

PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH

LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE

Sermon Date: 31/01/2021

Text(s): Song of Solomon 8

Sermon Title: Power of Love Revealed

Preacher: Rev Jason Phua

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

READ (5 mins)

Song of Solomon 8 (ESV)

- 1** Oh that you were like a brother to me who nursed at my mother's breasts! If I found you outside, I would kiss you, and none would despise me.
- 2** I would lead you and bring you into the house of my mother— she who used to teach me. I would give you spiced wine to drink, the juice of my pomegranate.
- 3** His left hand is under my head, and his right hand embraces me!
- 4** I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, that you not stir up or awaken love until it pleases.
- 5** Who is that coming up from the wilderness, leaning on her beloved? Under the apple tree I awakened you. There your mother was in labor with you; there she who bore you was in labor.
- 6** Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death, jealousy is fierce as the grave. Its flashes are flashes of fire, the very flame of the LORD.
- 7** Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it. If a man offered for love all the wealth of his house, he would be utterly despised.
- 8** We have a little sister, and she has no breasts. What shall we do for our sister on the day when she is spoken for?
- 9** If she is a wall, we will build on her a battlement of silver, but if she is a door, we will enclose her with boards of cedar.
- 10** I was a wall, and my breasts were like towers; then I was in his eyes as one who finds peace.
- 11** Solomon had a vineyard at Baal-hamon; he let out the vineyard to keepers; each one was to bring for its fruit a thousand pieces of silver.
- 12** My vineyard, my very own, is before me; you, O Solomon, may have the thousand, and the keepers of the fruit two hundred.
- 13** O you who dwell in the gardens, with companions listening for your voice; let me hear it.
- 14** Make haste, my beloved, and be like a gazelle or a young stag on the mountains of spices.

RELATE (30 mins)

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

- 1. Song of Solomon contains many descriptions of intimacy and the words “garden” and “gardens” together appear a total of 9 times in this book with 8 chapters. Singapore is called a City in a Garden. But how many of you would not be comfortable with any form of public display of affection in our Big Garden? Has anyone here done it before? Be honest! 😊**
- 2. The first point in the sermon is “The power of love experienced through God’s gift of intimacy.” The many references to a garden in Song of Solomon naturally cause us to think back to the Garden of Eden where Adam and Eve enjoyed a very intimate relationship with each other with no shame or shyness. How do you feel about our relationship with God? What would our relationship with God be like whether there is or isn’t much intimacy?**
- 3. When sin entered the world and the hearts of Adam and Eve, closeness and intimacy was drastically diminished – closeness between Adam and Eve, and closeness between them and God. Even though our relationship with God has been restored through faith in Christ Jesus, how is sin continuing to affect intimacy between human beings with each other and intimacy between us and God?**

REFLECT (30 mins)

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

- 1. The power of love is witnessed by its strength. True love is seen in its strength. If you’re married, how can you increase the strength of love in your marriage? If you’re single, how can you increase the strength of love in the family with your parents or siblings? And as friends, how can you strengthen your love for one another, especially if you’re serving in the same ministry in church?**
- 2. Finally, the power of love is revealed by its destiny. True love has no end. It looks forward to eternity to become complete on that special day. Love will become complete when the Lord Jesus returns. What can we expect on that very special day of destiny? What are you looking forward to as you consider the Day of the Lord’s return?**

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 have a true desire to be close to God and to know His heart in an intimate way.
- Pray for our church to be a mature people of God and to be more productive in the different ministries as empowered by the Holy Spirit.
- 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.