

Song Of All Songs

“Study Guide/Workbook”

A devotional ministry... meditating in the Song of Solomon
By Lee Behnken

A work in progress – not finished

(Includes portions of the copyrighted/soon to be released book; Song Of All Songs – A paraphrased interpretation of the Song of Solomon)

From the first day in which God revealed His beautiful Song of all songs to the people of Israel... until now... the Song of Solomon is all about **“an intimate and personal relationship with the Word of God”**. May the Lord bless you and keep you as you draw closer and closer to His holy and precious Word... and as you worship Him and pray, **“Lord, I love Your Word”**... in Jesus’ name. Amen

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Listen to Song Of All Songs/Chapter One and Song Of All Songs/Chapter Two at:
www.SongOfAllSongs.com
Downloads and CDs also available

Instructions for meditating in the Song of Solomon

The ministry of the Song of Solomon is a beautiful place to learn how to meditate on God's word. Just as it takes time to get to know a friend... it takes time to get to know God's love... and there is no place in the Bible as rich in the poetic thinking of God's heart of love for you than the Song of ALL songs (Song of Solomon) which is God's personal and loving word... given for you.

You are created in God's image... and God gave you a poetic heart. The poetry of the Song of Solomon came from God's poetic heart... and He wants you to know His heart toward you through His very best of songs, His "Song of Songs". God wants you to be able to look at your relationship with Him "poetically". The "romance of the gospel" is revealed through the "bridal paradigm" we find in the scriptures. Jesus is our soon coming bridegroom King... and judge. You are going to be deeply blessed as you come to more deeply know His heart of love toward you... in the Song of Solomon.

The ministry of the Song of Solomon comes slowly at first... like a "slow drip". The LORD wants us to spend time with Him. He wants us to slow down... and spend time thinking about His love for us (Set your mind on things above: Colossians 3:2). There are no short cuts. Memorizing a Bible verse is good... but unless we spend time thinking about the meaning of the Bible verse... over and over again... it will not really become "part of us". God wants His love to rest in our hearts... and to "become part of us". The Song of Solomon is like a "teacher". It will help you to learn how to "slow down" and meditate on God's word... until it becomes part of your heart.

We have prepared a "starting point" for you... called "Song Of All Songs"... to help you begin your personal discovery in the Song of Solomon. Our "starting point together" will be like going into the world's most extravagant fine dining restaurant and "**opening and studying the menu**" for what will be the most glorious meal you have ever had in your life... in a quiet and intimate setting... with just "you and the LORD". We have prepared "a menu" for the food and beverage you will later personally "dine on" in the privacy of your own heart, reclined at the banqueting table with just you and the LORD. As we meet together... we will take time to "read the menu"... but you must select the portion of God's word you would like to dine on... in your personal, private time with God.

We have prepared this Song Of All Songs "study guide/workbook"... in which we have organized the Song of Solomon into 80 individual songs (10 songs per chapter). Each song is titled... with the scripture reference for that song given under the title. Under the scripture reference is "the theme" of that individual song. Under the theme of the song is the actual scripture printed out in the King James Version. Under the KJV scripture is a paraphrased interpretation of the Bible verse(s).

To get started: We recommend you first read the Song of Songs (or Song of Solomon) in your Bible. Then use the workbook and start with the first chapter... and read the first chapter all the way through in the KJV. Then... go back... and read it again. This will help you to be aware of what that particular chapter and those verses say. Now... go back to the first verse of the chapter you just read... and begin to slow down. Take time now in prayer... and ask God to reveal to you what He wants to say to you. Read the title of the song and the theme of the song... and the KJV along with the "paraphrased interpretation". Slow down again... and think about what God is saying to you in this segment of the chapter. Pray... read... and listen; Heavenly Father, please give us eyes to see and ears to hear and hearts to understand.

The next step: As you think about each song, consider the “questions” that may come up in your heart and then write them down on the blank part of the page provided for that segment in your workbook. Also... write down what you sense God is saying through each of the songs. Write down other scriptures that come to your heart for each song. Write a “prayer” from your heart to the LORD and turn verses in the Song of Solomon into personal prayer... or... find a melody... write some lyrics... and sing your prayer to the LORD. Get extra paper if you need to and grow a personal dialogue with the LORD... on paper... concerning what you are gleaned from God’s most amazing song... the Song of Songs.

