

## **“Marriage By Design: *Til Death Do Us Part*”**

February 6, 2011

### ***Why Marriage?***

**Genesis 2:24** *“That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.”*

**Message: *Marriage will end in death...one way or another!***

### **Myths about Marriage that must die:**

1. Measures personal worth; value.
2. Primarily about happiness; personal fulfillment.
3. Must find the one Mr. or Mrs. “Right”; soul mate destiny.
4. Love is all we need; love conquers all.

### **Crime Scene Investigation: *Why do marriages die?***

1. Failure to experience God’s original design and purpose.
2. Failure to see danger in our own sinful nature.

### **God’s Original Design for Marriage: Genesis 1-2**

1. Representing God’s Image (1:27) – equal but not identical; made for a relationship with God.
2. Procreating & Parenting (1:28a) – caring for a child’s soul.
3. Stewarding Creation (1:28b) – partnering in ruler-ship.
4. Intimate Companionship (2:18-25)
  - a. Complementary Relationship - Woman as “helper” to man – counter-partner.
  - b. Created for Soul Connection – from Adam’s rib.
  - c. Priority Relationship– leave father & mother and be united to wife. (emotionally, financially, etc.)
  - d. Sexual Intimacy and Security – “one flesh.”
  - e. Complete Openness & Acceptance - “naked and unashamed.”

### **Application: *Work toward God’s design***

1. Connect with God in praying out loud together.
2. Find a way to work & serve God together.

**Read Genesis chapters 1-3 before next Sunday, Feb. 13:**

***“Marriage By Design: Happily Ever After?”***