

The
S *of* **SONG**
SOLOMON
CLASSIC

STUDY GUIDE



*A Study of Love, Marriage, Sex
and Romance*

by

T o m m y N e l s o n

The
S *of* **SONG**
SOLOMON
C L A S S I C

*A Study of Love, Marriage, Sex
and Romance*

by
Tommy Nelson

HUDSON
PRODUCTIONS

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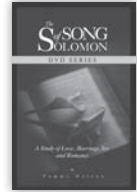
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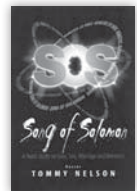
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Acknowledgements

This project has been a living example of God's hand working through His people. There have been many people and institutions which have made this project possible. We would like to thank the following:

*The thousands of people who have attended this study
and whose lives have been changed.*

Prestonwood Baptist Church, for its support in all areas.

Denton Bible Church and the elders for their support and encouragement.

Dal Shealy, Bill Krisber and the entire Fellowship of Christian Athletes

There have been many more who helped this project become a reality, and to all of you, we thank you. God gets all the glory!

Hudson Productions

Hudson Productions exists to create tools and resources to encourage and teach Biblical truths to individuals and churches. Our 4 goals are to:

- 1. Edify the Body of Christ.**
- 2. Equip churches with quality resources to help affect life change in their ministries.**
- 3. Equip Christians with personal Bible study tools that will help them engage with Scripture.**
- 4. Develop resources to help churches, ministries and individual Christians reach those who are searching for Truth.**

Hudson Productions was started in 1997 by Doug and Carrie Hudson. Doug is a graduate of Furman University in Greenville, SC and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, TX. Doug and Carrie live in Frisco, Texas with their children K.K., Macy and Mac.

Doug served as the Minister to Single Adults at Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano, TX from 1990-1998 where he founded the popular singles Bible study, METRO. Doug invited Tommy Nelson to become the full-time speaker at METRO in 1994. From 1994 to 2000, Tommy presented the popular Song of Solomon material two times and the basis for this series on Ecclesiastes once along with a variety of other messages along the way. Metro grew to 4,000+ weekly attendees during this time. Seeing the need to take the Song of Solomon and Ecclesiastes messages to others, Hudson Productions was born.

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Introduction

The Song of Solomon has changed our lives. The first time we heard the series our relationship was about a month old. God allowed us to hear His best for a romantic relationship through his messenger Tommy. It gave us the greatest foundation. Eighteen months later Tommy did the series again, and we had been married for one month. God allowed us to then start our marriage off on the right foot. The study of The Song of Solomon works!

The purpose of the study guide is to enhance the audio and video series. It is not designed to replace them. This guide is made for either individuals or groups to listen, watch, make notes and have discussion time.

Romantic relationships obviously affect all of us. We would not be here if it was not for a romantic relationship between our mothers and fathers. For too long we have waited for somebody to stand up and teach the truth about this God-given desire for the opposite sex and the holy institution of marriage. Tommy Nelson has been teaching this material for years and has seen how the truth of God's Word is no less true in dealing with our passion.

Our goal for this material is significant, because we believe—along with thousands of others—that this material is significant. The goal is to allow everyone in the world the opportunity to hear this material in some form. This is a God-sized goal, and we are praying for a revival by God through this incredible part of our lives—our romantic lives. Please pray and work with us to accomplish this worthy goal.

Now, enjoy the study. We know your life and your family's life will be richly blessed by God.

For His Work,

Doug and Carrie Hudson

How to Use This Study Guide in a Bible Study

The Study Guide contains 12 chapters that follow directly with the Audio and Video Series. We suggest that each individual have a Study Guide, which will enable them to take notes and write key thoughts in the Study Guide. The Audio and Video Series contains 12 thirty-minute sessions.

For a 12-week study, we suggest showing one thirty-minute session from the Audio or Video Series per meeting, then lead group discussions and go through key Text and Application Questions.

For a six-week study, show two thirty-minute sessions from the Audio or Video Series per meeting, then lead group discussions and go through key Text and Application Questions.

Foreword

Love, marriage, sex and romance can serve as the ultimate Jekyll and Hyde of life. On one hand, they give us great joy and satisfy the deepest desires and needs, but such desires can also turn on us and plunge our lives into the deepest of pain. Has God given us these desires, drives and needs, and yet failed to give us any guidance through what can be such treacherous ground? I think not. He has given us the Song of Solomon. As you study this book with me, may you be blessed, enlightened and directed by the good Word of God, the Great Designer of life and all of its delights and joys.

Tommy Nelson

Author Information

Since 1977, Tommy Nelson has been the pastor of Denton Bible Church, in Denton, Texas. He has been featured on Focus On The Family, FamilyLife Today, Josh McDowell, For Faith and Family and other national broadcasts. Tommy graduated from the University of North Texas with a Bachelor's Degree in Education. He then attended Dallas Theological Seminary in Dallas, Texas, where he received the Master of Arts in Biblical Studies degree. In addition to the Song of Solomon materials, he is the author of these books: *The Book of Romance*, *The Story of God*, *A Life Well Lived* and *Better Love Now*. Tommy has been married to Teresa Nelson for 33 years and they have two grown sons, Ben and John Clark, along with two grandchildren.



