

⁸ "Physical training is good, but training for godliness is much better, promising benefits in this life and in the life to come."

LIMOTHY



YOU WERE CREATED BY GOD FOR LOVING RELATIONSHIPS.

¹⁸ Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him." ¹⁹ So the Lord God formed from the ground all the wild animals and all the birds of the sky. He brought them to the man to see

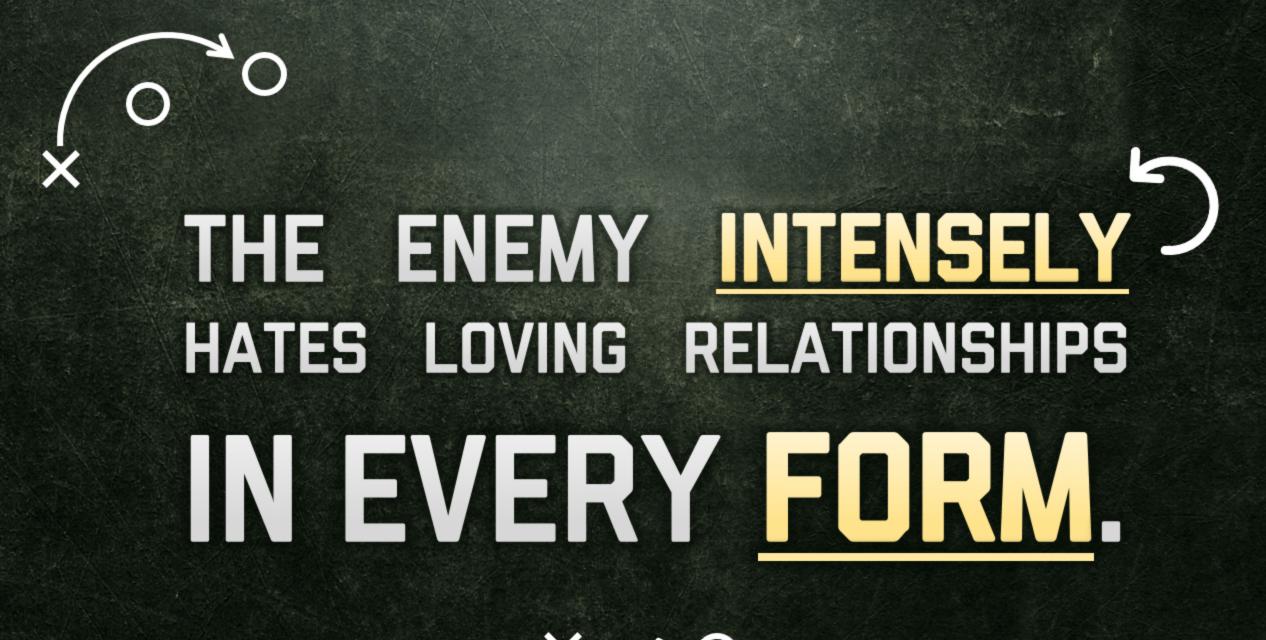
what he would call them, and the man chose a name for each one. ²⁰ He gave names to all the livestock, all the birds of the sky, and all the wild animals. But still there was no helper just right for him.

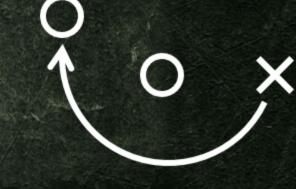
²¹ So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep. While the man slept, the Lord God took out one of the man's ribs and closed up the opening. 22 Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib, and he brought her to the man.

"At last!" the man exclaimed.
 "This one is bone from my bone, and flesh from my flesh!
 She will be called 'woman,' because she was taken from 'man."

²⁴ This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.

²⁵ Now the man and his wife were both naked, but they felt no shame.





YOU ARE DESIGNED BY GOD TO WIN IN THE AREA OF LOVING RELATIONSHIPS.

I BELIEVE GOD IS CALLING US BACK TO HIS ORIGINAL DIVINE DESIGN OF LOVING RELATIONSHIPS.



THREE MILE MARKERS ON THE COURSE TO HEALTHY LOVING RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND ONE ANOTHER.

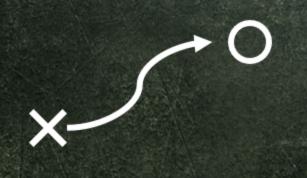
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OUR DESIRE FOR LOVING RELATIONSHIPS.

OUR DESIRE FOR LOVING RELATIONSHIPS.

GENESIS 2:18 NLT

¹⁸ Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him."



RELATIONAL LOVE IS A PRODUCT OF CREATION, NOT AN INVENTION OF <u>CULTURE</u>.

IF I WAS CREATED BY GOD FOR LOVING RELATIONSHIPS, THEN WHY DO I STRUGGLE SO MUCH?

IF I WAS CREATED BY GOD FOR LOVING RELATIONSHIPS, THEN WHY DO I STRUGGLE SO MUCH?

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MOST OF US ARE PUTTING DIVINE DEMANDS ON OUR HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS.



OUR DEALINGS WITH ABANDONMENT AND INSECURITY.

GENESIS 3:12, 23 NL1

OUR DEALINGS WITH ABANDONMENT AND INSECURITY.

¹² The man replied, "It was the woman you gave me who gave me the fruit, and I ate it."

²³ So the Lord God banished them from the Garden of Eden, and he sent Adam out to cultivate the ground from which he had been made.

OUR DEALINGS WITH ABANDONMENT AND INSECURITY.

GENESIS 2:25 NIV

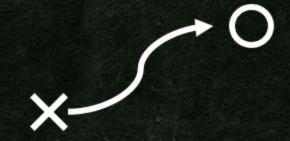
²⁵ Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

OUR DEALINGS WITH ABANDONMENT AND INSECURITY.

⁷Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.



WE ARE READING ABOUT WHEN SHAME, ABANDONMENT, INSECURITY AND FEAR ENTER THE WORLD AND THEY COME IN THE FORM OF RELATIONAL DESTRUCTION.





OUR ONLY HOPE.

SO, WHAT IS THE ANSWER WHEN, AT OUR CORE, WE ARE BAD AT RELATIONSHIPS?

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WE NEED TO GET BACK TO THE **FULLNESS** OF OUR **REDEMPTION**. ¹⁵ "And I will make enemies
Of you and the woman,
And of your offspring and her Descendant;
He shall bruise you on the head,
And you shall bruise Him on the heel."

NAS

²⁰ Then the man—Adam—named his wife Eve, because she would be the mother of all who live. ²¹ And the Lord God made clothing from animal skins for Adam and his wife.

ENES 15

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THERE ARE ONLY TWO RELIGIONS;
THERE IS THE RELIGION
OF FIG LEAVES

AND THERE IS THE RELIGION OF GOD'S PERFECT PROVISION THROUGH JESUS.





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IF WE HAVE FAILED IN OUR LOVING RELATIONSHIPS, GOD DESIRES TO GIVE US FORGIVENESS AND RESTORATION.



¹² He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west.

⁷ Instead of shame and dishonor, you will enjoy a double share of honor. You will possess a double portion of prosperity in your land, and everlasting joy will be yours.

MAIN

¹⁰ I am overwhelmed with joy in the Lord my God! For he has dressed me with the clothing of salvation and draped me in a robe of righteousness. I am like a bridegroom dressed for his wedding or a bride with her jewels.