In 2008 we recorded 21 songs (demos) for Song Of All Songs Chapter One and Chapter Two... which helped give us the direction for all 80 songs of the Song Of All Songs recording project. A couple songs recorded on these first CDs have since changed lyrically... as the ministry has matured... and we have added instruments and musical hooks that are not included in these first two CDs. We hope to have all 80 songs finished in the next year or so. Use these CDs to help get you started as you meditate on Song of Solomon. You can find these Chapter One and Chapter Two songs at www.SongOfAllSongs.com

“Meditation” has been described by some of our farming community preachers as “a cow chewing on her cud”. Meditation is like a cow grazing leisurely in the grass... taking her time... pulling from the grass. She cuts the grass with her teeth and swallows the grass into her stomach. Then later... she brings the grass back up and chews on it again... and then swallows it again... and then brings it back up and chews some more before swallowing... chewing... and swallowing her cud.

OK... so a cow chewing her cud is a weird analogy for some of us city folk (smiling).

As you take time reading the Song of Solomon... for the first time... think about it for a while... then swallow it as best you can into your heart. Then later... bring it back up... and use the workbook... and get ahold of the theme of the individual song prepared for each particular scripture verse... and read the KJV (or other translations) again along with the paraphrased interpretation for that theme... and leisurely chew on it some more. You may notice it beginning to taste even better than it did the first time (LOL). Hold the song theme and the paraphrased interpretation in your mind for as long as you like... and then swallow it back down into your heart again... and then bring it back up later and think about it some more... and repeat this over and over. Ooooo... we’re making milk now (smiling)!

Some of us have never done this before. That’s OK. We need to learn how to take time with the LORD... and to meditate on the word of God. You may wish to go all the way through one chapter of the Song Of All Songs every day... or... if you need to go slower than that, take time with just one of the song themes for a day... or two... or for a week or so. The more you eat and drink from God’s word... the more capacity you will have (We recommend you get Ephesians 3:14-21 into your heart ASAP). As you learn to take the scriptures back and forth from your mind and your heart they will become part of you. They will renew your thinking... transform your heart... and your life (Romans 12:2) as the LORD washes you in the water of His word (Ephesians 5:25-27).

The 5 “wisdom books” in the Bible are the same as God’s 5 “poetry books”; Job, Psalms, Ecclesiastes, Proverbs and the Song of Songs. God imparts His wisdom to us through His poetic heart. From the first day when God revealed His Song of all songs to His holy people Israel... until now... the Song of Songs has always been all about **“an intimate and personal relationship with the Word of God”**. May the Lord bless you and keep you as you draw ever closer to His holy and precious Word... and as you continuously worship Him and pray, “Lord, I love Your Word”... in Jesus’ name. Amen

Our Prayer Of Invocation

Heavenly Father, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit... I love Your Word.

Let Him kiss me with the kisses of His mouth: for Your love is better than wine.

Because of the fragrance of Your pleasing perfumes Your name is perfume poured forth, therefore the virgins love You.

Draw me after You and we will run together.
The King has brought me into His chambers.
We will be glad and rejoice in You.
We will remember Your love more than wine.
The righteous love You.

In the name of Yeshua Hamashiach, Jesus the Messiah... Amen.

Song Of All Songs

Chapter One

Bridegroom King - SOS 1:1-2a

Better Than Wine - SOS 1:2b

Holy And Anointed One - SOS 1:3

Draw Me After You - SOS 1:4a

Chambers Of My King - SOS 1:4b

Dark But Lovely - SOS 1:5-6

The Shepherds And Their Sheep - SOS 1:5-8

Filly Of The King - SOS 1:9-10

Baptize My Heart - SOS 1:11

You Are Mine - SOS 1:12-17

Bridegroom King

Song of Solomon 1:1-2a

Your heart, which is the LORD's... and His personal talks with you.

1 The song of songs, which is Solomon's.

2a Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth;

¹ The song of songs, which is the holy Son of David's; the Bridegroom King of Israel; the King of kings and the LORD of lords; Yeshua HaMashiach (Jesus 'the' Messiah).

The Holy of Holies, which is God's.

^{2a} Heavenly Father, let Him kiss me with the intimate and holy kisses of revelation and instruction which only come from the very mouth of God... I need to know the holy word of God from the mouth of God;

Your opening prayer of invocation: Father in heaven, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit... I love Your Word.

Additional scriptures; Psalm 138:2, Ephesians 1:15-21, Ephesians 3:14-21... Philippians 4:8.

Better Than Wine

Song of Solomon 1:2b

There has never been and there never will be... anything better in all the world...
than the love of God.

2b For thy love is better than wine.

2b Because... Your holy love is better than the most joyous celebrations on earth; better than our best family gatherings and traditions; better than our most time honored and pleasurable religious feasts and rituals. For friendship with You is better than every “center of culture”. Your love is better than life... Your love is better than wine.

Wine in the Song of Solomon is a symbol for celebration... at the center of Jewish culture.
John 2:1-22, Psalm 63:3, Luke 14:26...

