

Last week was the importance of the body, and our meeting together to sharpen one another.

This week we go the opposite direction, with a topical study on the Bride and Bridegroom, and how we are in private with the Lord – are we pure, devoted, and focused on Him rather than the praise of man?

It's also a shift from looking at expositional sermons (verse by verse through a book) or textual sermons (one passage) to a topic, where you jump around in Scripture to get an overview of one particular topic.

I suggest beginning with Jerram Barrs' message for he beautifully illustrates what Christ desires of His Bride: purity, devotion, and alone time with her. **Take notes on the sermon, especially how his father-in-law lived as a pure and devoted "bride."** We'll look at these Scriptures which Barrs referenced:

Ephesians 5:25-27

2 Corinthians 11:2

Isaiah 50:4

Matthew 6:1-8

Then listen to Michael Reeves 13 minute overview of The Song of Songs, the longest passage about the loving relationship between the Bride and the Bridegroom in Scripture. Be alert for the evidence that he gives that is about so much more than the relationship between an earthly bride and bridegroom. We will look particularly at:

What the Bridegroom has done to redeem her:

Song of Songs 3:6-10

How the bride felt about herself initially:

Song of Songs 1:5-6

How the bridegroom saw her

Song of Songs 2:2

What the bridegroom desired of her:

Song of Songs 2:14-15

How the bride is refined and comes to feel about the Bridegroom

Song of Songs 8:5-7