

Homework for Week 8

Read through the Song of Songs 8:1-14 and answer the following questions:

1. According to verse 1, who does the Shulamith desire her Beloved was like? Why does she desire this?

2. Where does the Shulamith say she would bring the Beloved in verse 2?

3. Where is the Shulamith in verse 3?

4. What does the Shulamith charge the Daughters of Jerusalem in verse 4?

5. From where is the Shulamith coming up from in the beginning of verse 5? What is she doing?

6. Where was the Beloved when the Shulamith awakened him in the second part of verse 5? What happened to him there?

7. What is the Shulamith asking the Beloved in verse 6? Why does she ask this?

8. What does the Shulamith say about love according to verse 7?

9. What question do the Brothers ask about their sister according to verse 8?

10. How do they answer their own question according to verse 9?

"If she is a wall, We will _____;

"And if she is a door, We will _____."

11. How does the Shulamith respond to her brothers' according to verse 10?

12. What did Solomon do with his vineyard according to verse 11a?

13. What was "everyone" to do according to verse 11b?

14. How does the Shulamith answer the matter about the vineyard in verse 12?

15. How many may Solomon have according to verse 12?

16. How many can those who tend its fruit have according to verse 12?

17. What does the Beloved say to the Shulamith in verse 13?

18. How does the Shulamith respond to the Beloved in verse 14?

Background Reading:

This week we are going to look at the other three women in Jesus' family line from Matthew 1—Ruth, Bathsheba and Mary.

Read Ruth 2:1-13 and answer the following questions:

1. In verse 2, what question did Ruth ask Naomi?

2. In verse 10, what question did Ruth ask Boaz?

3. In verse 13, what request did Ruth make to Boaz, and why did she make this request?

Read 2 Samuel 11-12:25 regarding Bathsheba and answer the following questions:

4. What did David do according to the Lord through Nathan the prophet in verse 12:9?

5. What did David eventually do after this situation in verse 12:24-25? What was the outcome and how did the Lord respond?

Read Revelation 12:1-6 regarding the “woman.”

(Note: The “woman” is referring prophetically to Israel and the Messiah coming through that nation. Mary, a Jewish woman, is the one who physically gave birth to Jesus.)

6. Who did the woman give birth to according to verse 5 and what was He to do?

7. Where did the woman flee to according to verse 6?

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

WEEK EIGHT: SONG OF SONGS 8

Chapter Theme: Love is Forever

*Many waters cannot quench love,
Nor can the floods drown it.*

-Song of Songs 8:7a

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 (8:11)
- The gardens (8:13)

(8:1-3) As we come to the last chapter of the Song of Songs, we see the Shulamith recognize King Solomon's love for her in increasingly confident statements. The entire kingdom, once again, is blessed by the Shulamith's security in the king's love for her.

Reflections of the original garden of God's creation

Genesis 2:18—And the LORD God said, "*It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.*"

Genesis 2:21-25—And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.

And Adam said:

"This *is* now bone of my bones
And flesh of my flesh;

She shall be called Woman,
Because she was taken out of Man.”

Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and
they shall become one flesh.

And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

(8:3) The last of three counsels of patience from the Shulamith to the
Daughters of Jerusalem, with a slight variation

Song of Songs 2:7—I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
By the gazelles or by the does of the field,
Do not stir up nor awaken love
Until it pleases.

Song of Songs 3:5— I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
By the gazelles or by the does of the field,
Do not stir up nor awaken love
Until it pleases.

Isaiah 61:1— For Zion’s sake I will not hold My peace,
And for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest,
Until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
And her salvation as a lamp *that* burns.

(8:5) Complete dependence on God after a journey through the
wilderness

The pain of childbirth leads to the joy of new circumstances

Deuteronomy 8:1-3— Every commandment which I command you today you
must be careful to observe, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess
the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers. And you shall remember that
the LORD your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to
humble you *and* test you, to know what *was* in your heart, whether you would
keep His commandments or not. So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger,
and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that

He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every *word* that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.

2 Samuel 12:25-25—Then David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and went in to her and lay with her. So she bore a son, and he called his name Solomon. Now the LORD loved him, and He sent *word* by the hand of Nathan the prophet: So he called his name Jedidiah, because of the LORD.

