

PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH

LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE

Sermon Date: 10/01/2021

Text(s): Song of Songs 5:2–6:3

Sermon Title: Searching for Love in a Pandemic World

Preacher: Rev Jason Phua

(The sermon recording is available in the PMC website and MyPMC App)

READ (5 mins)

Song of Solomon 5:2–6:3 (ESV)

2 I slept, but my heart was awake. A sound! My beloved is knocking. “Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my perfect one, for my head is wet with dew, my locks with the drops of the night.”

3 I had put off my garment; how could I put it on? I had bathed my feet; how could I soil them?

4 My beloved put his hand to the latch, and my heart was thrilled within me.

5 I arose to open to my beloved, and my hands dripped with myrrh, my fingers with liquid myrrh, on the handles of the bolt.

6 I opened to my beloved, but my beloved had turned and gone. My soul failed me when he spoke. I sought him, but found him not; I called him, but he gave no answer.

7 The watchmen found me as they went about in the city; they beat me, they bruised me, they took away my veil, those watchmen of the walls.

8 I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, if you find my beloved, that you tell him I am sick with love.

9 What is your beloved more than another beloved, O most beautiful among women? What is your beloved more than another beloved, that you thus adjure us?

10 My beloved is radiant and ruddy, distinguished among ten thousand.

11 His head is the finest gold; his locks are wavy, black as a raven.

12 His eyes are like doves beside streams of water, bathed in milk, sitting beside a full pool.

13 His cheeks are like beds of spices, mounds of sweet-smelling herbs. His lips are lilies, dripping liquid myrrh.

14 His arms are rods of gold, set with jewels. His body is polished ivory, bedecked with sapphires.

15 His legs are alabaster columns, set on bases of gold. His appearance is like Lebanon, choice as the cedars.

16 His mouth is most sweet, and he is altogether desirable. This is my beloved and this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem.

1 Where has your beloved gone, O most beautiful among women? Where has your beloved turned, that we may seek him with you?

2 My beloved has gone down to his garden to the beds of spices, to graze in the gardens and to gather lilies.

3 I am my beloved’s and my beloved is mine; he grazes among the lilies.

RELATE (30 mins)

(Relate to what was shared and on key themes in the sermon)

- 1. In the bible passage for today, we read of the woman not opening the door to her man when he came knocking. Please share an experience when you went seeking the attention or help of a person but was either ignored or rejected. How did that make you feel and how did you respond? How did you handle your own emotions and thoughts?**
- 2. The first point the preacher shared is that love is about mutual respect. What is mutual respect? It is about being mindful of what seems best or desirable for the other person. How can we apply the principle of mutual respect to the various situations of conflict we face?**
- 3. “Mutual respect is one key component of biblical love. Why do you think there are times when we find it difficult to respect one another? How can we overcome such a problem whether in the family, church, workplace or school?” Spend some time to discuss these questions shared by the preacher.**

REFLECT (30 mins)

(Reflect and apply God’s word to our daily lives)

- 1. In your own life, have you been so persistent in searching for someone or something? Where are you now in life? Are you searching for something or someone? How do you think you can be successful in your search for this something or someone?**
- 2. A very important point made in the sermon is that love is about unity. The unity of God’s people within the church is critical to the kingdom of God. Why is this so and how can we build up the level of unity within a local church?**

REST (15 mins)

(Take time to share and pray for one another)

(Pray for our church, our nation, and our world. See MyPMC > PRAY for weekly guide)

- Pray for one another to know God’s love and have a good sense of security leading to greater unity among ourselves as God’s people.
- Pray for our church to be an united community that knows how to love with action.
- Pray for the MCS to continue to be strong and stable, able to meet needs in Singapore, and stand out as a true witness of Christ Jesus.