

Homework for Week 1

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:

- *that her Beloved would kiss her with the kisses of his mouth (1:2)*

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

- *They will run after her (1:4)*

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

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)*

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:

Joseph (READ Genesis 37)

1. Describe Joseph's relationship with his brothers. How specifically did the brothers feel toward Joseph in v. 11?
2. Describe Joseph's first dream and its interpretation by his brothers:
3. Describe Joseph's second dream and its interpretation by his father Jacob:
4. Who was Joseph seeking in verses 12-17? When the certain man found him in v. 15, what was Joseph doing?
5. What did Joseph's brothers conspire to do to him in v. 18?

Tamar (READ Genesis 38)

6. What did Judah think Tamar was, and why, according to v. 14-16?
7. When the truth of the situation was revealed to Judah, what did he say about Tamar (v. 26)?

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

WEEK ONE: SONG OF SONGS 1

Chapter Theme: The Story Begins

The song of songs, which is Solomon's.

-Song of Songs 1:1

People featured in the chapter:

- The Beloved
- The Shulamith
- The Daughters of Jerusalem
- The Brothers
- The Companions of the Beloved

Places mentioned in the chapter:

- The vineyards (1:6)
- En Gedi (1:14)

(1:1) **As we begin our journey through the Song of Songs, we want to keep our focus on the Ultimate Author of the Song—God.** Just like all the other books of the Bible, God used human authors to pen the words of Scripture. But the inspiration comes from the Holy Spirit, who points us to Jesus Christ. He is our focus as we learn prophetically about Him through the Song of Songs.

(1:2-4) The Shulamith's enthusiasm for her Beloved
The Daughters of Jerusalem's response to the Beloved and to the Shulamith

Luke 24:39—"Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have."

Psalms 118:24—This *is* the day the LORD has made;
We will **rejoice and be glad** in it.

Revelation 19:7—Let us **be glad and rejoice** and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.

(1:5-6)

The Shulamith's testimony

The initial response of the Daughters of Jerusalem and the Brothers

The vineyards

Similar to experiences of both Joseph and Jesus

1 Peter 4:13—but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.

Psalms 56:8-9—You number my wanderings;

Put my tears into Your bottle;

Are they not in Your book?

When I cry out *to You*,

Then my enemies will turn back;

This I know, because God *is* for me.

Genesis 37:4—But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.

John 7:1-5—After these things Jesus walked in Galilee; for He did not want to walk in Judea, because the Jews sought to kill Him. Now the Jews' Feast of Tabernacles was at hand. His brothers therefore said to Him, "Depart from here and go into Judea, that Your disciples also may see the works that You are doing. For no one does anything in secret while he himself seeks to be known openly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world." For even His brothers did not believe in Him.

(1:7-11)

The Shulamith seeks comfort from the Shepherd-King

The Shepherd-King answers

The Daughters of Jerusalem's response to the King's answer

Psalms 23:1-4— The LORD *is* my shepherd;

I shall not want.

He makes me to lie down in green pastures;

He leads me beside the still waters.

He restores my soul;
He leads me in the paths of righteousness
For His name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
For You *are* with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Genesis 38:14-15—So she took off her widow's garments, covered *herself* with a veil and wrapped herself, and sat in an open place which *was* on the way to Timnah; for she saw that Shelah was grown, and she was not given to him as a wife. When Judah saw her, he thought she *was* a harlot, because she had covered her face.

Genesis 37:15-16—Now a certain man found him, and there he was, wandering in the field. And the man asked him, saying, "What are you seeking?" So he said, "I am seeking my brothers. Please tell me where they are feeding *their flocks*."

Isaiah 43:16-17—Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea
And a path through the mighty waters,
Who brings forth the chariot and horse,
The army and the power
(They shall lie down together, they shall not rise;
They are extinguished, they are quenched like a wick):

(1:12-17) Longing for the Beloved

The Beloved's response to the Shulamith's love

The Shulamith's rejoicing in creation

Psalms 45:7-8—You love righteousness and hate wickedness;
Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You
With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.
All Your garments *are scented* with myrrh and aloes *and* cassia,
Out of the ivory palaces, by which they have made You glad.

Psalms 63:1-2—A Psalm of David when he was in the wilderness of Judah.

O God, You *are* my God;
Early will I seek You;
My soul thirsts for You;
My flesh longs for You
In a dry and thirsty land
Where there is no water.
So I have looked for You in the sanctuary,
To see Your power and Your glory.
