

## **PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH**

### *LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE*

**Sermon Date: 17/01/2021**

**Text(s): Song of Songs 6:1–13**

**Sermon Title: A Tale of Two Gardens**

**Preacher: Rev Collin See**

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

### **READ (5 mins)**

#### **Song of Solomon 6:1–13 (NLT)**

**1** Where has your lover gone, O woman of rare beauty? Which way did he turn so we can help you find him?

**2** My lover has gone down to his garden, to his spice beds, to browse in the gardens and gather the lilies.

**3** I am my lover's, and my lover is mine. He browses among the lilies.

**4** You are beautiful, my darling, like the lovely city of Tirzah. Yes, as beautiful as Jerusalem, as majestic as an army with billowing banners.

**5** Turn your eyes away, for they overpower me. Your hair falls in waves, like a flock of goats winding down the slopes of Gilead.

**6** Your teeth are as white as sheep that are freshly washed. Your smile is flawless, each tooth matched with its twin.

**7** Your cheeks are like rosy pomegranates behind your veil.

**8** Even among sixty queens and eighty concubines and countless young women,

**9** I would still choose my dove, my perfect one— the favorite of her mother, dearly loved by the one who bore her. The young women see her and praise her; even queens and royal concubines sing her praises:

**10** "Who is this, arising like the dawn, as fair as the moon, as bright as the sun, as majestic as an army with billowing banners?"

**11** I went down to the grove of walnut trees and out to the valley to see the new spring growth, to see whether the grapevines had budded or the pomegranates were in bloom.

**12** Before I realized it, my strong desires had taken me to the chariot of a noble man.

**13** Return, return to us, O maid of Shulam. Come back, come back, that we may see you again. Why do you stare at this young woman of Shulam, as she moves so gracefully between two lines of dancers?

### **RELATE (30 mins)**

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

- 1. The beauty of the woman in Song of Solomon is compared to the beauty of two cities, Tirzah and Jerusalem. For the women in our life group, how would you like your beauty to be compared? To what would you prefer your appearance be compared?**

2. **If we are not comfortable having our appearance being compared to some beautiful things in the world, how would you like to be compared to a majestic army with billowing banners (see v4)? Recall from the sermon that the army with billowing banners speaks of our majestic appearance. Do you feel uncomfortable with this also, that your degree of majesty is being scrutinised? Is it God's will for His people to be beautiful or majestic in the first place? What do you think?**
  
3. **The preacher explained that all the descriptions the man gave about the woman of his heart is a description of perfect love. To some, love is a concept that is hard to explain. What are some common ways to describe love? How would you describe love to a child? How would you describe love to an adult?**

### **REFLECT (30 mins)**

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

1. **It all comes back to the love God has for us. Jesus prayed alone at Gethsemane while the disciples slept. His heart was in anguish but He did not shrink back from the cross. The preacher described Christ's love for us as a perfect love. How would you describe Jesus' love for us? How else did the preacher describe God's love for us?**
  
2. **Here are some of the statements the preacher made in his summary. Our role is to help others find Jesus. Our role is to unite God's love with His people. Our role is to describe and reveal the perfect love of God for us. Our role is to explain God's single-minded, devoted love for all people. Which of these statements struck a chord in your heart and which one caused you to reflect further to seek to understand your role better?**

### **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 encounter Christ's single-minded and devoted love for us anew.
- 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.