

Theology of Relationships

(Concepts for Restoring Marriage)

1. Before the fall all was perfect yet it was “not good for man to be alone”, Genesis 2:18,20
2. So God took a part of man and created a counterpart for him. A person who would complement him. Man did not need a woman to fulfil him as God was the fulfilment of man. Why a counterpart? Maybe to give man a deeper and greater understanding/appreciation of God – God is relationship, trinity.
3. God’s original design is clearly evident before the fall, however after the fall brokenness and distortions permeates all facets of life.
4. Understanding God’s original design and purpose of marriage and relationship allows us to be intentionally focused on the desired outcome of God’s transforming work in our lives and relationships.

Pre-Fall	→	Post-Fall
Counterpart (Gen 2:18)	→	Completer / Fulfilment
Innocence (Gen 2:25)	→	Fear (Gen 3:23, 24)
Purity (light, vulnerability) (Gen 2:25)	→	Shame (darkness, hiding) (Gen 3:7, 8, 21)
Partnership (Gen 2:21-24)	→	Power (Gen 3:16)
(Men) Dominion	→	Domination (Gen 3:16)
(Women) Sociability	→	Social Enmeshment (Gen 3:16)
Authentic Intimacy	→	Relation Neediness
What CAN be		What IS