

## Storybook Sex, Part 3

### *The Wedding Day*

Opening Question: What are some ways that people in our culture have been wounded by sex?

**6** What is that coming up from the wilderness like columns of smoke, perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, with all the fragrant powders of a merchant?**7** Behold, it is the litter of Solomon! Around it are sixty mighty men, some of the mighty men of Israel,**8** all of them wearing swords and expert in war, each with his sword at his thigh, against terror by night.**9** King Solomon made himself a carriage from the wood of Lebanon.**10** He made its posts of silver, its back of gold, its seat of purple; its interior was inlaid with love by the daughters of Jerusalem.**11** Go out, O daughters of Zion, and look upon King Solomon, with the crown with which his mother crowned him on the day of his wedding, on the day of the gladness of his heart.

The pillars of smoke in verse six would have reminded the people of God leading the nation of Israel out of Egyptian slavery with fire by night and a pillar of smoke by day. How has God engineered relationship sin your life?

Michael said, "Strong men protect women." Do you agree or disagree?

In verse 11, Solomon's mom is there with a crown...a sign of approval. That's a good thing. The Bible says in Genesis 2:24, "Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh." Leaving and cleaving requires maturity from the couple and the parents. You might marry into a family, but you do not marry a family.

*What do you think about this idea?*

The story continues in chapter 4. Check out this romantic language.

**1** Behold, you are beautiful, my love, behold, you are beautiful! Your eyes are doves behind your veil. Your hair is like a flock of goats leaping down the slopes of Gilead.**2** Your teeth are like a flock of shorn ewes that have come up from the washing, all of which bear twins, and not one among them has lost its young.**3** Your lips are like a scarlet thread, and your mouth is lovely. Your cheeks are like halves of a pomegranate behind your veil.**4** Your neck is like the tower of David, built in rows of stone; on it hang a thousand shields, all of them shields of warriors.**5** Your two breasts are like two fawns, twins of a gazelle, that graze among the lilies.**6** Until the day breathes and the shadows flee, I will go away to the mountain of myrrh and the hill of frankincense.**7** You are altogether beautiful, my love; there is no flaw in you.**8** Come with me from Lebanon, my bride; come with me from Lebanon. Depart from the peak of Amana, from the peak of Senir and Hermon, from the dens of lions, from the mountains of leopards.

What's the deal with the tower of David? David's men would hang their shields all over this tower during a time of peace....they were prepared for war, but currently enjoying peace. That's a great picture of marriage. We're ready to fight for our relationship at a moment's notice, but we're living in peace.

How do you need to fight for your marriage?

What are you fighting against?

How are you fighting together?