Holy And Anointed One

Song of Solomon 1:3

Pure hearted people LOVE to know and think about what God is thinking about.

3 Because of the savour of thy good oinments thy name is as ointment poured forth, therefore do the virgins love thee.

3 Because of how I love to meditate on Your Word; to think Your pleasing thoughts (savour the fragrance of Your pleasing perfumes) Your name, Yeshua HaMashiach (Jesus 'the' Messiah), is like perfume (pure thoughts, God's Word) poured forth; like salvation, anointing, wisdom and revelation (the mind of Christ) poured forth; Therefore the pure hearted remnant of Israel and the nations (the virgins) love You.

Perfume, ointment, spices and fragrance in the Song of Solomon symbolize revelation... God's thoughts... the nature and essence of His heart... the mind of Christ.

Joshua 1:8, Ezekiel 36:23, Isaiah 29:23, Proverbs 9:10, Matthew 5:8, Ephesians 1:17...

Draw Me After You

Song of Solomon 1:4a

Your prayer: Draw me to Your heart, LORD... and we'll go through life together.

4a Draw me, we will run after thee;

4a Draw me to Your heart, that I may know you and love you with all of my heart... and then; We will quickly go wherever You want to go and do whatever You want to do... and we will love others, together... and others will pursue You too.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Matthew 22:37-40, Mark 12:29-31, James 4:8...

Chambers Of My King

Song of Solomon 1:4b

God has brought you into His heart... and you are a blessing to many people.

4b The king hath brought me into his chambers: we will be glad and rejoice in thee, we will remember thy love more than wine: the upright love thee.

4b God has brought me into His Most Holy Place.

The nations will be glad and rejoice in You!

The nations will remember Your love more than the very best of celebrations!

The nations perfectly love You!

The daughters of Jerusalem represent the sheep nations... and whosoever believeth (throughout Song of Solomon); except for SOS 3:10 in which the daughters of Jerusalem represents Israel. Psalm 100:4, Hebrews 6:19-20, 8:1-2 and 9:11-12, Psalm 36:5-7, John 3:16, Romans 5:8, I John 3:1...

Dark But Lovely

Song of Solomon 1:5-6

You have a sin problem... but God sees you as holy.

5 I am black, but comely, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, as the tents of Kedar, as the curtains of Solomon.

6 Look not upon me, because I am black, because the sun hath looked upon me: my mother's children were angry with me; they made me the keeper of the vineyards; but mine own vineyard have I not kept.

The Journey Begins

5 I am weak in my flesh and have made many mistakes... but the LORD lives deep in my heart. O nations of the earth... I have a sin problem **which can be seen** in the workings of my flesh... and I have wandered... but I **also** have the beauty and brightness of the Most Holy Place deep inside my heart where the glory of God dwells.

6 Don't look at me because of my sin... and; because the cares and toils of this world have worn me out and darkened my appearance. There are sons of heaven who have been jealous and angry with me. They have used me to serve "them" in the vineyards... but I have not attended to my own heart.

The "daughters of Jerusalem" represent the sheep nations and whosoever believeth (throughout Song of Solomon) except for SOS 3:10 in which the "daughters of Jerusalem" represents Israel. "Tents of Kedar" are the unbelieving, rebellious, nomadic Kedarites who lived in the Holy Land. "My mother's children" in this verse can refer to sinful mankind and or to the fallen angels and their demonic strategies found in Ephesians 6:12.
Luke 5:8, I John 1:8, Mark 7:20-23, Romans 7:15-20, Galatians 5:16-26...

The Shepherds And Their Sheep

Song of Solomon 1:5-8

Stay in close fellowship with the family of God... Stay in the body of Christ.

5 I am black, but comely, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, as the tents of Kedar, as the curtains of Solomon.

6 Look not upon me, because I am black, because the sun hath looked upon me: my mother's children were angry with me; they made me the keeper of the vineyards; but mine own vineyard have I not kept.

7 Tell me, O thou whom my soul loveth, where thou feedest, where thou makest thy flock to rest at noon: for why should I be as one that turneth aside by the flocks of thy companions?

8 If thou know not, O thou fairest among women, go thy way forth by the footsteps of the flock, and feed thy kids beside the shepherds' tents.

The Journey Begins

5 I am weak in my flesh and have made many mistakes... but the LORD lives deep in my heart. O nations of the earth... I have a sin problem **which can be seen** in the workings of my flesh... and I have wandered... but I **also** have the beauty and brightness of the Most Holy Place deep inside my heart where the glory of God dwells.

