



## **10 Steps to a 50-Year Marriage**

Song of Solomon 7:1–13 • October 4th, 2026

### **BIG IDEA**

Marriage isn't meant to cool with time — it's meant to mature. A 3,000-year-old love song shows a husband and wife decades in who know, trust, and desire each other more than they did on their honeymoon.

### **OUTLINE**

As a marriage matures...

1. His knowledge, perspective, and praise of her mature (7:1–4).
2. His trust and passion for her mature (7:4b–10).
3. Her response, security, and desire for him mature (7:9–13).

### **CALL TO RESPOND**

1. Take stock of where passion in your marriage has cooled.
2. Rehearse specific, spoken praise for your spouse.
3. Pursue undistracted time and intimacy — don't drift.
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### **GROUP DISCUSSION**

1. Think back to when you first fell for your spouse (or, if single, someone you've loved). What did you know and appreciate about them then? What have you come to know and appreciate about them since, that you couldn't have known at first? Come prepared to share.
2. The sermon said secular culture expects passion to fade with time, but God's design is for it to deepen. Where have you believed the secular story instead of God's story in your own marriage or expectations of marriage?
3. Song of Solomon 7 shows a husband who speaks his wife's worth out loud and a wife who has grown secure and confident because of it. How does the way we speak to — and about — our spouse shape their sense of security?
4. If lasting, deepening love is God's design and not just a happy accident, what's one practical habit that could help you "stick with it" and keep building rather than coasting?

### **DIRECT APPLICATION**

1. Are you actively pursuing your spouse (or investing toward a future marriage), or have you settled into coasting and roommate-like distance?
  - a. If you're pursuing well, share one habit or practice that's helped you keep growing closer.
  - b. If you're struggling or coasting, confess that honestly and share one step you could take this week to move back toward each other.



c. As a group, let's commit to celebrating the marriages doing well and coming alongside anyone who's struggling with encouragement rather than judgment.

2. Share with your group what most threatens closeness in your marriage or dating relationship right now (busyness, unresolved conflict, comparison, screens, etc.).