

Song of Solomon – The Romance 2.19.17 #cccsermons

For centuries, people have wondered why Song of Solomon, an entire book of love songs devoted to love, sex and marriage from God's perspective is in the Bible.

- I believe that Song of Solomon was written to remind us that we should be **PURSUING** our spouses and our future spouses with a God-honoring romance!
- **After all, God is HONORED by passionate marital intimacy.**

Proverbs 30:18-19 (NIV) *There are three things that are too amazing for me, four that I do not understand: the way of an eagle in the sky, the way of a snake on a rock, the way of a ship on the high seas, and the way of a man with a maiden.*

- God created Adam and Eve **different** – male and female, each **unique**, but both completely **COMPATIBLE**. (see **Genesis 2:24** and **Matthew 19:4-6**)
- When they are alone, they are **not complete**, but when they are together, they are **WHOLE**.
- When God created Adam, he designed him to serve and protect His creation, but Eve was designed differently. She was designed to be an *ezer kenegdo* – a **RESCUER** that **COMES ALONG SIDE** to help man.
- We were **created for each other**, to **be with each other** and to **love each other**.
- This is why **ROMANCE** is so important!

Like all gifts from God, sex can be enjoyed or abused.

- **Hebrews 13:4** (NIV) *Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.*
- **If you are single, honor marriage by practicing that true love WAITS.** (*Do not arouse or awaken love until it so desires.* see **Song of Solomon 2:7; 3:5; 8:4**)
- **If you are married, honor your marriage by keeping your bed PURE.** (see **Proverbs 6:27-29**)
- The marriage bed was designed to be a place of **COMFORT** and **EXCITEMENT**, but sexual immorality ruins that. After all, people don't "fall out of love", they just choose to stop loving and choose to stop **ROMANCING**.

The Bible is clear that God designed us to **ROMANCE** our spouses.

- **Deuteronomy 24:5** (NIV) ⁵ *If a man has recently married, he must not be sent to war or have any other duty laid on him. For one year he is to be free to stay at home and bring happiness to the wife he has married.*
- In **Proverbs 18:22** (NIV), Solomon said, *He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the LORD.* (see also **Proverbs 5:18** and **Ecclesiastes 9:9**)
- The moment that you stop romancing your spouse is the moment you will stop **PURSUING** your spouse. If you stop romancing each other, one day you will wake up and notice you've drifted apart from each other. Unless a husband and wife are willing to work together, talk through their difficulties, and even compromise, it is likely that we will give up on the oneness of each other and choose divorce.

HOW TO BRING THE ROMANCE BACK ACCORDING TO SONG OF SOLOMON:

#1 Stop looking at your own personal FLAWS, and start looking at what brought you TOGETHER. (1:5-6, 2:1-2)

- Deep down inside, we are all insecure about our appearance and some aspects of our bodies.
- In **Song of Solomon 2:1**, she compares herself to two insignificant flowers.
- **But that's not what Solomon sees.** (see **Song of Solomon 2:2**)
- The words we use will **DICTATE** the health and quality of our marriage (see **Proverbs 18:21**). In fact, Solomon praises his wife over **40 different times** – for her strength, her beauty and her intelligence.
- Interestingly, it is often the very thing that we think needs changing about ourselves that our mate loves, because that is what makes us **UNIQUE**. Basically, you may be surprised to discover **what is a flaw to you** is a **MARK OF BEAUTY** to them.
- Even if you don't like the way we look, we need to make a sincere effort to be **ATTRACTIVE** to your spouse.

#2 Romance requires that you TOUCH each other. (2:6)

- When Solomon gently touches her, he sends the message that she is safe, she is special and she is loved.
- Romance doesn't begin in the moment, but is **NURTURED** all day. Genuine intimacy is developed in **the small acts** of touching throughout the day. This is important because **before you can touch your wife's body, you first have to touch her HEART**.
- Husbands and wives, **never stop flirting with each other!**

#3 Romance requires that you often TALK AFFECTIONATELY to each other. (4:1-7, 12).

Solomon is so blessed by her beauty that he describes her from the top down.

- Gentlemen, please don't compare your wives to sheep, goats, pomegranates halves and towers, but do compliment her and call her beautiful as much as you can!
- The physical delights of sex within marriage are there for our enjoyment, closeness and to **SATISFY** each other. (see **Song of Solomon 4:6**)
- **God wants us to shower our spouses with words of life and affection!**

#4 God desires that we practice a REGULAR, healthy sex life. (7:7-12)

- When romance and desire stops and relationship conflicts start, the first thing to go is your sex life. The moment that happens, it starts to affect the rest of your marriage. Your marriage is worth **FIGHTING** for.
- Every couple needs to **plan** to get away and just to recapture and rekindle their flames for each other. When you face marital problems, there is only one thing you can change and that is **YOU**.

A lot of scholars think that Song of Solomon was written to show how much God loves us through allegorical language. (see also **Ephesians 5:25, 31-32**)

- After all, marriage **MODELS** the love Jesus has for his bride, us, the church.
- For a marriage to be healthy, a husband must strive to **LOVE** his wife and a wife must **RESPECT** her husband.
- My prayer is that you will be **CAPTIVATED** by each other!
- **A married relationship is amazing and rewarding if you both decide to serve and love each other.**