

Song of Solomon – the Pursuit 2.12.17 #cccsermons

Song of Solomon is an entire book of love songs devoted to love, sex and marriage from God's perspective. **Sadly, everybody is teaching about love, sex and marriage but the CHURCH.**

- If **2 Timothy 3:16** says *all Scripture is God-breathed and profitable*, that includes the Song of Solomon.
- Song of Solomon says that we should be **PURSUIING** our spouses and future spouses with God-honoring romance!

There are three ways people have viewed sex both inside and outside the church:

- #1 Sex is **WORSHIPPED**
- #2 Sex is **PRIVATE**
- #3 Sex is a **GIFT**

Worship of sex is nothing new. In the Old Testament, almost every culture except Israel worshipped sex and treated sex like religion. In the New Testament, hedonistic Greek culture dominated the first century and many of the temples in Greece and Rome had sex as part of their worship also, especially in Corinth. Paul had to teach the Corinthians the **basics** about God-honoring sexuality because they were just **too messed up** to figure out what was right and wrong sexually.

Fast forward to our day, and we discover not much has changed.

- **We live in a very IMMORAL and CONFUSED culture where sex is a religion.**
- Not only are people are having sex at earlier ages and are having **sex before marriage** like never before, but one-third of **all children** are aborted and of the children born, one-third are born to **unwed** mothers. And, as a culture, we've slowly adopted "The Bachelor" television show method to finding love. That is not God's plan.

Sadly, for years, pastors have ignored the topic of sex because somewhere the church said sex was dirty. As we will learn this morning, marital sex is not dirty, it is **GODLY**. I want you to know that God created sex and made it fun and pleasurable inside the confines of marriage.

- **In fact, great SEX is a sign of a healthy marriage.**

Why did God create sex?

#1 God created sex to be a GIFT we can enjoy INSIDE of marriage.

- Sex outside of marriage is called fornication, sex outside of your marriage is called adultery, sex with your same gender is called homosexuality, but sex inside your marriage is called **BRINGING** glory to God.
- Yet, our culture expects everybody to meet and rush into romance, but God's plans for you is to save yourself for your spouse. **In fact**, this was so important that it is mentioned three times in Song of Solomon (see **2:7, 3:5, 8:4**).

- The Bible warns singles not to **AWAKEN** love until the right time with the right person on your wedding night. Because the more you awaken yourself sexually, the more powerfully your sexual appetite will demand to be satisfied.

#2 God created sex with PURPOSE to be ONLY between a man and a woman. (see **Romans 1:18-32** and **1 Corinthians 6:9-10**)

#3 God created sex inside of marriage for CHILDREN. (see **Genesis 1:28** and **Psalms 127:3-5**)

#4 God created sex inside of marriage for PLEASURE.

- God made sex pleasurable so that **we would want to have it** and so **we would** populate the earth. In fact, in **1 Corinthians 7:2-4**, Paul commands us to **practice an ACTIVE sex life** in order to have a healthy marriage.
 - According to the Bible, your sexuality is given to you to **SERVE** your spouse.
- #5 God created sex inside of marriage for INTIMACY.** (see **Genesis 2:25**)
- They **became ONE** - one flesh
 - I want you to remember that sex and **enjoying each other in marriage** is God's idea! **I want you to also know that ROMANCE was GOD'S IDEA!**

What can we learn from our first impressions of Song of Solomon?

Song of Solomon 1:2 (NIV) *Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth-- for your love is more delightful than wine.*

#1 God encourages proper AFFECTION!

- **KISSING** is a good indicator of a healthy marriage. After all, when you are kissing, you are not fighting. Fun facts: Kissing also builds the immune system, it burns two calories and it's also **FUN**.

Song of Solomon 1:3 (NIV) *Pleasing is the fragrance of your perfumes; your name is like perfume poured out. No wonder the young women love you!*

#2 God encourages us to go out of your way to be PLEASING to each other.

- In the ancient world, people didn't take a shower every day so they used anointing oils to cut down on body odor and the ladies loved it.

Song of Solomon 1:4 (NIV) *Take me away with you--let us hurry! Let the king bring me into his chambers.*

#3 God encourages us to go out of our way to PURSUE each other!

- Find your spouse's love language and then shower her with it.

The Bible include the book of Song of Solomon to **REMIND** us to **PURSUE** our spouses. **Sex is a GIFT from God and He encourages husbands and wives to fall in love with each other every day.**

- **Song of Solomon 5:1c** (NIV) *Eat, O friends, and drink, **drink your fill**, O lovers.*

FINAL THOUGHT: God is HONORED by passionate marital intimacy.

- It is never too late to **REKINDLE** the fire! After all, it will just take a spark.
- What can you do this week that will serve your spouse?