

Series: The Meaning Scriptures: Song of Date: April 7 & 8, 2018 of Intimacy Solomon 8:8-12

Message: Once Upon α Time

-[LET'S START]-

Find a partner and share one of the most moving/meaningful experiences of your Easter. Why was it significant to you? Take a moment and pray for those who walked across the Wooddale platform and signed their name on the letter.

—[LET'S TALK]—

- 1. With your partner, one of you read *Song of Solomon 8:8-12* aloud to the other. Did either of you feel this was awkward? Which one of you felt most awkward, the reader or the listener? Pastor Dale explained why God may have inspired this book to be included in the Bible. So, practically speaking, how do we then leave the awkwardness behind to better understand the book as a group?
- 2. Today, there are many influences on each of us and our family members regarding sexuality. Identify some of these influences and categorize them as positive or negative. Who or what is consistently the most influential? How can you protect those you love if their own understanding of love is immature?
- 3. Boundaries what were the boundaries for sexual behavior your parents set for you when you were young? How do you wisely set boundaries for those you love?

—[LET'S ACT]—

Pastor Dale pointed out that we as adults (particularly parents) are responsible to teach, encourage and hold young people accountable to honoring God with their sexuality. But sometimes we ourselves have conflicting views about sexuality or former moral behaviors/practices that dishonor God. Perhaps there is a way you can honor God more by submitting to His perfect standard for love and sexuality. If so, ask for His help and forgiveness as you move forward and use your own experience to help others.

-[SERMON REVIEW]-

- God inspired the *Song of Solomon* to be in our Bible.
- The Song of Solomon speaks of our body's desire for intimacy.
- We each have many influences in how we think about sexuality; often we are influenced most by whom or where we seek acceptance.
- Men and women think differently.
- Immature love needs protection.
 - Help them to understand sexuality from God's perspective rather than that of their peers, the media or culture's viewpoint.
 - Set and explain boundaries.
 - Don't advertise.
 - Pray your heart out.
- Mature love possesses dignity.

—[NOTES]—			