

## Homework for Week 1

April 16, 2022

Read through Song of Songs 1:1-17. Pay close attention to who is speaking, who they are speaking to, and what he/she or they are saying.

1. List some of the desires/concerns of the Shulamith according to what you read:

- 1 • that her Beloved would kiss her with the kisses of his mouth (1:2) *face-to-face*
- 2 • that her Beloved would draw her away (1:4) *one-on-one*
- 3 • that the daughters of Jerusalem would not look upon her, because she is dark, because the sun had tanned her. (1:6) *she's a foreigner*
- 4 • her mother's sons were angry with her, they made her the keeper of the vineyards. (1:6) *they didn't accept her*
- 5 • her own vineyard she has not kept. (1:6) *note: though she was a princess, in that culture she was like a desolate woman* *she couldn't take care of herself*

2. List a few ways the Daughters of Jerusalem respond to the Shulamith:

- They will run after her (1:4)
- They will be glad and rejoice in her (1:4)
- They will make her ornaments of gold with studs of silver (1:11) *perception vs. reality*

3. How does the Shulamith describe her mother's sons' response to her, and what did they make her do (see 1:6)?

*they were angry with her  
they made her keeper of the vineyards*

*and at a certain time, they'd have no other choice but to accept her.*

*eventually  
she is  
accepted by  
them, but not  
without pain*

4. The Beloved will address the Shulamith in many different ways throughout the Song of Songs. What are a couple of the ways He addresses her in this first chapter?

- O fairest among women (1:8)
- Behold, you are fair, my love! (1:15) *רַ'יָּה רַ'יָּה* *ra'ya thee*  
"my darling Companion"

*(1:9, 1:15, 2:2, 2:10, 2:13, 4:1, 4:7, 5:2, 6:4) 9 times*

### Background Reading:

Because the Song of Songs alludes to several other people in the Bible, we will need to do some background reading to familiarize or remind ourselves of their lives and situations. **This week, we will need to look at Tamar and Joseph as they relate to Song of Songs 1.** Please read the following for next week and answer the questions below:

6. Where does the one she loves feed his flock  
and where does he make it rest at noon (1:7)

but she  
found  
refreshment in  
him

7. Why should she be as one who veils herself  
By the flocks of his companions? (1:7)

both wit and  
hope  
righteousness

note: though she was a foreigner, she knew well the  
stories of their culture.

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Joseph (READ Genesis 37)

1. Describe Joseph's relationship with his brothers. How specifically did the brothers feel toward Joseph in v. 11?

Joseph told them his dreams, but they hated him even more.  
They envied him.

2. Describe Joseph's first dream and its interpretation by his brothers:

They were binding sheaves in the field; Joseph's sheaf arose and stood upright, and the brothers' sheaves stood all around and bowed down to his sheaf.

3. Describe Joseph's second dream and its interpretation by his father Jacob:

The sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowed down to Joseph

- That Joseph would reign and have dominion over them.  
- That Joseph's mother, father, and brothers would bow down to the earth before him.

4. Who was Joseph seeking in verses 12-17? When the certain man found him in v. 15, what was Joseph doing?

He was seeking his brothers.

wandering in the field.

5. What did Joseph's brothers conspire to do to him in v. 18?

They conspired against him to kill him.

Tamar (READ Genesis 38)

6. What did Judah think Tamar was, and why, according to v. 14-16?

He thought she was a harlot, because she had covered her face.

7. When the truth of the situation was revealed to Judah, what did he say about Tamar (v. 26)?

"She has been more righteous than I, because I did not give her to Shelah, my son."

Personal Reflection: What stood out to you the most during your homework this week?

the perception of the Shulamith toward the daughters of Jerusalem vs. the reality of their response toward her.