

FOUNDATIONS OF ATTRACTION

Song of Solomon 1:1-7

*Leader note: It is important to know your group and as we walk through this book be wise as to how you lead your discussions. Know when you should break off into men and women as well as singles and married couples or stay as a mixed group. Consider the content and the context as you prayerfully lead your group, knowing which questions are pertinent.

The Song of Solomon is a beautiful book regarding the God-created institution of marriage, intimacy and sexuality. Especially today, it is a very important book because of the vast amount of lies and evil that is perpetuated by society and Hollywood regarding it. The greatest way for marriage to be a beautiful reflection of our relationship to God is for each spouse to serve the other in growing humility. For this to occur, God-honoring character must continue to be developed. In addition, the foundation of attraction for those who are single needs to be this God-honoring character. For important information on the background, please watch the prelude video at www.firstcov.org/songofsolomon

1. Read 1:1-7. What was the foundation of this peasant girl being a princess? What is the foundation of attraction of her beauty? Read 1 Peter 3:3-4; 1 Tim. 2:9-10
 2. Pastor Jesse noted that other than saying, “Don’t do it before marriage,” the church has been almost silent on these important issues of intimacy and sex while the culture has hijacked them, leading to the downfall of many. The extremes can be that sex, attraction and intimacy can be distorted into either an idol or seen as gross. What are some ways that our culture and society tell us what is attractive? How do these messages of attraction contradict God’s message?
 3. How and why have you been influenced by society’s messages of attraction? How are you fighting to swim against these as well as influence others who are single to do the same?
 4. As Pastor Jesse pointed out, this book is applicable for the single person or married couple because whatever stage one is in they can learn or help others learn God’s desire for marriage.
 - Single person:** How are you growing in setting a foundation of Godly character and how does this affect your attractiveness?
 - Single person:** What can you do to find out about the character of someone before you start dating them?
 - Married Spouse:** How do you help train your children/grandchildren or other single people you influence to have character be their foundation of attraction?
 - Married Spouse:** God desires your marriage not just to survive, but to thrive. Yet, it isn’t about you changing the other person, but trusting that only God can. What can you do to grow in character by serving your spouse more through humility and gentleness...regardless of how they treat you!
- *Repent of ways that you have allowed society to influence your view on intimacy, marriage, attraction and sex.

Personal Homework

Single:

- Make as list of what you desire in a spouse and ask why...does any of this need to be changed to align with Biblical truth?
- Pray for contentment with where you are at in life and the way the Lord has created you
- Pray for a Godly couple or man/woman who can give you Godly direction and serve as a model

Women: Pray for a Godly leader who will serve and love you sacrificially and unconditionally
Men: Pray for your life to be driven by Godly character that pursues Jesus alone

Married Spouse:

- Make a list of things that you love about your spouse...and share them
- Invite your spouse into a conversation about attraction, intimacy and sex
- Ask each other if there is anything about your character that makes you less attractive and how you can humbly rely on God’s grace to change you

Women: Ask your husband how you can better support and respect his leading
Men: Ask your wife how you can better serve her, humbly and sacrificially loving her