



Go for God!

THE SONG OF SOLOMON

Chapter 7

“LOVE & DESIRE!”

Introduction: Relationships according 1 Corinthians Chapter 13

> *How to become an effective COMMUNICATOR:*

~ Consider what happens when people don't communicate effectively:

- 1 – Issues remain unqualified (Proverbs 18:17 – *The first one to plead his cause seems right, until his neighbor comes and examines him.*)
- 2 – Wrong ideas or assumptions are uncorrected.
- 3 – Conflicts remain unresolved.
- 4 – Confusion and disorder develop.
- 5 – Wise decision making is thwarted.
- 6 – The development of deep unity, intimacy and emotional closeness is hindered.
- 7 – Interpersonal problems are intensified.
- 8 – Boredom, discontentment and frustration with the relationship are fostered.
- 9 – Spiritual growth, mutual sharpening and stimulation are impeded.
- 10 – Shallow relationships, distancing, estrangement and drifting apart are promoted.
- 11 – Bad attitudes toward, suspiciousness of the other person are nurtured.
- 12 – Understanding each other deeply is prevented.

~ Observe these different forms of communication:

- 1 – Visually: with a wink, by staring, etc.
- 2 – Verbally: what you say or don't say and how you say it.
- 3 – By notes or letters.
- 4 – By facial expressions: smiles or frowns, etc.
- 5 – With your body: hand or feet motions, rigidity, etc.
- 6 – By your presence or absence.
- 7 – By a touch, a hug, a pat, a squeeze, a slap, a caress, etc.
- 8 – By helping or not helping.
- 9 – By giving or withholding a present.
- 10 – By a willingness to share or unwillingness to share.
- 11 – By listening carefully and refusing to listen.
- 12 – By seeking and accepting advice or by doing the opposite.

> *His & Her Romantic Love Talk:*

(v1-9a) SOLOMON ON LOVE'S DELIGHTS!

(v1-5) Solomon uses romantic language to describe the delights of his bride's anatomy, whereas, each part is viewed with beauty, romance, sexuality, and excitement! Gentlemen try this on your wife, oooo-lala!

(v6-9a) In these verses Solomon becomes very personal describing his desire to make love to his bride and that she is delightful! (Joseph Dillow in his book *Solomon on Sex* writes about the meaning of the “palm tree” in that cultural setting, “To climb a palm tree had a special meaning. In the ancient Near East the artificial fertilization of the female palm tree flowers by the male palm tree flowers has been practiced from earliest times. The male and female flowers are born on separate trees in clusters among the leaves. In order to fertilize the female tree, one must climb the male tree and get some of its flowers. One then ascends the female tree and ties among its flowers a bunch of the pollen-bearing male flowers. Thus, to climb the palm tree is to fertilize it. Solomon is using some contemporary language of the vineyard to say he intends to make love to Shulamite right away.”)

(v9b-13) SHULAMITE ON LOVE'S DESIRE!

(v9ab) This verse is half spoken by bridegroom and the last half spoken by the bride; it is in regards to kissing with romance and passion.

(v10) The bride is confident in her love and she knows his desire.

(v11-13) Here the bride passionately meets and creates an environment for love, let's get away together, let's enjoy the fruits of love, "all manner of new and old". (Married couples should experience love as "one flesh." Lovemaking is good! Make love romantically, make love to please each other, make love fun! Always be respectful and honoring to each ones desires, if one says no, it means no, do know what I mean?)

> Separate topic for singles: ABSTINENCE IN A CULTURE OF SEXUAL INSISTENCE:

Many see abstinence as unrealistic because no one has shown them how to live it out. If someone just shakes a finger and says, "Don't have sex before marriage," but doesn't give the tools to *live* that message, abstinence becomes a lot more difficult. Here are some tips from those who have faced the temptations and walked the path of abstinence:

- **Understand that you *can* be a rebel in the culture. No one should force you to have sex before marriage. If you want to honor God by saving sex for a marriage relationship, then you can do it!**
- **Keep your eye on the prize. That prize isn't your future spouse. It isn't your wedding night. Your end goal is becoming more like Christ. That's God's plan for you.**
- **Don't put yourself in situations where you'll be tempted to compromise your values—or your sexual purity. This may mean not being alone together. You know what those situations are, so avoid them.**
- **Date people who are like-minded. When both of you are on board with abstinence, you can help each other keep the commitment of abstinence.**
- **Set boundaries. Ask a good friend or mentor to keep you accountable.**

Abstinence is more than not having sex before marriage. Strive for sexual purity in all areas of your life—in thoughts, in words, in actions. If you think about or talk about sex a lot, you're going to have a lot harder time not doing it.

Whether the culture says abstinence is realistic or not doesn't change God's truth. He has established sex to be limited to marriage, and He will equip you to honor Him through abstinence. First Corinthians 10:13 says, "*No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.*"

Is abstinence realistic? Yes. Is abstinence always easy? No, but, with God, it is possible.

Note: Perhaps you've already lost your virginity. Please know that God is in the business of second chances. He wants you to come to Him in repentance, and He will forgive your sins and heal your heart. It's not too late to make the choice to live righteously and in ways that are pleasing to Him.