
Song of Solomon

Book Background and Outline

The Song of Solomon is a love song about the relationship between King Solomon and his Shulamite bride. The story poetically records how they longed for each other when apart and adored each other when together. Song of Solomon is a series of pictures or snapshots. It is not in chronological sequence.

1:1-2:7	recalling the royal wedding
2:8-3:5	bride remembering courtship
3:6-5:1	remembering the betrothal
5:2-6:3	bride's troubling dream
6:4-7:10	king's reflection on his bride
7:11-8:4	bride longing to see her old home
8:5-8:14	renewing of love at Lebanon

Key Verses and Word

Song 2:16 My beloved is mine, and I am his. He feeds his flock among the lilies. (NKJV)

Song 6:3 I am my beloved's, And my beloved is mine. He feeds his flock among the lilies. (NKJV)

The word **beloved** occurs more than 20 times.

Book Highlights

- The characters in the song are Solomon, the Shulamite maid, and the daughters of Jerusalem.
- The love of Solomon and the maid illustrates the love between Jehovah and His people.
- Solomon as a lover was a type of Christ.
- The Song of Solomon also serves as a metaphor for the love between Jesus Christ and the church as well as a model for marriages today.

See [Ephesians 5:22-33](#), [Revelation 19:7](#), and [Psalm 45](#) (Psalm of Loves).

Historically	Solomon and his bride, the Shulamite
Prophetically	Jesus and His bride, the Church
Personally	Husbands and their brides today

Application

- As a Christian, my life is God's garden. His work within my life has one general purpose, fruit. God first broke the soil to prepare for the seed. He watched the developing plant. There was cultivating, weeding, and watering to do before the blossoms arrived. The fruit took time to develop and ripen.
- When the fruit is ripe, there is fulfillment of purpose. The fruit of my life is for His enjoyment. If I resist this fact, I will have a life of disappointment and emptiness. To have a rich, full, rewarding life, I must put God first.
- What I do for others, I must do in His name as He directs.

Personal Reflection and Application

In Song of Solomon [Song of Solomon 5:2-6](#), the bride dreams that her beloved comes knocking at her door. She does not open immediately. Rather, she worries about herself. She's already retired for the evening, washed her feet, and put on her pajamas. She delays, then opens the door to find he has gone.

When the Lord shows up at your door, what do you do? Do you delay? Are you distracted? Perhaps it's not a convenient time. How many missed opportunities have there been? You may not have been sinning, but you surely missed a blessing.

Small Group Conversation Guide

Consider the description of the garden in [Song of Solomon 5:1](#) and [Song of Solomon 6:2-3](#).

Picture your life as God's garden.

- What seeds has God planted in your life?
- What are some examples of watering He has done in your life?
- What weeds has He removed from your life?
- Is your life beginning to bear fruit for God?

Leadership Principles from Song of Solomon

Protect Against the Foxes

As a leader, do you protect people against the foxes ([Song 2:15](#))?

Here are some little foxes that can ruin a group:

- Lack of encouragement
- Unclear goals and expectations
- Negativity

What are some other little foxes that concern you?

- Do you keep watch for little foxes that try to creep in and do damage?
- Do you build fences to keep them out of the garden?

Something to Find in Each Chapter

As you read through the book, it may help to have something to find in each chapter.
Try these:

01. What the woman desired from her husband first	02. How much the woman loved her husband's voice
03. What the woman did when she found her husband	04. How the man responded to one look from his wife
05. How the woman described her husband physically	06. How the woman was confident her husband was hers
07. How the man described His wife physically	08. What the song concluded about the strength of love