

“So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath;” James 1:19

- Be a good **listener** (1:19a).
- Be a guarded **speaker** (1:19b).
- Be a gentle **responder** (1:19c).

## V. CANCEL THE **GRUDGE** MATCH

*“4 O my love, you are as beautiful as Tirzah, Lovely as Jerusalem, Awesome as an army with banners!*

*5 Turn your eyes away from me, For they have overcome me. Your hair is like a flock of goats Going down from Gilead.*

*6 Your teeth are like a flock of sheep Which have come up from the washing; Every one bears twins, And none is barren among them.*

*7 Like a piece of pomegranate Are your temples behind your veil.”* Song Of Solomon 6:4-7

*“Return, return, O Shulamite; Return, return, that we may look upon you! What would you see in the Shulamite—As it were, the dance of the two camps?”* Song Of Solomon 6:13

*“bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.”* Colossians 3:13

*“Be angry, and do not sin” do not let the sun go down on your wrath,”* Ephesians 4:26

## A GREAT MARRIAGE REQUIRES TWO GREAT FORGIVERS

## GOD, ROMANCE, AND MARRIAGE

Conflict \*!@!#!

Pastor Steve Reynolds

### INTRODUCTION

- A.** Are you single and looking for love? Are you married and wanting to improve your love? Romantic relationships affect everyone! Whether you are single or married, young or old, how you handle romantic relationships will change you – for better or for worse.
- B.** The Bible book called the Song Of Solomon is a roadmap to romance. It is a love song written by Solomon, *“The song of songs, which is Solomon’s”* (1:1). It tells the story of Mr. and Mrs. Solomon. In the Song Of Solomon, God has given us a divine manual on romantic relationships, taking us from the initial attraction between a couple through courtship, marriage, honeymoon, sex, conflict and deepening intimacy. The key verse says, *“My beloved is mine, and I am his....”* (2:16a).
- C.** In this series we are going to focus on the following topics:
- |        |                               |
|--------|-------------------------------|
| Feb 21 | Boy Meets Girl (Attraction)   |
| Feb 28 | Tying The Knot (Marriage)     |
| Mar 6  | Sex (Intimacy)                |
| TODAY  | Conflict *!@!#! (Resolution)  |
| Mar 20 | Making Love Last (Commitment) |
- Come and hear these messages and discover how to have emotionally satisfying relationships and marriage.
- D. TEXT:** Song Of Solomon 5:2-6:13 (Pew Bible/Pg. 662/Old Testament)

## HOW TO RESOLVE CONFLICT

### I. TACKLE THE **PROBLEM**, NOT EACH OTHER

*“2 I sleep, but my heart is awake; It is the voice of my beloved! He knocks, saying, “Open for me, my sister, my love, My dove, my perfect one; For my head is covered with dew, My locks with the drops of the night.”*

*3 I have taken off my robe; How can I put it on again? I have washed my feet; How can I defile them?”*

Song Of Solomon 5:2-3

*“Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.”*

Ephesians 4:29

*“There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, But the tongue of the wise promotes health.”*

Proverbs 12:18

### II. CONTROL YOUR **RESPONSE**

*“5 I arose to open for my beloved, And my hands dripped with myrrh, My fingers with liquid myrrh, On the handles of the lock.*

*6 I opened for my beloved, But my beloved had turned away and was gone. My heart leaped up when he spoke. I sought him, but I could not find him; I called him, but he gave me no answer.*

*8 I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, If you find my beloved, That you tell him I am lovesick!”*

Song Of Solomon 5:5-6, 8

- Respond **Spiritually**.

*“I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”*

Galatians 5:16

- Respond **softly**.

*“A soft answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger”*

Proverbs 15:1

- Respond **lovingly** and **respectfully**.

*“Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.”*

Ephesians 5:33

### III. DWELL ON THE **POSITIVE**

*“9 What is your beloved More than another beloved, O fairest among women? What is your beloved More than another beloved, That you so charge us?*

*16 His mouth is most sweet, Yes, he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, And this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem!”*

Song Of Solomon 5:9, 16

*“Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.”*

Philippians 4:8

*“See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all.”*

I Thessalonians 5:15

*“Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.”*

Colossians 4:6

### IV. KEEP **COMMUNICATION** LINES OPEN

*“1 Where has your beloved gone, O fairest among women? Where has your beloved turned aside, That we may seek him with you?*

*2 My beloved has gone to his garden, To the beds of spices, To feed his flock in the gardens, And to gather lilies.”*

Song Of Solomon 6:1-2

*“Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.”*

Proverbs 18:21