Revelation 12:1-5—Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth. And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne.

(8:6-7) Love's flames like a flame of fire that never burns out

Love demonstrates that it endures forever

Money can never buy love

Exodus 3:2-3, 13-14—

And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush *was* not consumed. Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn."

Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, *when* I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What *is* His name?' what shall I say to them?"

And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.' "

Romans 5:8—But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Isaiah 49:16—See, I have inscribed you on the palms *of My hands*;
Your walls *are* continually before Me.

Psalms 22:14-16—I am poured out like water,
And all My bones are out of joint;
My heart is like wax;
It has melted within Me.
My strength is dried up like a potsherd,
And My tongue clings to My jaws;
You have brought Me to the dust of death.
For dogs have surrounded Me;
The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me.
They pierced My hands and My feet;

John 20:24-29—Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said to him, “We have seen the Lord.”

So he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.”

And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, “Peace to you!” Then He said to Thomas, “Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand *here*, and put *it* into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.”

And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!”

Jesus said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed *are* those who have not seen and *yet* have believed.”

1 Peter 1:18-19—knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, *like* silver or gold, from your aimless conduct *received* by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

(8:8-9) The Brothers ultimately served as trainers of righteousness to the Shulamith

Romans 11:28-32—Concerning the gospel *they are* enemies for your sake, but concerning the election *they are* beloved for the sake of the fathers. For the gifts and the calling of God *are* irrevocable. For as you were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience, even so these also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you they also may obtain mercy. For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all.

(8:10) The Shulamith is confident peace is found in her Beloved

Alludes to the story of Ruth

Ruth in Hebrew means “friend” and “female companion”

Ruth 2:10-13—So she fell on her face, bowed down to the ground, and said to him, “Why have I found favor in your eyes, that you should take notice of me, since I *am* a foreigner?”

And Boaz answered and said to her, “It has been fully reported to me, all that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband, and *how* you have left your father and your mother and the land of your birth, and have come to a people whom you did not know before. The LORD repay your work, and a full reward be given you by the LORD God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge.”

Then she said, “Let me find favor in your sight, my lord; for you have comforted me, and have spoken kindly to your maidservant, though I am not like one of your maidservants.”

(8:11-12) Leasing the vineyard to keepers

But which vineyard ultimately bore the fruit?

The Shulamith’s gracious response—like Joseph to his brothers

Isaiah 5:1-4—Now let me sing to my Well-beloved
A song of my Beloved regarding His vineyard:
My Well-beloved has a vineyard
On a very fruitful hill.
He dug it up and cleared out its stones,
And planted it with the choicest vine.
He built a tower in its midst,
And also made a winepress in it;
So He expected *it* to bring forth *good* grapes,
But it brought forth wild grapes.

“And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah,
Judge, please, between Me and My vineyard.
What more could have been done to My vineyard
That I have not done in it?
Why then, when I expected *it* to bring forth *good* grapes,
Did it bring forth wild grapes?”

Matthew 21:33-41—“Hear another parable: There was a certain
landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in
it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far
country. Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the
vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit. And the vinedressers took his
servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants,
more than the first, and they did likewise to them. Then last of all he sent his son
to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the vinedressers saw the
son, they said among themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize
his inheritance.’ So they took him and cast *him* out of the vineyard and killed *him*.

“Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those
vinedressers?”

They said to Him, “He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and
lease *his* vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their
seasons.”

Genesis 50:19-21—Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid, for *am* I in the
place of God? But as for you, you meant evil against me; *but* God meant it for
good, in order to bring it about as *it is* this day, to save many people alive. Now
therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones.” And he
comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

(8:13-14) God's plan of redemption for the whole world through the Song of Songs

Cast out of the garden for sin to be brought back into the garden because of Christ's righteousness toward sinners—to dwell with Him forever and partake of the tree of life

And they lived happily ever after...

Genesis 3:22-24—Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"— therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.

Luke 23:42-43—Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom."

And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

Revelation 22:1-5—And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, *was* the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each *tree* yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. They shall see His face, and His name *shall be* on their foreheads. There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.
