



# *Living God's Design for Men and Women*

## I. Why were we created, anyway?

We were created . . .

1. To have fellowship with the Creator of the Universe.

*God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful. —1 Corinthians 1:9*

2. To bring glory to Him.

*“. . . everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”*

*—Isaiah 43:7*

Not to one who is an insecure, evil despot.

*But now, this is what the LORD says—  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:  
“Fear not, for I have redeemed you;  
I have summoned you by name; you are mine.*

*When you pass through the waters,  
I will be with you;  
and when you pass through the rivers,  
they will not sweep over you.  
When you walk through the fire,  
you will not be burned;  
the flames will not set you ablaze . . .*

*Since you are precious and honored in my sight,  
and because I love you,  
I will give men in exchange for you,  
and people in exchange for your life.”*

*—Isaiah 43:1, 2, 4*

- He has created us.
- He has redeemed us.
- He knows us.
- He protects us.
- He loves us.

## II. His desire for us is to be imitators of Him, so we are able to have fellowship with Him and with others.

*We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.* —1 John 1:3

*Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children* —Ephesians 5:1

1. The overarching characteristic of Christ is His sacrificial love for us.

*This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.* —1 John 3:16

*“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”* —Mark 10:45

2. The more Christ-like we are, the more satisfied we will be.

Christ calls us to an irony. If we want to truly *find* ourselves, we need to *give* ourselves away.

*“Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”* —Matthew 10:39

## III. What does this mean for us as men and women in our desire to show love to others?

1. True love is not self-serving.

*Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.* —1 Corinthians 13:4–5

*“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even ‘sinners’ love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even ‘sinners’ do that.”* —Luke 6:32–33

2. True love is a serving love.

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves* —Philippians 2:3

3. Husbands and wives serve each other sacrificially, but uniquely.

- Husbands serve through demonstrating sacrificial leadership.
- Wives serve through demonstrating sacrificial submission and respect.

*When we live out God’s design for us, the irony is that we actually receive that which truly we are seeking and that which truly satisfies.*