

Memories of Engagement - Song 3:6-5:1

Topics: Appearance, Beauty, Body, Celebration, Commitment, Desires, Friendship, Husbands, Love, Marriage, Partnerships, Pleasure, Praise, Purity, Relationships, Self-esteem, Sex, Wives

Open It

1. What do you consider to be the essential elements of a wedding ceremony?
2. In what situations would you normally expect someone to feel jealous?
- * 3. Who was your first crush, and what did you think of him or her?

Explore It

- * 4. What events take place in these verses? (3:6-5:1)
5. What question did the Beloved ask? (3:6)
6. Who came up from the desert with Solomon? (3:7-8)
7. How did the Beloved describe Solomon's carriage? (3:9-10)
8. What did the Beloved tell the Daughters of Zion to do? (3:11)
9. When did Solomon's mother crown him? (3:11)
- * 10. How did Solomon describe his Beloved? (4:1-7)
11. How did Solomon and his bride treat each other? (4:1-5:1)
12. Where did Solomon ask his bride to go? (4:8)
13. What did Solomon say his bride had stolen? (4:9)
14. How did Solomon describe his bride's love and lips? (4:10-11)
15. To what did Solomon compare his bride? (4:12-15)
- * 16. What did the Beloved invite her Lover to do? (4:16)
17. What did the Lover say he had done? (5:1)

Get It

18. How does this ancient near eastern wedding compare to weddings that you have attended?
- * 19. What type of terms did Solomon use to tell his bride that she was beautiful?
20. If Solomon had been describing his bride today, what metaphors do you think he would have chosen?
21. What is significant about the bridegroom's focus on his bride's beauty?
22. How can a person build up his or her spouse's self-esteem?
23. What does it mean to have one's heart stolen by another person?
24. For what is Solomon praising his bride in 4:12-15, and why is this important?
25. What is the significance of the bride's invitation to Solomon to come into his garden?
26. Why should sex be enjoyed only in the context of marriage?
27. What do these verses suggest about the need for premarital sexual purity?
- * 28. What do these verses suggest about the purpose and place of sexual love?

Apply It

- * 29. What is one thing you can do to honor God's design for sexual union in marriage?
30. What can you do to build up your spouse's self-esteem this week?