

*designed
to flourish*

GENDER IDENTITY IN LIGHT OF GOSPEL IDENTITY

STUDY
GUIDE

WEEK 1: MALE AND FEMALE HE CREATED THEM

GENESIS 1-3

As we embark on this series on God's flourishing design for men and women it is important that we set the scene appropriately.

The subject of gender roles can get emotionally charged really quick. So we need to understand, firstly, that we are seeking to discover God's purpose for gender distinctions in His story. We can make the mistake of centring the conversation around the Story of Me rather than the Story of God.

So lets start at the very beginning (Genesis 1-3) and seek to discover God's intent for creating male and female.

Additionally, let's spend these next number of weeks as we engage in study and discussion — putting the pieces of God's Story around gender together — with humility, kind speech, gentleness, and genuinely seeking the good of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

MEMORY VERSE

Genesis 1:27

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

BIBLE READING PLAN

MONDAY **GENESIS 1:1-13**

TUESDAY **GENESIS 1:14-31**

WEDNESDAY **GENESIS 2:1-14**

THURSDAY **GENESIS 2:15-25**

FRIDAY **GENESIS 3:1-13**

SATURDAY **GENESIS 3:14-24**

POST SUNDAY STUDY CONTENT

1. Ice Breaker: Read Genesis 2:18-25 and discuss how pumped Adam must have been when God created Eve.

2. Discuss gender and our cultural moment. What are our society's "beliefs" about gender today?

3. Read Genesis 1:26-28. What do we learn about God and how he created man and woman?

4. Read Genesis 2:18-25 (with 1:26-28 in mind). What was not good at this point in the story?

5. Why did God create Eve, another imagebearer? She is both like Adam and different from him. What are those differences?

6. How does Adam's response to the creation of Eve reveal God's perfect match?

7. Read Genesis 3:1-13. Why did Satan (Rev. 12:9) tempt Eve and where did Adam go wrong?

8. Read Genesis 3:14-19. What do the curses for sin pronounced on the woman and the man reveal about their identities and sinful tendencies moving forward?

9. Are gender differences something to be celebrated or assimilated?

10. Has past inequality (abuse, patriarchy, misogyny)
11. led to an over-corrective (hyperfeminism, removing gender distinction)?

If so, how do we engage these issues in the church, seeking justice and equality for women while not capitulating to the culture that blurs gender lines and seeks to equate equality with sameness?

