



## Sexual Purity Course Lesson 3

**Scripture:** Read Genesis 2:15-25; and Ephesians 5:22-33.

We may deduce a few points about marriage from the Genesis account. First, God designed marriage to be an *exclusive union*. Marriage was meant to involve *one* man with *one* woman. Second, God designed marriage to be a *heterosexual union*. Marriage was meant to involve *one man* with *one woman*. Third, God designed marriage to be a *relationship of love*. Adam and Eve saw each other as God's gift to each other. Note how Adam even spoke in poetry when he first saw Eve (verse 23).

**Study:**

1. What limitations are put on sexual activity by the design of marriage?
2. What should we think of sex since it is given to us from God? What legitimate purposes for sex are introduced?

**Application:**

When Paul wanted to tell the Ephesians about marriage, he did not just hunt around for a helpful analogy and suddenly think that "Christ and the church" might be a good teaching illustration. No, it was much more fundamental than that: Paul saw that *when God designed the original marriage He already had Christ and the church in mind*. This is one of the great purposes in marriage: to picture the relationship between Christ and His redeemed people forever (George W. Knight III, "Husbands and Wives as Analogues of Christ and the Church" in *Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood*, pg. 175-176).

1. Identify the ways in which you have gone against God's design for sexual activity and take the time necessary to repent of these things.
2. Come to terms with the analogy of Eph 5. Explain how this analogy amplifies the seriousness of sinning against one's (present or future) spouse.