

GOSPEL | COMMUNITY | MISSION

August 20, 2023 Song of Songs 1:1-2:7 "The King and His Bride"

QUESTIONS

(potential discussion/conversation questions to use in your GGs this week)

- 1. What emotions, feelings, or thoughts come to mind when you have historically come across Song of Songs?
- 2. Tony mentions that Song of Songs is a multi-layered book. When thinking about the whole narrative of Scripture, what are some examples of the layers on display in this text?
- 3. Tony opened his sermon with an argument for the necessity of this text, including but not limited to its presence in the canon and its ability to help us navigate the distortions of love reflected in our culture today. What are ways you have seen the topic of love confused and distorted in society?
 - a. How can we as a church use the truths of this text to care for others around us who may be at risk for believing/succumbing to the unhealthy, damaging societal trends?
 - b. How can we as a church care for one another as we walk through sensitive subject matter that could incite possible pain or frustration?
- 4. The first section of the text reflects the woman's longing for her future spouse. At multiple places, this books helps us consider the relationship between Jesus and the church. What rhythms in your life help you to long for Jesus and his return with a similar intensity as the woman towards her partner?
- 5. The complimentary dialogue between the man and the woman plays a huge role in the first chapter of this book. Midway through the passage, we see concern and insecurity from the woman followed by encouragement and reassurance from the man. Married couples, what would it look like for you to model this type of care and communication in your relationship?
 - a. Single folks, how have you seen communicating with this level of honesty and vulnerability play out in your friendships?
- 6. How can we leverage the power of words/language to impact others in our community, especially those who are different from us (spiritually, socially, economically, ethnically, generationally, etc.)?
- 7. How does the knowledge that Christ is returning to consummate the relationship with his church encourage your heart today?