

Scriptures Oct. 2, 2022
Genesis 2:18-24 (NRSV)

¹⁸ Then the LORD God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' ¹⁹ So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man^[a] there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹ So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²² And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³ Then the man said,

'This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,^[b]
for out of Man^[c] this one was taken.'

²⁴ Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Gospel
Mark 2:2-16 (NRSV)

² So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. ³ Then some people^[a] came, bringing to him a paralysed man, carried by four of them. ⁴ And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. ⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, 'Son, your sins are forgiven.' ⁶ Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ⁷ 'Why does this

fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?’⁸ At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, ‘Why do you raise such questions in your hearts?’⁹ Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, “Your sins are forgiven”, or to say, “Stand up and take your mat and walk”?¹⁰ But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins’—he said to the paralytic—¹¹ ‘I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home.’¹² And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, ‘We have never seen anything like this!’

¹³ Jesus^[b] went out again beside the lake; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them. ¹⁴ As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, ‘Follow me.’ And he got up and followed him.

¹⁵ And as he sat at dinner^[c] in Levi’s^[d] house, many tax-collectors and sinners were also sitting^[e] with Jesus and his disciples—for there were many who followed him. ¹⁶ When the scribes of^[f] the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax-collectors, they said to his disciples, ‘Why does he eat^[g] with tax-collectors and sinners?’