



DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM CURRICULUM GUIDE

Song of Solomon: WEEK 3 – Dating
January 28–31, 2021

LEADER NOTES

Disciple Groups “Share a Win” – How has being in a group impacted you? Are you leading now because of another leader’s discipleship? Did your group come together to serve or care for another? Let us celebrate with you. Go to coe22.com/disciplegroups, click “Share a Win” under *About Groups*.

Disciple Groups Channel on RightNow Media – Helpful resources as we start a new trimester in 2021. Go to rightnowmedia.org or you can look for Disciple Groups on your RightNow Media homepage.

GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Song of Solomon | Relate: a conversation about your love life | coe22.com/songofsolomon

Join Pastor Joby and Gretchen Martin along with some special guests as they answer your questions every Monday throughout the series at 7:22PM. **Join us at coe22.com/online on Mondays.**

Night to Shine | Friday February 12 | FSCJ South Campus

This year Night to Shine starts with a drive thru red "car pit" experience for our guests, who will then go home and tune in for a live virtual prom. To serve in the "car pit" visit nighttoshinejax.com.

Covenant Membership Class | February 21 at 1:00PM | In Person at All Campuses

Are you ready to move from attending to fully participating in the mission, vision and values of Eleven? Join us for a Covenant Membership class after the 11:22am service. RSVP coe22.com/covenantmembership

THIS WEEK' S READING PLAN: coe22.com/readingplan

Sunday – Song of Solomon 2:8-17

Monday – Genesis 2:18-24, 1 Corinthians 7:2, 13:4-7

Tuesday – 2 Corinthians 6:14-15

Wednesday – Ruth 2:1-4:10

Thursday – Proverbs 18:22, 19:14, 31:10-31

Friday – Proverbs 7:1-27

Saturday – 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5

RELATIONAL CONNECT & CHECK-IN:

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR LIFE: *(Learn about, encourage and pray for one another)*

- Where did God meet your need this past week?
 - What did you learn while answering the reflection questions from last week?
 - What have you recently changed in order to cultivate Godly characteristics as a man or woman?
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Song of Solomon – Dating

The Point: The world's way of dating is hook up, shack up, break up, repeat. God's way is pursue, progress, propose. Period.

SERMON TEXTS: Song of Solomon 2: 8-17

Discussion Questions

DISCOVER

Ask someone from your group to read Song of Solomon 2:8-17 out loud.

1. Whether you are single or married, what is the purpose of dating? *(The overall purpose for us is to glorify God throughout our lives, no matter what we are doing. As Pastor Joby said, "The purpose of dating is to be intentional about finding a spouse. Healthy marriages start with healthy courtships.")*

2. Why is it important to cultivate friendship in the midst of a dating relationship? *(All marriages, even the most "romantic," are at least 95% friendship. Right from the beginning, you need to grow, cultivate and deepen the friendship in the relationship, because that is one of the keys to having a healthy relationship.)*

3. Whether you are single and dating, or already married, why is learning to solve problems together important? *(Life is a series of problems and challenges that we face. The sooner in your relationship that you begin to solve these as a "couple," and not merely individuals, the stronger your relationship will become.)*

DEEPEN

4. Why do you think couples stop "dating" once they get married? How can this effect the marriage? *(Oftentimes, after people get married, life tends to get chaotic. Instead of prioritizing each other, they prioritize what has to "get done." The overall effect is, over time, a weakening of the relationship. The Biblical model for marriage is that couples start pursuing, cultivating and deepening their relationship from the start. Marriage is only supposed to intensify the pursuit of being a Godly partner and putting each other first.)*

5. How is Jesus at the center of healthy singleness and marriage? Where are you not giving Jesus access to that part of your life? (Answers will vary but can include praying WITH and FOR the other person, studying the Bible together, talking about spiritual things, going to church together, and encouraging the other person to grow more and more in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.)

6. Why is accountability an important part of both singleness and marriage? How can you find freedom in having someone to hold you accountable? (Answers will vary. Accountability is one of the keys to a healthy relationship.)

ACTION STEP

***Leaders** – These next eleven weeks we will be focusing on the “For Reflection” questions in the Song of Solomon Journal. Please stay connected with your group throughout the week, gently reminding them to spend quiet time with the Lord reflecting on the questions.

Group – Everyone work through the reflection questions on page 27 or 28 of the Song of Solomon journal.

Singles: If you don't have an accountability partner, invite someone into that part of your life. Also, consider how you might honor a married couple you know by offering to watch their children so they may have a date night.

Married Couples: Plan a date that will honor your spouse. Commit to being intentional about dating with a purpose. Get creative, surprise your spouse and have fun! Also, consider how you might invite someone into your life to hold you accountable.

