

Small Group Questions

June 10, 2018

Series: God, Love, Sex

Message: "Built to Last"



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 In our day, those boundaries sound outdated but we hope to show God's wisdom, values and commitments are as worthwhile as they've ever been.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. When you hear the phrase "built to last," what product comes to mind? What factors cause it to be something that lasts?
2. What married couple that you know has been married the longest? What do you know about their relationship with each other, i.e. how do they relate to each other?

(Questions based on the primary text)

Read Song of Solomon 8:1-7.

3. What language in these verses communicates that this newly married couple is exclusive in their commitment to each other?
4. In our day, what are the greatest threats to making a marriage exclusive and permanent?
5. Based on these verses or any other in the series, what leads their relationship to thrive as it does? How realistic is it for people in our day to live out those same characteristics?
6. True or False: any marriage, no matter how good or how bad, can improve greatly if husband and wife are committed to improving it? Why or why not?
7. How is God's view of romance, dating, sex and marriage different than the culture in which we live? How is it similar?