

## **A reading from the book of Genesis**

The LORD God said: "It is not good for the man to be alone.  
I will make a suitable partner for him."

So the LORD God formed out of the ground  
various wild animals and various birds of the air,  
and he brought them to the man to see what he would call them;  
whatever the man called each of them would be its name.

The man gave names to all the cattle,  
all the birds of the air, and all wild animals;  
but none proved to be the suitable partner for 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 up into a woman the rib  
that he had taken from the man.

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 'her 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 flesh.

**The Word of the Lord!**

## **A reading from the letter to the Hebrews**

Brothers and sisters:

He "for a little while" was made "lower than the angels,"  
that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

For it was fitting that he,  
for whom and through whom all things exist,  
in bringing many children to glory,  
should make the leader to their salvation perfect through  
suffering.

He who consecrates and those who are being consecrated  
all have one origin.

Therefore, he is not ashamed to call them "brothers and sisters."

**The Word of the Lord!**

## Gospel

[Mk 10:2-16](#)

The Pharisees approached Jesus and asked,  
"Is it lawful for a husband to divorce his wife?"

They were testing him.

He said to them in reply, "What did Moses command you?"

They replied,

"Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce  
and dismiss her."

But Jesus told them,

"Because of the hardness of your hearts  
he wrote you this commandment.

But from the beginning of creation, *God made them male and female.*

*For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother  
and be joined to his wife,*

*and the two shall become one flesh.*

So they are no longer two but one flesh.

Therefore what God has joined together,  
no human being must separate."

In the house the disciples again questioned Jesus about this.

He said to them,

"Whoever divorces his wife and marries another  
commits adultery against her;

and if she divorces her husband and marries another,  
she commits adultery."

And people were bringing children to him that he might touch them, but the disciples rebuked them.

When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them,

"Let the children come to me;

do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

Amen, I say to you,

whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it."

Then he embraced them and blessed them, placing his hands on them.