

STUDY GUIDE

Part 1



Rejoicing in the Greatest Love Story Ever Told

SONG OF SONGS:

Rejoicing in the Greatest Love Story Ever Told

(This study guide will be divided into two parts. This is part one, and part two will be available as we progress through the series.)

February 1 Song of Songs 1:1-4

February 8 Song of Songs 1:5-2:7

February 15 Song of Songs 2:8-17

February 22 Song of Songs 3:1-11

March 1 Song of Songs 4:1-5:1

March 8 Song of Songs 5:2-6:3

March 15 Song of Songs 6:4-8:4

March 22 Song of Songs 8:5-14

INTRODUCTION

Think about the songs you've heard on the radio this past week (or on your streaming service of choice). Many of them, I'm guessing, had something to do with love. Look at the top charts at any given time, and you'll find songs about love all over the place.

We know that there is something about love that seems fitting for music, and that is what we find in the biblical book of Song of Songs, or Song of Solomon, as you might know it.

I'm convinced this might be the most neglected book of the Bible for modern Christians, both because we don't know what it's saying (it is hard to interpret) and because we do know what it's saying (it's in large part about sex). But understanding this as a collection of love songs brings it into a familiar territory for us.

The repetition "Song of Songs" is a Hebrew way of denoting emphasis: just like "King of Kings" means the greatest of Kings, and "Lord of Lords" means the greatest of Lords, and "Holy of Holies" means the most holy place, so does "Song of Songs" mean the greatest of Songs. Interesting, right?

What makes this Song so great? That is what we are going to explore in this series. This is a book about a human couple, and it has much to teach us about marriage, dating, singleness, and sexuality. These are crucial topics, and especially relevant in our world today. The Bible has a lot of wisdom along these lines.

But in order for this to be the greatest of all Songs, it must be about the greatest of all loves. The fact that this book is found in the Bible clues us in on the fact that, while this is about a human marriage, human marriage is intended to point us to the perfect love of Jesus for his church.

So throughout this series, while there will be plenty of application for you no matter what your situation in life, our primary focus is going to be on rejoicing in the love of Christ for us.

A mentor of mine once commented that “Jesus Loves Me” is often the very first song that we teach children, but the very hardest song for us to believe as adults. Does Jesus really love me? Is he really for me? Will he give up on me? Will he really come back for me? Will he really satisfy me in great joy? These questions, and more, plague us on a daily basis – so what we need is to be reminded of, and amazed by, the love of Jesus for us.

I’m thrilled for this series, to study an oft-neglected book in order to discover more of an oft-forgotten promise: Jesus loves me, this I know!

HOW TO USE THIS STUDY GUIDE

Our prayer is that the Lord will use this study in the life of our church to stir our hearts to rejoice in Christ today, anchored in looking back and looking forward.

In the pages that follow, you will find a series of questions accompanying each week of our sermon series. There will be questions for you to answer based on your own personal

study of the text, and further questions to reflect on and discuss in groups.

In order for you to get the most out of this series, we encourage you to read the text and write down your observations before listening to the sermon each Sunday. Devote time in the week leading up to Sunday morning to explore the text for yourself.

You will notice that each week asks the same basic questions:

- What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?
- What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?
- What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?
- What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?
- What is one question you have about this passage?

These questions form a good introductory tactic to studying the Bible. We often rush to application (what it means for my life) without considering what the text really says, and we often read the Bible as if it is primarily about us when it is really about God. So we want you to begin each week by learning about God and the gospel, then by considering what the text says about us, before then moving to what the text calls us to. Remember: application is not simply what we do; application of the Bible is holistic: it is about what we do, say, think, believe, and love.

There will also be opportunities for you to write, and ask, questions that arise during your study. We encourage you to write down these questions, and then share them.

Finally, there are a handful of questions designed to be reflected on and discussed with others. Perhaps your Grace Group will consider discussing them, or maybe you can talk about them with your family, or pull together a small group of trusted friends to walk through this series together with. However it happens, we must remember that Bible study is meant to be done in community.

After each section, you will then find blank pages for additional notes, particularly for note-taking during the sermons. This would allow all of your notes throughout this series, both in personal study and in sermon content, to be together in the same place. If this would be useful, it is there for your benefit.

We pray that this study guide, going along with our weekly sermon series, helps you to grow deeper in understanding and applying the words we will read in Scripture, and that the words you read and the truths you learn will fuel a delight in Jesus Christ that gives you strength to live where the Lord has called you today.

Week 1: February 1, 2026

The Greatest Love Song Ever

READ: Song of Songs 1:1-4

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- Why do you think God included romantic poetry / love songs in the Bible? What is this meant to teach us?
- How can we express desire and delight in ways that honor God?
- In what ways could you lean more on God's people this year, rather than independently trying to navigate life on your own?
- How do you keep your desire for Christ hot, rather than growing lukewarm or cold?
- How is the love of Jesus greater than all other loves?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 2: February 8, 2026

“His banner over me was love”

READ: Song of Songs 1:5-2:7

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- What do you notice about how the man speaks to his beloved? How does this relate to your relationships?
- Read Ephesians 4:29. What is corrupting talk? What is talk that builds up? How can you use your words to build others up instead of engaging in corrupting speech?
- Whose voices most shapes the way you view yourself? Are these the voices that should be shaping the way you view yourself?
- What promises of God do you find hard to believe? Why is that? How can you grow to trust His Word and believe His promises more?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 3: February 15, 2026

“For I am His and He is mine”

READ:Song of Songs 2:8-17

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- Observe the ways the bride's beloved pursues her in this passage. Now spend time thinking: how has Jesus pursued you?
- The foxes represent small dangers that can cause big problems. How does this apply to your relationships today? What do you need to be on guard against? What do you need to fix?
- What are some small ways in which you are tempted to drift away from the love of Jesus and turn to other things? How can you live on guard against these "foxes"?
- You are Christ's, and Christ is yours. How does this assurance that we belong to Him strengthen our faith as believers? How does it cause you to live differently this week?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 4: February 22, 2026

Seeking the One your soul loves

READ:Song of Songs 3:1-11

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- What are some fears that just don't seem to go away? How does knowing the love of Christ help us combat fear and anxiety?
- How are you guarding against stirring up love/desire in the wrong way, or at the wrong time? What have you put in place to help with this?
- How are you seeking after the Lord? Describe what this looks like on a daily basis. What do you need to add, or give up, to seek Him with more focus and passion?
- Do you desire heaven? Why, or why not? How does a longing for our Lord's return help us live with confidence today?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Notes:



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