

The Song of Songs

LESSON 4: KISS ME

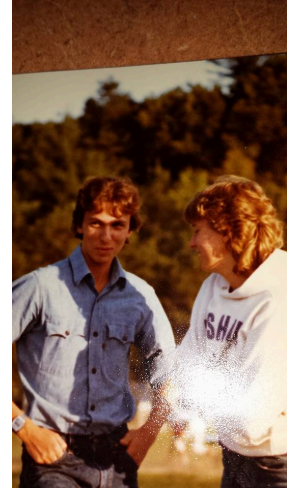
Intro:

“But in kissing, as in so many other things, once the appetite is aroused, the demand becomes insatiable.” **Tom Gledhill**²⁵

BIG IDEA: _____ desire is an essential part of a _____ marriage relationship.

The Song of Songs, which is Solomon's.

- While this is the _____ of song, it is apparently one _____.
- Perhaps it is best to think of it as an opera or _____. One song with many _____.



Structure²⁶

A: _____ (1:2-4)

B: Difficulty (1:5-7)

1) _____ (5-6)

2) _____ (7)

B': Difficulty _____ (1:8-11)

2) _____ for access (8)

1) Attractiveness _____ (9-11)

A': Desire _____ (1:12-14)

Desire

² Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth!

For your love is better than wine;

³ your anointing oils are fragrant;

your name is oil poured out;

therefore virgins love you.

⁴ Draw me after you; let us run.

The king has brought me into his chambers.

- The woman's _____ dominates the Song.
- She is not _____ just hoping he says or does something, anything.

²⁵ Gledhill, pp. 100.

²⁶ Duguid, pp. 78.

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- She is very taken with him and _____ him!
- There is probably a play on words between _____ (*nasaq*) and _____ (*saqa*).
- Both wine and kisses involve the _____, teeth and _____. They are _____ and linger long. They are also _____, we lose ourselves in them.
- His love is not about _____ or commitment. In Prov. 7:18 & Ez. 16:8 it is about love-making.
- She prefers his touch or _____ to _____.
- He is “_____” and _____ very good to her thanks to his anointing oil.
- Yes, _____ want to feel _____ too!
- She moves from his smell, to the fragrance of his name. He is much _____.
- Some think she is a captive member of the _____.
- Others think she is an _____ who is about to become his wife.
- “King” like “shepherd” is likely a term of _____ like “my hero.”
- He has responded to her and brought her to a private, quiet place. This reflects her desire & imagination.
- The “*chambers*” are his _____. She longs for more than they have shared so far.



Jewish Allegorical Interpretation: In the wilderness travels Israel wants God to take her into his bedroom, Palestine.

Christian Allegorical Interpretation: This is the love of a regenerate person for Christ. Those made alive in Christ greatly desire Christ. Christ has brought us into His confidence

Dramatic Interpretation: A young woman, who loves a young man, is brought into Solomon’s harem. Sounds like she wants to escape.

Wisdom: She wants him to take the initiative, but she lets her desire be known. She is like a vineyard to be cultivated so their love will produce sweet wine.

The woman and man represent women & men. The reader, like in Psalms, is to insert themselves into their place.²⁷

“The real lover is the man who can thrill you by kissing your forehead or smiling into your eyes or just staring into space.” **Marilyn Monroe**

²⁷ Longman, pp. 91.

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What should we take from this about a relationship between a man and a woman?

How can you cope with differing degrees of desire?

What kinds of things eat away at desire?

How does this point us to our relationship with Christ?

The Chorus

We will exult and rejoice in you;
we will extol your love more than wine;
rightly do they love you.

- They _____ with the young couple that seems to have _____ their relationship.
- Keep in mind these are _____, not a _____.
- They are putting their _____ or stamp of approval on their relationship.
- A _____ relationship will receive the blessing of those around you: family & friends.
- But they also seem to be extolling his _____.
- The imagery here **may** be the people surrounding the bed chamber during _____.
- They are approving of what they _____ which sounds mutually satisfying.
- Remember, they lived in a world with far less _____ than we do.
- Remember as well that this is a _____ device, not an _____ reflection.
- Does 4d belong in the mouth of the chorus or the woman?

Difficulty Expressed

5 I am very dark, but lovely,
O daughters of Jerusalem,
like the tents of Kedar,
like the curtains of Solomon.
6 Do not gaze at me because I am dark,
because the sun has looked upon me.

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My mother's sons were angry with me;
they made me keeper of the vineyards,
but my own vineyard I have not kept!

- The word “*dark*” can mean “_____.”
- Many allegorical interpretations view this as a description of her _____, not her skin color.
- The dark color is associated with her _____ lifestyle. She’s not an office worker!
- Kedar was a territory SE of _____ occupied by _____.
- The tents of Kedar were made from expensive black _____.
- She is self-conscious about her _____ like so many women.
- True beauty is found in that we are made in God’s _____, not in skin color, _____ etc.
- Her appearance reflects her _____ background, and therefore _____.
- The DoJ could refer to the king’s _____.
- It is possible that her father died (he’s not mentioned) and her (half?) brothers were running the household.
- She has been burned by the _____, and by her brothers’ _____.
- They made her tend the family’s vineyards, but she _____ herself.
- Her beauty was _____, not the result of a spa, lots of make up and time in front of the mirror.
- She wants to know where he can be found, so she can visit him.
- A woman’s beauty, her femininity, needs to be tended like a _____ to bear _____.



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Allegorical Method: She confesses that she is a _____. But she is beautiful in God’s eyes (simul justus et peccator). Because of regeneration we love and seek him.

Dramatic Interpretation: She is not welcomed by the other women and made to feel self-conscious. They are cultured women and she is a country hick.

Christological Focus: If we are insecure about how we look to others, we should be aware of our sin which Jesus sees all too clearly. This should humble us. Because of the cross we are no longer condemned but accepted by Christ who does adorn us as a bride for a wedding. He know the confidence of being fully accepted by Christ despite our character flaws.

Conclusion:

“Sexual desire must combine a commitment to honor and care as well as playful flirtation, intense arousal, and carefree pleasure. ... But the nature of desire is that it not only moves the body, but it awakens the heart to something unfathomably deeper than mere physical pleasure.”
Allender & Longman²⁸

²⁸ Allender & Longman, pp. 55.