

Song of Songs Study Guide

A Spiritual Journey of Love — Christ and His Bride

Introduction

The Song of Songs (Song of Solomon) is a beautiful poetic book about love, desire, commitment, and relationship.

Christians have often read it in two ways:

1. The natural meaning

- A celebration of love between a bride and bridegroom.
- A picture of the beauty, joy, and faithfulness God designed for marriage.

2. The spiritual meaning

- A picture of the love between Christ (the Bridegroom) and His people (the Church, His bride).
- A reminder of the believer's call to love, seek, and remain close to Jesus.

As we study, we will look at both meanings.

Chapter 1 — The Beginning of Love and Longing

The Bride's Desire

"Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth, for your love is better than wine." (Song of Songs 1:2)

Natural meaning:

The bride expresses her deep affection and desire for the one she loves. His love is more satisfying than anything else.

Spiritual application:

This reflects the heart of a believer who longs for closeness with Jesus.

Christian faith is not only about knowing facts about God; it is about knowing Him personally.

Reflection:

Do I seek Jesus Himself, or mainly what He can give me?

The Beauty of His Name

"Your name is like perfume poured out." (Song of Songs 1:3)

Natural meaning:

The bride is attracted not only to his appearance but to his character and reputation.

Spiritual application:

The name of Jesus is precious because of who He is:

- faithful
- loving
- merciful
- holy
- trustworthy

As we know Christ more, our love for Him grows.

Loved Despite Weakness

“Dark am I, yet lovely...” (Song of Songs 1:5)

Natural meaning:

The bride feels imperfect because of her life and circumstances, yet she knows she is loved.

Spiritual application:

Believers recognise their weakness and need for grace, yet Christ loves and accepts His people.

Our worth comes from His love, not our perfection.

Seeking the Beloved

“Tell me, you whom I love, where you pasture your flock...” (Song of Songs 1:7)

Natural meaning:

The bride wants to find the one she loves.

Spiritual application:

This reflects the longing of the believer:

- Where are You, Lord?
- How can I draw closer?
- How can I know Your presence?

Jesus invites us into relationship, not just religion.

Chapter 2 — The Beloved Calls Her Closer

Seen as Precious

“Like a lily among thorns is my darling among the young women.” (Song of Songs 2:2)

Natural meaning:

The bridegroom sees his beloved as unique and beautiful.

Spiritual application:

Christ sees His people as precious and set apart.

The world may overlook believers, but Jesus knows their value.

The Banner of Love

“His banner over me was love.” (Song of Songs 2:4)

Natural meaning:

The bride describes being surrounded by the joy and security of love.

Spiritual application:

The believer is covered by Christ’s love.

Not fear.

Not condemnation.

Not shame.

His banner over us is love.

Romans 8:1

“There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

A Call to Rise

“Arise, my darling, my beautiful one, come with me.” (Song of Songs 2:10)

Natural meaning:

The bridegroom invites his beloved to come away with him and enjoy a new season.

Spiritual application:

Jesus calls His people closer:

- away from fear
- away from sin
- away from spiritual distance

He invites us into deeper fellowship with Him.

A New Season

“See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone.” (Song of Songs 2:11)

Natural meaning:

Winter has ended and a new season of life has begun.

Spiritual application:

This reminds us of new life in Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:17

“If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come.”

Belonging to the Beloved

“I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine.” (Song of Songs 2:16)

Natural meaning:

A declaration of mutual love and belonging.

Spiritual application:

A beautiful picture of the believer's relationship with Jesus.

We belong to Him.

He belongs to us.

Christ calls His people His own.

Main Theme of Chapters 1–2

Love begins with longing and grows through relationship.

The bride seeks the bridegroom.

The bridegroom calls her closer.

Spiritually:

- Jesus desires a relationship with His people.
- His love is personal.
- He calls us to know Him more deeply.

Reflection Questions

1. Do I desire Jesus, or only His blessings?
2. What things compete with my love for Christ?
3. Do I believe Christ sees me as precious and loved?

4. Is Jesus inviting me into a deeper walk with Him?

Next: Chapter 3 — Seeking the Beloved and the joy of finding Him