God’s Plan

Genesis 2:15-18

Sermon Outline

A. For the Husband (vs. 15-17):

1. **Lord** - God had set up everything in the Garden the way He wanted. He is the one who has all authority, rewards obedience, punishes disobedience and has a relationship with Adam (Colossians 1:15-18).

2. **The Lord God** – The Lord God is mentioned to emphasize the one who has all authority.

3. **The Lord God** – He is mention in the manner because God is sovereign over everything.

4. **The Lord God** – The Lord desires to maintain a genuine relationship with man.

5. **Took** – God who is over all things actively summon Adam putting him into a state of being.
   
   a) Note that in each verse God is in charge. In verse 15 God took, in verse 16 He commanded, in verse 18 the Lord God said.

6. **Put** - God gathered up Adam, without his permission, and left him in the Garden of Eden. Adam did not resist and was very open to God’s direction.

7. **Cultivate** – Work, laboring like a slave as a service to God who is his master. Adam was compelled to labor in response to God’s commands.
   
   a) It should be noted that even before the fall, man was expected to work; paradise was not a life of leisured unemployment.

8. **Cultivate** - Adam did not just have to work in paradise, he had to develop it.

9. **Keep** – Adam was given purpose when he was told that his obligation was to guard, with careful attention, the Garden of Eden. He was also responsible to guard it. Adam must also preserve God’s Word (Psalm 119:9-11).

10. **Command** - God as Adam’s master demanded Adam’s inner commitment to submit to the direction He provided.

11. **Command** – A man proves his Biblical manhood when God leads him (Genesis 2:7-8; 1 Corinthians 11:2-3).

12. **Tree of the knowledge of good and evil** - He must not eat (“tree of the knowledge of good and evil”). The Heb. word here, *yada*’, suggests a wide range of ideas. But basic to them is both the capacity to make distinctions and to experience. As long as Adam and Eve “knew” only good, they remained innocent, choosing and experiencing only what was right in God’s
sight. They did not even see opportunities to do wrong! The Fall introduced the capacity to see evil choices as well as good ones, and with it the desire to try both! How urgently you and I today need to know good? But not to know evil.

13. **Tree of the knowledge of good and evil** – Submitting to God is a choice in full knowledge.

14. **You shall not eat** – Adam was given the opportunity to exercise his free will.

15. **You shall not eat** – God taught Adam this lesson before he made Eve (Ephesians 5:26; 1 Timothy 2:11-12; 1 Corinthians 14:35-37).

16. **Knowledge** - This tree provides them the ‘know how’ and the ability to discern what is good and evil.

17. **Surely die** – Adam and Eve will not experience natural deaths because dying here would be a result of sin. So as a result of this their deaths can be dying before one’s time which includes executions (1 John 5:16-17).

18. **Surely die** – The man brought death into the world (Genesis 3:6-7). Notice it is when the man ate the fruit ‘then’ their eyes were open (Romans 5:12-15). God taught Adam about the tree before He gave him Eve.

19. **Surely die** - God is life, everything outside of God is therefore death (Romans 6:23; 1 John 5:16-17)

**B. For the Wife (vs. 18):**

1. **Lord** - God had set up everything in the Garden the way He wanted. He is the one who has all authority, rewards obedience, punishes disobedience, and desires a relationship with Adam.

2. **God** – God is over all divine activity including creation, salvation and is ‘sovereign over all the earth.’

3. **Saying** - God communicated the spoken word (not a vision or dream) assigning or appointing Adam to a new structure with specific task.

4. **Good** – In order for Adam to experience God’ work making so that his life is pleasant because of the practical benefits that can come from the Garden, he needed a helper.

5. **Good** – A woman makes a man stronger and more productive for God (Proverbs 18:22).

6. **Good** – The woman makes Adams life have more practical benefits (“Favor” – Proverbs 18:22).

7. **To be** - To continuously and endlessly be alone.

8. **Alone** – This is for a person to be by themselves as a single unit separated and isolated from everyone.

9. **To be alone** – The man would endlessly be alone because he cannot make kids (1 Corinthians 11:11-12).

10. **To be alone** – The man would not be as productive based on God’s original intent (Genesis 1:26-28).

11. **To be alone** – The man cannot relate to the animals, so he would lack companionship.
C. For Marriage (vs. 18b):

1. **Make** - God decided without any input from man that he would commit to work to create the fashioning of Eve (1 Corinthians 11:8-12). This is all dependent and directed by God. God does this with a sense of obligation.

2. **Make** – God is sovereign and decides the woman man needs.

3. **Make** – The fashioning of the woman is all based on God’s creative order (1 Corinthians 11:8-10).

4. **Make** – Eve as a wife comes from man’s side not his feet.

5. **Helper** - Designated assistant who will be a source of help providing divine aid both physically and spiritually.

6. **Helper** - A helper has to be as strong as the one being helped (Genesis 1:26-28; HS to Christ – John 14:16).

7. **Helper** – A helper is opposite but matches the one being helped (Genesis 2:23).

8. **Helper** – God’s design was for spiritual, physical, and functional unity.

9. **For him** – The woman is a helper to only her husband. If she is not married to a man and is only dating him she does not have to practice submission. Her submission is unto God.

10. **For him** – Even though equal she is led by her husband (Genesis 3:16; 1 Corinthians 11:2-3).

11. **For him** – Her marriage role is only for her husband.