

Introduction and Creation.  
Winter Teaching series Talk 1

Introduction.

Our church – complementarian

The Scriptures

Not arbitrary and isolated

Getting the intuitive elephant to lean towards Scripture

The series

**Genesis**

The importance of Genesis

The big story and world view formation

**Genesis 1:26-28**

*Genesis 1:<sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, the whole earth, and the creatures that crawl on the earth."*

*<sup>27</sup> So God created man  
in his own image;  
he created him in the image of God;  
he created them male and female.*

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and every creature that crawls on the earth.” CSB

## Genesis 2

Genesis 2:<sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and placed him in the garden of Eden to work it and watch over it. <sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree of the garden, <sup>17</sup> but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die.” <sup>18</sup> Then the LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper corresponding to him.” <sup>19</sup> The LORD God formed out of the ground every wild animal and every bird of the sky, and brought each to the man to see what he would call it. And whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup> The man gave names to all the livestock, to the birds of the sky, and to every wild animal; but for the man no helper was found corresponding to him. <sup>21</sup> So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to come over the man, and he slept. God took one of his ribs and closed the flesh at that place. <sup>22</sup> Then the LORD God made the rib he had taken from the man into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup> And the man said:

*This one, at last, is bone of my bone  
and flesh of my flesh;  
this one will be called “woman,”  
for she was taken from man.*

<sup>24</sup> This is why a man leaves his father and mother and bonds with his wife, and they become one flesh. [CSB]

What was not good?

Helper?

Same and different – and the inevitability of gendered language

The complementarity of the sexes and the new unity that is productive of life

The value of intuition

The challenge of sameness

Living with difference without fear

### **Genesis 3**

*Genesis 3:<sup>16</sup> He said to the woman:*

*I will intensify your labor pains;  
you will bear children with painful effort.  
Your desire will be for your husband,  
yet he will rule over you.*

Genesis 3:17

*<sup>17</sup> And he said to the man, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'Do not eat from it':*

*The ground is cursed because of you.  
You will eat from it by means of painful labor*

*all the days of your life.*

<sup>18</sup> *It will produce thorns and thistles for you,  
and you will eat the plants of the field.*

<sup>19</sup> *You will eat bread by the sweat of your brow  
until you return to the ground,  
since you were taken from it.  
For you are dust,  
and you will return to dust.”*

<sup>20</sup> *The man named his wife Eve because she was the mother of all the living.*

*NIV Your desire will be for your husband,  
and he will rule over you.”*

*Genesis 4:7 “Sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it.”*

The Challenge – to live with difference, where that difference has been weaponised to serve people who want to be like God

**Fast forward – getting to the epistles that reference Genesis**