6 Don't look at me because of my sin... and; because the cares and toils of this world have worn me out and darkened my appearance. There are sons of heaven who have been jealous and angry with me. They have used me to serve "them" in the vineyards... but I have not attended to my own heart.

Prayer For Guidance

7 Tell me, Yeshua... whom I love; Where do You feed Your people? Where do You make them lie down and rest in the middle of a dry hot day? Is there any reason that I should be ashamed of myself... wandering around among the congregations when all I really want is You?

The LORD's Answer

8 OK, if you don't know... and if you're truly spiritually hungry, most beautiful one, stay in the body of the Messiah (the body of Christ)... and feed your little ones beside My servants' tents.

Psalms 23, Psalm 37:3, Psalm 100:3, Mathew 5-7 (5:1-4). John 10:27-28, I Peter 5:1-3...

Filly Of The King

Song of Solomon 1:9-10

You are an “overcomer”.

9 I have compared thee, O my love, to a company of horses in Pharaoh’s chariots.

10 Thy cheeks are comely with rows of jewels, thy neck with chains of gold.

9 To Me, My favorite one... you are My champion in the midst of the enemy and his forces.

10 Your passions and emotions are lovely... multifaceted... and your will is wrapped in agreement with the intricate workings of refined purity.

God’s prophetic word about your destiny as an overcomer includes poetic metaphors.

Song of Solomon 1:9 (New King James Version), Romans 8:29-39, I John 4:4, I John 5:4-5, Revelation 2:7, 2:11, 2:17, 2:26-28, 3:5, 3:12, 3:21...

Baptize My Heart

Song of Solomon 1:11

God is perfecting His beautiful work of purity and redemption in you.

11 We will make thee borders of gold with studs of silver.

11 We have made you in Our image... and We will be faithful to complete in you the beautiful work of purity and redemption We have planned for you.

Gold and silver in the Song of Solomon are symbols for God's pure and redemptive word; representing God's beautiful work of sanctification in your heart. God removes liquid dross from our hearts through the refiner's fire (the fire of His Holy Spirit); removing anything impure that keeps us from being like Jesus; impure thoughts, words and deeds; compromised and corrupt religion, misplaced dependency, addiction, codependency; any and everything that is not of God.

Genesis 1:26, Exodus 34:14, Leviticus 20:7-8, Malachi 3:2-3, Proverbs 1:8-9, Psalm 12:6, Psalm 66:10, Psalm 119:162, Song of Solomon 8:6, Isaiah 11:1-2, Jeremiah 23:29, Matthew 3:10-12, John 14:15-18, II Corinthians 7:1, Philippians 1:6, II Timothy 2:20-26, Hebrews 12:29, James 1:2-8, I Peter 1:13-16, I Peter 4:12-13

You Are Mine

Song of Solomon 1:12-17

Resting and worshipping in the House of God... at His banqueting table...
meditating on Him.

12 While the king sitteth at his table, my spikenard sendeth forth the smell thereof

13 A bundle of myrrh is my well-beloved unto me; he shall lie all night betwixt my breasts.

14 My beloved is unto me as a cluster of camphire in the vineyards of Engedi.

15 Behold, thou art fair, my love; behold, thou art fair; thou hast doves' eyes.

16 Behold, thou art fair, my beloved, yea, pleasant: also our bed is green.

17 The beams of our house are cedar, and our rafters of fir.

In The House Of God

12 While God is seated at His table... my heart sends forth its intimate and extravagant worship... as spikenard sends forth its fragrance.

13 My LORD, You are to me the constant reminder of God's pleasing sacrifice and healing forgiveness... which I love to meditate on as I worship You here in the midst of this dark world.

14 My LORD, You are to me the constant reminder of God's abundant tender mercies... the love we have shared in the vineyards growing in the wilderness.

15 Wow... You are beautiful, My favorite one; Wow... You are beautiful! Your eyes are precious... innocently watching... looking only for Me.

16 Wow... You are amazing, my LORD... and sooooo satisfying. Our comforting place of intimate worship is sooooo rich and abounding in love.

17 Our houses are strong and safe... and powerfully protected... and pleasingly fragrant.

Song of Solomon symbols: **Spikenard** = intimacy and extravagant worship; **Myrrh** = burial spice, dying to self, preparation for the King; **Henna** (Camphire) = masculine, emotional tenderness and beauty; **Cedar and Fir** = righteous strength and permanence.

Exodus 28:41, Joshua 1:8, Esther 2:12, Psalm 23:5, 63:6, 92:12, 119:15, 119:27, 143:5, 1:2,
Song of Solomon 4:12-14

John 12:3, Luke 2:19, II Corinthians 2:14-17, Philippians 4:8, I John 4:19