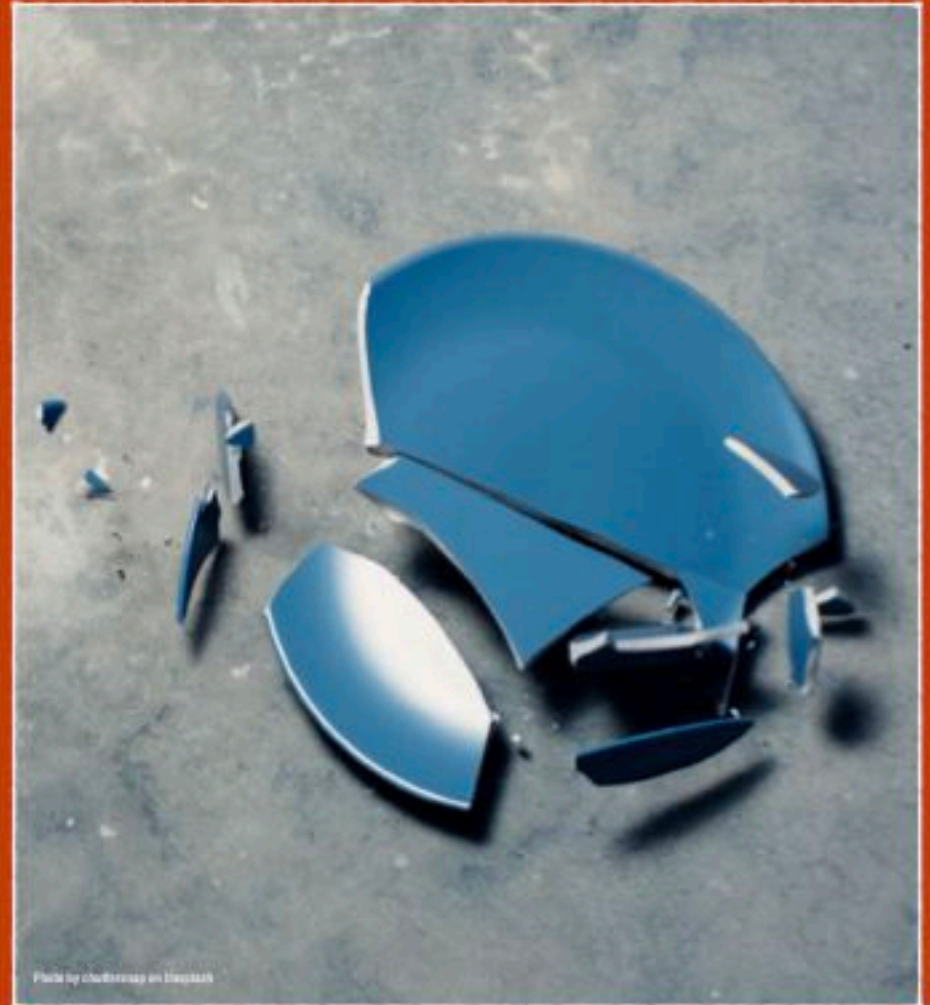
The NT **Honours** Singleness



- ✦ The life of Jesus
- ✦ The longest biblical passage on marriage & singleness (1 Cor 7) commends singleness as **better**.
- ✦ In the new creation sex will be surpassed (Mt 22:30)

A Broken World

Everybody Hurts



**And it was
very good?**

360Life Church

