

Song of Solomon 3:1-11
“My Best Sandal”

~ READ TEXT ~

AS YOU SETTLE IN...

- Turn to the book of (Song of Solomon 3:1-11).

~ LET'S PRAY ~

NOTE TAKERS...

- I've titled today's message: **“My Best Sandal”**

~ INTRO ~

ALRIGHT... TWO WEEKS AGO... (In chp. # 2)

- We looked at some **“Building Blocks” of dating:**
 - **Loving-trust** in a single person (not dating many people) (v.2)
 - **Respect** (v.3)
 - & **public honor** (v.4).

LAST WEEK...

- We defined how evaluation continues...
 - In a message titled: **“What Am I Building”**

DURING COURTSHIP (**engagement**)...

- The **Key Indicators:**
 - 1) **Relational Health**
 - 2) **Devotion & care** – lead to TRUST
 - 3) **Finally... the natural stirring of Sexual Desire.**

OK... AS WE GO FORWARD INTO TODAY'S STUDY...

- Song of Solomon does not provide all the details...
 - BUT... we do get snap-shots of progression...
 - As the scenes change from one chapter to the next!

TONIGHT...

- We get a glimpse of a dream / the marriage / & wedding procession.

~ STUDY ~

(v.1)

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CHAPTER #3...

- Starts with a bad dream occurring...
 - During the wedding preparation.

THE BIBLE TELL US IN...

- **(Ecc. 5:3)**...
“For a dream comes thru much activity...”

NOW... ANY BRIDE KNOWS THE CRAZY ACTIVITY...

- That surrounds wedding preparation!

IN FACT... THERE’S A TERM FOR THE BRIDE...

- Which describes this condition:
 - Bridezilla = Intolerably demanding & difficult to deal with.

THIS TAKES US TO...

POINT #1 – CONFLICT: (vv.1-4)

IT’S SAID... ABOUT 25%...

- Of marriage will be spent on conflict.
 - AND... IF done right can be very productive!

HOWEVER... MOST OF THE TIME...

- It seems like the Rules of Engagement in marriage...
 - Are high-emotions to gain a victory...
 - And we end up blasting our spouse!

LOOK AT...

- (vv.1-2) *“I will rise”* & *“I will seek”*
 - These are two important heart responses when it comes to conflict.
 - But also notice what was held in the forefront of her mind...
 - *“The one I love”* (4x’s).

(Ps. 4:4) NKJV

“Be angry and do not sin. Meditate within your heart on your bed and be still.”

“Don’t sin by letting anger control you. Think about it overnight and remain silent.” NLT

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IN MARRIAGE YOU’LL GO THRU SEASONS...

- When you seem to fight more!
 - So... it’s important to know how to fight.

MOST COUPLES FIGHT WRECKLESSLY...

- **Because they use “out of control emotions”**
 - **To dominate & belittle... in order to win.**
 - **Instead of reaching a SOLUTION!**

THE GOAL... IS TO BETTER YOUR MARRIAGE...

- Not destroy your spouse.

I’M GOING TO SAVE THE HOW TO’S...

- Of fighting until (chapter #5).

BUT... TONIGHT... I’LL JUST SAY...

- Conflict should draw a couple closer...
 - Not destroy what God has joined together!

THIS LEADS US...

- From the bad dream to the wedding.

POINT #2 – COMMITMENT: (vv.4b-6)

(v.4b)...

- This is a subtle Ancient East hint of marriage.

LET ME SHOW YOU THIS IN PRACTICE...

- (Gen. 24:62-67)
 - **Marriage in scripture is a Civil Contract...**
 - **Not a Religious Service.**
- The marriage would happen inside the family home...
 - And the parents were typically involved (especially moms).

TURN TO (Ruth 4:7-10)... Done before the elder of the city!

- A civil contract (marriage) = “My Best Sandal”

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(v.5)

- This marks the end of the courtship (engagement period).
 - Dating was exploration to see if a couple should go deeper.
 - Courtship/engagement was a committed to go further.
 - And marriage sealed the relationship for a lifetime.

APPLICATION:

- If you desire a Godly relationship...
 - You'll have to wait patiently for God's grace & not rush it.
 - Love must be nurtured before it grows!

(v.6)

THIS REFLECT'S BACK TO THE WEDDING PROCESSION...

- Which went to the Brides home...
 - Before she would be escorted to the Groom's home...
 - Where the reception (wedding feast)...
 - And sexual consummation took place.

POINT #3 – SECURITY: (vv.7-10)

TWO PRACTICAL INSIGHTS...

- Surface very subtly within the drama of this elegant scene.

SOLOMON MODELS...

- What a husband should do:
 - 1) The husband should always protect his wife.
 - Physically
 - Spiritually
 - Emotionally
 - 2) The husband should take steps to provide financially for his wife.

IT'S THE MAN'S RESPONSIBILITY...

- To set the course of direction for the home.
 - Your wife may pay the bills & manage domestic affairs...
 - As part of the many hats she wears...
 - But men you are to provide the course of direction!

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PROTECT & PROVIDE!

~ IN CLOSING ~

(v.11)

- Points back to what occurred in (v.4) the wedding.

REMEMBER:

- 1) It takes time to grow in relationships & marriage.
- 2) Conflict should lead to greater unity (not separation).
- 3) A good marriage does not exist without fights along the way.

*Learning / bending / & bleeding are all part of staying the course!

- 4) Security to a woman is both physical & financial.

~ LET'S PRAY ~