

SUMMER OF LOVE

Week 3
FAMILY & GROUP DISCUSSION

THE HE - SOS 1:8-10, 15, 2:1-2

INTRODUCTION

A very strong case from scripture can be made that human marriage is an earthly institution designed to teach us about our intended eternal destiny. We are made for union with God; we are made for love. We may corrupt the vehicle (marriage), even destroy its intrinsic value, and its eschatological worth, but that speaks of our sin, not of God's intent.

DISCUSSION

How can our understanding of marriage help us to better understand God and His great love for us?

EXPLANATION

Read Genesis 2:24

Why do you think God sets up the process this way?

What does this process insure?

How has our society reacted to this formula?

APPLICATION

What does *Engedi* look like for you?

Is there anything you could change in your home to make it more of an *Engedi* for your spouse?

Why do you think so many homes are not the *Engedi* that God calls them to be?

MISSION

What would be the difference if the divorce rate inside the church was 1/10 of what it is outside the church?

Why do you think it is the same (if not higher)?

How do you think the world around us would respond if the church was seen as an *Engedi*?



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Week 3 Notes
& SCRIPTURE VERSES

2 Timothy 3:16-17
Hebrews 13:4
2 Samuel 12:16-20

Song of Solomon 1:8-10
1 Timothy 5:8
Song of Solomon 1:12-17

Genesis 2:24
Song of Solomon 2:1-2



THE HE - SOS 1:8-10, 15, 2:1-2

2 Timothy 3:16-17 “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.”

A very strong case from scripture can be made that human marriage is an earthly institution designed to teach us about our intended eternal destiny. We are made for union with God; we are made for love. We may corrupt the vehicle (marriage), even destroy its intrinsic value and its eschatological worth, but that speaks of our sin, not of God's intent.

In creating man--male and female--in His own image and joining them together so that they become one flesh, God makes us copies both of Himself in his Trinitarian unity and distinction as one God and three persons. When we deal with human sexuality and married love, we are not dealing with simply biological and sociological by-products of an evolutionary process. We are dealing with realities within the created order that had divine origins and divine purposes. The Earth is supposed to speak of heaven because it came from the Creator's hand; to treat of sexual love apart from the divine intent would be to miss the glory.

SOLOMON

In his day, Solomon was the richest man alive; he was also the most powerful and the brightest. People sought his wisdom from all corners of the known earth. He spent 7 yrs building God's temple (considered one of the wonders of the ancient world) and 13 yrs building his own home.

Solomon, raised at court, has everything a person could want or need...and a simple country girl steals his heart.

- Marriage is hard work
- Marriage is for happiness and holiness, but holiness BEFORE happiness.
- Marriage is a ministry

You get through it having an attitude of a servant (not a god to be worshipped but a servant).

LESSONS FOR HOW TO TREAT A WIFE (1:8-10)

- 1) She needs to be a priority. There must always be room in your life for your wife.
- 2) She needs compliments. Your wife needs to know that she is exciting, desirable, loved.
- 3) She needs to know she is like no other in your eyes.
- 4) She needs a provider.

2:2 As a lily among brambles, so is my love among the young women.
One woman man. His heart is for her.

We need to be willing to submit ourselves to what Jesus calls us to and repent from where we have not been Engedi for each other. We must offer hope and grace to our spouse.

Hope and grace will then extend from our homes to all those we encounter because we live it every day.