

“Love’s Gravitational Pull, Pt. 1” (Song 1:1–17)
GCC, Morning Worship, 8/15/21

Introduction

- A. Reading the Song on two horizons
 - 1. First Horizon—the love between husband and wife
 - 2. Second Horizon—the love between Christ and his church
 - B. Solomon is more of a poetic symbol in the love song rather than an historical figure (1 Kgs 11:3–8)
 - C. It is precisely because Solomon fell so incredibly short of this monogamous love in his own life, that we should be compelled to identify this love with a more faithful “shepherd king,” the Lord Jesus Christ.
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- I. Why the Song is so important in cultivating love for Spouse and Savior
 - 1. Because Christianity is more than just a propositional truth religion
 - 2. Poetry keeps love fresh and alive
 - 3. Because Love functions like a ‘gravitational pull’ (“draw me after you,” v. 4) and we should pay attention to what causes that gravitational pull and duplicate it in our marriages.
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- II. Six Features of Love’s Gravitational Pull on the First Horizon

The bride is drawn to her husband by:

- 1. The desire for affectionate kisses (v. 2a)
- 2. A love that is better than wine (v. 2b)
- 3. His unique aroma (vv. 3a, 13, 14)
- 4. His name (v. 3b)
- 5. His ongoing pursuit of her (v. 4a) “Draw me after you!”
- 6. His willingness to listen to her insecurities (vv. 5–6) and assure her of his love for her (vv. 8–10, 15–17)

Questions for Application and Discussion:

- 1. What is meant by reading the Song of Songs on two ‘horizons?’
- 2. What are the two horizons?
- 3. Pastor Josh said that we should not press the historical details of Solomon’s life into the interpretation of the Song. Why? How did Solomon’s life fall far short of the idyllic marriage (see 1 Kgs 11:3–8)?
- 4. How does the infidelity of Solomon further point up the need to read the Song on the second horizon?

5. Pastor Josh said: “Christianity is more than just a propositional truth religion.”
 - a. What does this mean?
 - b. How does the genre of poetry help massage propositional truth into more of a ‘heart-motivated’ obedience?
6. In Song 1:4, the bride tells her lover: "Draw me after you." The love between husband and wife is here pictured as something that draws them toward each other, much like a gravitational pull. The emphasis is not so much on what we do, but on what our lover does that simply draws us like a tractor beam to them time and time again.

How do the following six features display the gravitational pull of love?

- i. The desire for affectionate kisses (Song 2:2a)
- ii. A love that is better than wine (2:2b)
- iii. His unique aroma (2:3a, 13, 14)
- iv. His name (2:3b)
- v. His ongoing pursuit of his bride (2:4a), “Draw me after you!”
- vi. His willingness to listen to her insecurities (2:5–6) and assure her of his love for her (2:8–10, 15–17)