**Marriage**

**SCRIPTURE FOUNDATION**

**GENESIS (2:4—7, 18—24)**

This is the story of the heavens and the earth at their creation. When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens there was no field shrub on earth and no grass of the field had sprouted, for the LORD God had sent no rain upon the earth and there was no man to till the ground, but a stream was welling up out of the earth and watering all the surface of the ground then the LORD God formed the man out of the dust of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. … The LORD God said: It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suited to him. So, the LORD God formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds of the air, and he brought them to the man to see what he would call them; whatever the man called each living creature was then its name. The man gave names to all the tame animals, all the birds of the air, and all the wild animals; but none proved to be a helper suited to the man. So, the LORD God cast a deep sleep on the man, and while he was asleep, he took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. The LORD God then built the rib that he had taken from the man into a woman. When he brought her to the man, the man said: “This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; This one shall be called ‘woman,’ for out of man this one has been taken.” That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one body.

**LECTIO QUESTIONS**

Read the scripture passage, contemplate for a minute and imagine what it must have been like for Adam and Eve.

- How might they have learned to get along in the Garden of Eden together?
- Did they have to learn any new things together?
- Did they have to find ways to help each other?
- Did they have to figure out how to live with each other?

We can conclude that Adam and Eve had to learn to be SELF-LESS!!! That is that they had to learn how to work together and get along and do many things to keep their marriage strong.

We know from reading further in Scripture that Adam and Eve and many people after them struggled with being selfless, that is until Jesus came and showed us how to live!
Selflessness is defined as being concerned more with the needs and wishes of another person that with your own.

People first learn how to be self-less in a FAMILY.

Have you ever thought that the word family stands for?

Forget About Me I Love You.

The Cycle of Love and Selflessness in Family Life

- Parents: Spend their lifetime giving selflessly for their family and taking care of the baby that needs them completely.
- Baby: Cannot help themselves, need to be selfish to get their needs met.
- Toddler: Still focused on their own needs but starts to learn how to share with others.
- Newlyweds: Learn to live in a relationship of total self-giving and love.
- Young Adult: Recognizes the need to give of themselves to another for a lifetime.
- Child: Learns how to make friends and love those around them.
- Teenager: Falls in love, learns how to put another before themselves.
Marriage
SELFLESSNESS

Draw a 😊 Happy Emoji (selfless) or a 😞 Sad Emoji (selfish) next to each statement.

- Saying “I Love You” to a family member
- Taking your brother/sister’s favorite toy from them
- Doing something without being asked
- Being bossy to your brother/sister
- Interrupting a conversation when it is not necessary
- Borrowing your brother/sister’s favorite sweatshirt without asking
- Writing a nice note to your Mom/Dad/brother/sister
- Making your brother/sister’s bed as a surprise
- Messing up a puzzle your family has been working on
- Singing loudly when the family is trying to watch a movie
- Making a special snack treat for your brother/sister
- Eating your brother/sister’s snack treat behind their back
- Drawing a beautiful picture for your family
- Praying for your family daily

Think about:

Other ways to be selfless outside of the family:
How can these activities also help someone to learn to be selfless:

- Caring for a Pet
- Taking care of the planet
- Making a donation
- Helping in your community
- Visiting the sick or those in need

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DO TO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD HAVE THEM DO TO YOU. (LUKE 6:31)

By learning SELFLESSNESS we learn what makes a family and a marriage last a lifetime. Selflessness begins at home.

**Draw a picture of your family doing something kind for one another.**