

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 07 June 2020.....Proverbs 01.....Chartered Waters
- 2) 14 June.....Proverbs 03:1-18.....Direction Offered
- 3) 21 June.....Proverbs 03:19-35.....Compassion Demonstrated
- 4) 28 June.....Proverbs 04.....The Choice
- 5) 05 July.....Proverbs 05.....Following God's Design
- 6) 12 July.....Proverbs 08-09.....Pursuing Wisdom
- 7) 19 July.....Proverbs 14.....Living Wisely
- 8) 26 July.....Proverbs 15-16.....Pleasing God
- 9) 02 August.....Proverbs 23.....Staying Sober
- 10) 09 August.....Proverbs 29.....Accepting Discipline
- 11) 16 August.....Proverbs 31.....Finding Honor
- 12) 23 August.....Song of Songs 1-5.....Relational Foundations
- 13) 30 August.....Song of Songs 5-8.....Relational Investment

**INTRODUCTION ..... What Troubled Love Looks Like**

- Interesting aspects of Song of Songs
  - ♦ Song of Songs was written early in Solomon's life; Proverbs was written during his prime years; & Ecclesiastes was written in his waning years
  - ♦ This book is composed of 7 poems. There are 111 lines from 1:2 to 4:15; and another 111 lines from 5:2 to 8:14. This is by design. The two central verses are the final verse in Chapter 4 (4:16) and the first verse of Chapter 5 – where 2 individuals are merged into one
  - ♦ God may be the speaker in the latter part of 5:1 "Eat, O friends! Drink, yes drink deeply, O beloved ones!" – where He conveys that conjugal love is His concept, and He is at the center of each marriage
- It has been said that the differences between Men & Women is:
  - Women want to be loved, to be cherished, to be desired, to be respected, to be trusted, to be admired, to be heard, and to be held
  - Men want sex & tickets to the World Series (we are not on the same planet)
- These last 4 chapters show that love cannot subsist permanently on hearts and flowers, but Romance must abide throughout the marriage
- For the sake of argument, let's make the following assumptions:
  1. The Shulamite bride was Solomon's first wife, his first love before he succumbed to doing things his own way
  2. The "60 queens and 80 concubines and other young women without number," listed in 6:8, are a carryover from King David's reign (per David Jeremiah, "What the Bible Says about Love, Marriage, & Sex")
  3. The honeymoon is now over, & the trials of life hit the marriage. The husband works long hours; the wife doesn't see her mate very often.

Chapter	Quick Summary
1 & 2	Solomon's & Shulamite's courtship
3	Wedding anticipation
4	Honeymoon
5	Marital disharmony
6 & 7	Let's kiss and make up
8	The sanctity, security, and discretion of marital love

Passage	Comments
Song of Solomon 5:2-16	<p><b>Marital Disharmony – It Happens to the Best</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wife (v2).</b> "Where's my husband when I need him?"</li> <li>• <b>Husband.</b> "Sorry for working late, but I'm here now"</li> <li>• <b>Wife (vv3-8).</b> "Well, it's too late now – go away"; and the persistent but rebuffed husband eventually goes away                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ v7. "They beat me..." – If this is to be taken literally (vice a dream), it conveys the wife has lost the security a protective husband can provide</li> <li>♦ v8. HELP! The wife seeks help from her friends to help restore the marriage (counseling can be good)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Friends (v9).</b> "He's just a man. Why fix a bad marriage?" (counseling can be bad)</li> <li>• <b>Wife (vv10-12).</b> "Because he is the only one for me, he's my love and he's my friend" (v16)</li> </ul>
6:1-13	<p><b>Let's Fix What Is Broke</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Friends (v1).</b> "You know your husband better than anybody, so where do you think he is?"</li> <li>• <b>Wife (v2).</b> He has retreated to his happy place (man cave)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ v3. Wife wakes up to the reality she fully belongs to her husband and he fully belongs to her.....1Corinthians 7:4</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Passage	Comments						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Husband (vv4-9).</b> Who is responsible for setting the romantic tone? <input type="checkbox"/> Husband   <input type="checkbox"/> Wife   <input type="checkbox"/> Kids   <input type="checkbox"/> In-laws [Remember, the husband is commanded to love (agape) his wife as Christ loved the church (Eph 5:25), but the wife is commanded to respect/honor her husband (Col 3:18)]                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ The husband took the initiative to seek reconciliation</li> <li>♦ First, he was persistent to resolve things early (5:4)</li> <li>♦ Then, when she was ready to reconcile, he picked things up where they left off by praising her as being the best thing for him (no churning over any troubled past)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Friends (v10).</b> Others agree that the wife is special</li> <li>• <b>Wife (vv11-12).</b> Let's kiss and make up</li> <li>• <b>Husband (v13b).</b> "Everyone wants to see the Shulamite dance her victory dances of love and peace" (Message Bible) - When the Wife is happy, everybody is happy</li> </ul>						
7:1-13	<p><b>Let's Kiss and Make Up</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Husband (vv1-9).</b> This time the husband compliments the wife from the feet to the head. Which means the husband takes frequent notice of his wife's attributes</li> <li>• <b>Wife (vv10-13).</b> The wife recommends a get-away weekend to rekindle their passionate love for each other</li> </ul>						
8:1-14	<p><b>The Sanctity, Security, and Discretion of Marital Love</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wife (vv1-4).</b> In Solomon's time, public display of affection (PDA) was not acceptable. Shulamite wanted to steal some kisses (as little brothers &amp; sisters could innocently do)</li> <li>• <b>Wife (vv5b-7).</b> A little X-rated episode in v5b. She got sexually aggressive in the same romantic spot where the husband was conceived. That took some planning</li> <li>• <b>Brothers (vv8-9).</b> Her family (brothers) guarded her virginity meticulously. Today, families don't seem too alarmed about promiscuous sex by their children or siblings</li> <li>• <b>Wife (v10).</b> "I am a wall." IOW, she waited for Mr. Right</li> </ul>						
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th>The Songs' Definition of Love</th> <th>New Testament Comparisons</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>8:6. For love is as strong as death, Jealousy is as severe as Sheol (or cruel as the grave); Its flashes are flashes of fire, The very flame of the LORD.</td> <td>Romans 8:38-39. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8:7. Many waters cannot quench love, nor will rivers overflow it; If a man were to give all the riches of his house for love, it would be utterly despised."</td> <td>John 15:13. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends 1Corinthians 13:13. But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	The Songs' Definition of Love	New Testament Comparisons	8:6. For love is as strong as death, Jealousy is as severe as Sheol (or cruel as the grave); Its flashes are flashes of fire, The very flame of the LORD.	Romans 8:38-39. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God	8:7. Many waters cannot quench love, nor will rivers overflow it; If a man were to give all the riches of his house for love, it would be utterly despised."	John 15:13. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends 1Corinthians 13:13. But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love.
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<b>Love Cannot Be Bought Or Sold – Love Can Only Be Given</b>							

**CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS**

- Important concepts to take away from the Song of Solomon:
  - ♦ Marriage is not so much for our happiness as it is for our HOLINESS; Happiness, however, is a pretty nice by-product
  - ♦ The way to a man or woman's heart is through the ears (honest praise); BUT, we all respond in some form or fashion to each of our senses (sight, hearing, smell, touch, and taste)
  - ♦ A wife typically wants and needs four (4) things from her husband:
    1. Time
    2. Talk
    3. Tenderness, and
    4. Touch
  - ♦ A husband typically wants and needs four (4) things from his wife:
    1. Sex
    2. Honor
    3. Respect, and
    4. Sex
  - ♦ And both spouses need each other's prayers

