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May 13, 2018

Series: God, Love, Sex

Message: “True Love”

Introduction

In this series, we will look at one of the more unusual books in the Bible, Song of Solomon, also called Song of Songs. Throughout the history of the church, there have been different approaches to interpreting this form of Hebrew poetry. We will take it as face value – the romantic pursuit and committed love between a man and a woman who become husband and wife and experience all that love has to offer inside of a marriage covenant.

This series will apply to singles, marrieds, and single-again folks. We will examine the dynamics of romantic relationships, including God’s good boundaries meant to bless us. In our day, those boundaries sound outdated but we hope to show God’s wisdom, values and commitments are as worthwhile as they’ve ever been. Our goal is never guilt but a desire to help people meet and follow Jesus. One of the ways we can follow Him is in our romance and sexuality.

The desired outcome of this series is a commitment to honor God in our relationships, even romantic ones that we often consider private and no one else’s business. God knows every part of us and we can honor Him with every part of who we are.

(Questions to get everyone to participate)

1. Can you remember the first time you had a crush? Who was it? Do tell…
2. When was the first time you truly fell in love?

(Questions based on the primary text)

Read Song of Solomon 1:1-2:7.

1. The woman speaks in :2-4. How does she view him? For the men (if your group has men): what is it about her description of him that is appealing to you as a man?
2. In :5-8, the woman describes herself. Is her description positive or negative? How so?
3. In :9-11, the man speaks. How does he see his future wife? How does that compare or differ from her description of herself? For the women (if your group has women): what is it about his description of her that is appealing to you as a woman?
4. In 1:15-2:3 they are walking and talking. What do you make of their exchange of compliments? What makes such dialogue possible?
5. How are sexual desire and restraint (2:6-7) both healthy and beneficial to any couple growing in love toward marriage?