

## WALK THE TALK //////////////////////////////////////

*This page is designed for you to apply what you have learned from the Scriptures. Our goal is not just “to know” but to “act upon what we know.” (His Word, Our Walk!) We encourage you to discuss the following questions with family, friends and your LIFEgroup. Although you can review it on your own, it will be most useful to you when processed with others!*



### FOR DISCUSSION:

1. What did you learn generally about the Song of Songs and how was it helpful?
2. If you haven't done so, read through the entire book (it will only take a few minutes). It is best to read it aloud with your spouse or even a small group! What is your interpretation and understanding from the reading?
3. There was a list of three of the “values of the Book” that we studied. Which is most interesting to you and why? What other value would you add?
4. Of the seven “Things We Learn” from the Song of Songs, which one(s) stands out to you, and can be helpful to you in your marriage relationship? Take some time to discuss this as it can be extremely valuable for couples.
5. How can you relate your intimacy in marriage with your love for the Lord and what lessons do you learn?



August 12-13, 2017 | YAFI #5 — The Song of Songs | Dennis Miller, pastor

### THE REASON FOR THIS TOPIC —

Over the years, the Song of Songs has been one of the MOST requested topics. It was requested 5 times this year.

#### I. WHAT WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE BOOK

A. The Song of Songs was written by King Solomon in his YOUTH. It is apparently the story of his FIRST love.

*1Kings 4:32 He spoke three thousand proverbs and his songs numbered a thousand and five.*

— There were 60 “queens” and 80 “concubines” but these belonged to DAVID and were “queen MOTHERS” to Solomon.

*Song 6:8 Sixty queens there may be, and eighty concubines, . . .*

B. The book is written as a song or dramatic NARRATIVE and has three main characters:

1. King SOLOMON

2. Solomon's first WIFE — “*the Shulammite*” — Naamah the Ammonite?

*Song 6:13 Come back, come back, O Shulammite; come back, come back, that we may gaze on you!*

3. DAUGHTERS of Jerusalem — A literary device used to EMPHASIZE the message.

C. The book was probably written as a CHIASM, and can have MULTIPLE interpretations. A B C D — D C B A

A Opening words of mutual love and desire (1:2-2:7)	B Young man's invitation to the young woman	C Young woman's nighttime search for the young man (3:1-5) <i>Dream Sequence</i>	D The wedding day and consummation (3:6-5:1)
D' The wedding day and consummation (3:6-5:1)	C' Young woman's nighttime search for the young man; speeches of admiration (5:2-7:11) <i>Dream Sequence</i>	B' Young woman's invitation to the man to join her in the countryside (7:12-8:4)	A' Closing words of mutual love and desire (8:5-14)

## II. HOW HAS THE BOOK BEEN VIEWED?

A. As a SONG to celebrate LOVE in general.

B. As an allegory of GOD and ISRAEL.

*What is the proper form of the love of God? It is that he should love Adonai with a great, overpowering, fierce love as if he were love-sick for a woman and dwells on this constantly... And it is to this that Solomon refers allegorically when he says: 'For I am love-sick' (Song of Songs 2:5) for the whole of Song is a parable on this theme." (Hilchot Teshuvah, 10:3) — Maimonides*

C. As an allegory of CHRIST and the CHURCH.

*Eph. 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her . . . 30 for we are members of his body. 31 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." 32 This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.*

D. As a literal story of the COURTSHIP and marriage of Solomon and his first WIFE. (*All are valuable!*)

## III. THE VALUE OF THE SONG OF SONGS

A. It is, and has ALWAYS been, COUNTER-cultural.

*It powerfully presents sexuality to be enjoyed within a relationship that is defined by God. It is covenantal, monogamous, and heterosexual. Any other definition of marriage will destroy a society. — Harry Reeder*

B. It reminds us of the VALUE of INTIMACY in our relationship with God and with our spouse. It is God's GIFT to us to be relational people.

C. We have a CREATIVE God who enjoys the various creative ways that His people WORSHIP Him. (Poetry)

## IV. WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THE SONG OF SONGS?

A. Sexual intimacy is GOD'S idea, not MAN'S, and it is a GOOD thing within the boundaries of marriage. Passion.

*Gen. 2:23 The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." 24 That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.*

*Song of Songs 4:10 How delightful is your love, my sister, my bride! How much more pleasing is your love than wine, and the fragrance of your perfume more than any spice! 11 Your lips drop sweetness as the honeycomb, my bride; milk and honey are under your tongue. The fragrance of your garments is like the fragrance of Lebanon.*

*1Cor. 7:5 Do not deprive each other except perhaps by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.*

B. The reminder that married love is MORE than PHYSICAL.

*Song 5:16 His mouth is sweetness itself; he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, this is my friend, daughters of Jerusalem.*

*Gen. 2:18 The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."*

C. The importance of WAITING for the right person and remaining PURE before the Lord and for your spouse.

*Song 2:7 Daughters of Jerusalem, I charge you by the gazelles and by the does of the field: Do not arouse or awaken love until it so desires.*

*Song 4:12 You are a garden locked up, my sister, my bride; you are a spring enclosed, a sealed fountain.*

D. The priority of FIDELITY in marriage.

*Song 6:8 Sixty queens there may be, and eighty concubines, and virgins beyond number; 9 but my dove, my perfect one, is unique, the only daughter of her mother, the favorite of the one who bore her.*

*Heb. 13:4 Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.*

E. The blessing of seeking to GIVE to your spouse instead of a SELFISH focus on receiving. The whole book is the story of MUTUAL giving and receiving.

F. The value of ENCOURAGEMENT in a marriage.

*Song 4:1 How beautiful you are, my darling! Oh, how beautiful! Your eyes behind your veil are doves. . . .*

*Song 5:10 My beloved is radiant and ruddy, outstanding among ten thousand.*

G. The benefit of working on challenges TOGETHER.

*Song 2:15 Catch for us the foxes, the little foxes that ruin the vineyards, our vineyards that are in bloom.*