SESSION ONE

The Art of Attraction



INTRODUCTION

The Art of Attraction is the beginning of romance. There are two questions each person should ask: “What kind of person am I attracted to?” and “What kind of person is attracted to me?” Many people continue to date the same kind of person and continue to have the same problems in dating relationships. Attraction is about becoming the person God wants you to be and allowing God to bring to you the kind of person He knows is best for you. This lesson is the foundation for the entire study. To whom a person is attracted shows a great deal about his/her character and personality. To whom we are attracted—and therefore date—will ultimately be a person we will marry.

SCRIPTURE:

Song of Solomon chapter 1, verses 1-7

- 1 *1 The Song of Songs, which is Solomon's.*
- 2 *2 “May he kiss me with the kisses of his mouth!
For your love is better than wine.”*
- 3 *3 “Your oils have a pleasing fragrance,
Your name is like purified oil;
Therefore the maidens love you.”*
- 4 *4 “Draw me after you and let us run together!
The king has brought me into his chambers.
We will rejoice in you and be glad;
We will extol your love more than wine.
Rightly do they love you.”*
- 5 *5 “I am black but lovely,
O daughters of Jerusalem,
Like the tents of Kedar,
Like the curtains of Solomon.”*
- 6 *6 “Do not stare at me because I am swarthy,
For the sun has burned me.
My mother's sons were angry with me;
They made me caretaker of the vineyards,*

*But I have not taken care of my own vineyard.”
7 “Tell me, O you whom my soul loves,
Where do you pasture your flock,
Where do you make it lie down at noon?
For why should I be like one who veils herself
Beside the flocks of your companions?”*



TEXT NOTES



TEXT QUESTIONS

- 1) There are three sections to the Old Testament:
 - 1) Historic, including what books?
 - 2) Poetic, including what books?
 - 3) Prophetic, including what books?

- 2) What are two of the qualities Abraham looked for in a wife?

- 4) How does God want you to deal with your desire/passion?

- 5) What differences are there in the way this couple attracts versus the way the world tells us?

- 6) “Charm is deceitful and beauty is in vain.” Why do we look to ourselves and the world (magazines, movies, etc.) rather than to the Word of God for answers to our relationship questions?

- 7) How much time do you spend worrying about your looks vs. your character? Why?

- 8) What is meant by, “it is worse to be lonely and single than lonely and married”?

- 9) How do you allow Christ to fulfill the loneliness that can come with being single?

- 10) Prioritize the qualities you are looking for in a mate:
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)
 - 4)
 - 5)

11) Prioritize the qualities you are looking for in a friend:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)

12) How can you remain accountable to these priorities? Be specific.

13) What qualities do you have to offer to a mate?

14) What qualities do you have to offer to a friend?

15) Song of Solomon 1:3b, “Your name is like purified oil.” A man’s name is his character/integrity. Are people attracted to the value of your name? Why? Why not?

16) What do you think God would say about your character?



FOCUS POINT

Tommy shares perhaps one of the greatest illustrations about attraction that has ever been told. Looking for a mate is like running on a track. The track is a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The goal of the race is to become more like Christ. As we run we will see others running the race as well. When a person is running, he will see another running the same pace as him. After awhile, one might say, “Hey, let’s run a lap or two together and see what it is like.” In time, the man will say at some point, “We are both running the same race, the race for Christ. Why don’t we run the race together?” Finding a mate is not a race unto itself. It is something that naturally happens when we run God’s race.

17) What do you know about the character of God? Be specific.

18) What do you think Tommy means when he says, “Sin is always ugly in the dark”?

19) What sin do you need to bring out of the dark?



KEY QUESTIONS

Are you running in the Race for God?

How?

Is your mate?

Are your friends?

Do you know someone who isn't?

What can you do to help others run the race?

What was the most meaningful point you heard today? Why?

In light of what you have viewed today, how would you like to become more like this couple?



KEY THOUGHT

“All that glitters is not gold; all that is gold does not necessarily glitter.”



MEMORY VERSE

Men: Proverbs 31:30

“Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, But a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised.”

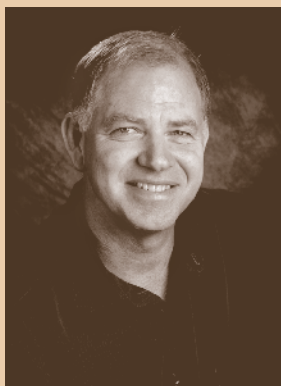
Women: Proverbs 19:22

“What is desirable in a man is his kindness, And it is better to be a poor man than a liar.”



PRAYER REQUESTS

Notes

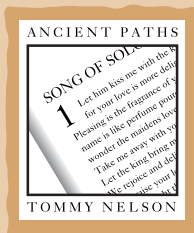


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“Romantic relationships affect everyone. Do we think that God has given us desire and passion without any instruction? Has God given us romance and tossed it to us like a grenade? Did He just say ‘play around with it and you’ll figure it out?’ No, He has given us an entire book which deals with all of this and more. It’s called *The Song of Solomon*.”

—Tommy Nelson

This study consists of 12 thirty-minute sessions that address the art of attraction, dating, courtship, intimacy, conflict, romance and commitment. Tommy speaks directly and humorously on each of these issues. The material is designed for both individual and group study. Whether you are single, married, young or old, this study is for you.



A Study of Love, Marriage, Sex and Romance



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