

It's Complicated

Dating, Sex, Love & Marriage



Part 3:
The Glory of Sex

Song of Songs 3:6 – 5:1



For the best sex,
slip on one of these



The Song of Songs



The Wedding Day!

The Friends say:

- 3:6 What is this coming up from the wilderness
Like columns of smoke,
Perfumed with myrrh and frankincense,
With all scented powders of the merchant?
- 7 Behold, it is the traveling couch of Solomon;
Sixty mighty men around it,
Of the mighty men of Israel.
- 8 All of them are wielders of the sword,
Expert in war;
Each man has his sword at his side,
Guarding against the terrors of the night.

The Friends say:

⁹ King Solomon has made for himself a sedan chair from the timber of Lebanon.

¹⁰ He made its posts of silver,
Its back of gold and its seat of purple fabric,
With its interior lovingly fitted out
By the daughters of Jerusalem.

¹¹ Go forth, O daughters of Zion,
And gaze on King Solomon with the crown
With which his mother has crowned him
On the day of his wedding,
And on the day of his gladness of heart.

The Wedding Night!!!

He says:

4:1 How beautiful you are, my darling,
How beautiful you are!
Your eyes are like doves behind your veil;
Your hair is like a flock of goats
That have descended from Mount Gilead.



He says:

² Your teeth are like a flock of newly shorn ewes
Which have come up from their washing,
All of which bear twins,
And not one among them has lost her young.

He says:

3 Your lips are like a scarlet thread,
And your mouth is lovely.

Your temples are like a slice of a pomegranate
Behind your veil.



He says:

⁴ Your neck is like the tower of David,
Built with rows of stones
On which are hung a thousand shields,
All the round shields of the mighty men.



He says:

⁵ Your two breasts are like two fawns,
Twins of a gazelle
Which feed among the lilies.

⁶ Until the cool of the day
When the shadows flee away,
I will go my way to the mountain of myrrh
And to the hill of frankincense.

⁷ You are altogether beautiful, my darling,
And there is no blemish in you.

He says:

- ⁸ Come with me from Lebanon, my bride,
May you come with me from Lebanon.
Journey down from the summit of Amana,
From the summit of Senir and Hermon,
From the dens of lions,
From the mountains of leopards.
- ⁹ You have made my heart beat faster, my sister,
my bride;
You have made my heart beat faster with a single
glance of your eyes,
With a single strand of your necklace.

He says:

- ¹⁰ How beautiful is your love, my sister, my bride!
How much better is your love than wine,
And the fragrance of your oils
Than all kinds of spices!
- ¹¹ Your lips, my bride, drip honey;
Honey and milk are under your tongue,
And the fragrance of your garments is like the
fragrance of Lebanon.

He says:

¹² A garden locked is my sister, my bride,
A rock garden locked, a spring sealed up.



He says:

¹³ Your shoots are an orchard of pomegranates
With choice fruits, henna with nard plants,
¹⁴ Nard and saffron, calamus and cinnamon,
With all the trees of frankincense,



He says:

¹⁵ You are a garden spring,
A well of fresh water,
And streams flowing from Lebanon.



Waterfall of Baaklin – ElChouf, Lebanon

She says:

¹⁶ Awake, O north wind,
And come, wind of the south;
Make my garden breathe out fragrance,
Let its spices be wafted abroad.
May my beloved
come into his garden
And eat its
choice fruits!



Waterfall of Baaklin – ElChouf, Lebanon

He says:

5:1 I have come into my garden, my sister, my bride;
I have gathered my myrrh
along with my balsam.
I have eaten my honeycomb and my honey;
I have drunk
my wine and
my milk.



Friends say:

5:1^b Eat, friends;

Drink and imbibe deeply, O lovers.



Views on Sex – A Comparison

God's View

- Sex is for the married couple

Our Culture's View

- Sex is for the public

Views on Sex – A Comparison

God's View

- Sex is for the married couple
- Sex is a community issue

Our Culture's View

- Sex is for the public
- Sex is a personal issue

Views on Sex – A Comparison

God's View

- Sex is for the married couple
- Sex is a community issue
- Sex reasons – the why's

Our Culture's View

- Sex is for the public
- Sex is a personal issue
- Sex techniques – the how's

What is God's vision of sex & marriage?

*4:12 A **garden** locked is my sister, my bride; a rock **garden** locked, a spring sealed up... 4:15 You are a **garden** spring, a well of fresh water ...4:16 Awake, O north wind; and come, wind of the south; make my **garden** breathe out fragrance...May my beloved come into his **garden** and eat its choice fruits! 5:1 I have come into my **garden**, my sister, my bride.*



Waterfall of Baaklin – ElChouf, Lebanon

The Impact of Sex on Relationships

1. Sex makes a good relationship better
2. Sex makes a bad relationship worse

Classical Greek & Indian Religions

Christianity

Atheism

US:

What are we?

SOUL

We are immortal, good souls, wanting to escape the bad physical body

SOUL AND BODY

We are both body and soul, and what we do to one affects the other

BODY

We are physical, chemical beings

SEX & MARRIAGE

are...?

From **NEUTRAL** (Greek Epicureans said 'Have sex with anyone since the body is not important'), to **BAD** (Stoics, Gandhi, etc. said 'Don't have sex')

Marriage and sex are inseparably **UNITED AND GOOD** because God designed it that way.

Marriage is a **CONSTRUCT**. Sex is pleasurable but ultimately **FUNCTIONAL**, for the survival of the species.

RELATIONSHIPS

are...

INCIDENTAL

Aristotle thought that who you are, you are in isolation.

DESIGNED BY GOD

God is relational, has ideals for relationships, and cares for the relationships between people

SOCIAL CONSTRUCTS

The individual comes first, and all relationships are malleable

HOPE: What do we hope for?

DISEMBODIMENT

The soul floats around and never returns

RESURRECTION

The permanent joining of body and soul eternally in God's renewal of the world

NO CONSCIOUSNESS

Dating and Physical Intimacy

1. For discernment for marriage, you don't need arousal, or even much physical intimacy at all

During Attraction

The Order of Getting to Know Someone

1 Physical Attractiveness

2 Personality

3 Character & Values

4 Core Commitment

Is Opposite the Order of Importance

4 Physical Attractiveness

3 Personality

2 Character & Values

1 Core Commitment

Where is the chemistry?

Person A

- 4 Physical Attractiveness
- 3 Personality
- 2 Character & Values
- 1 Core Commitment

Person B

- 4 Physical Attractiveness
- 3 Personality
- 2 Character & Values
- 1 Core Commitment

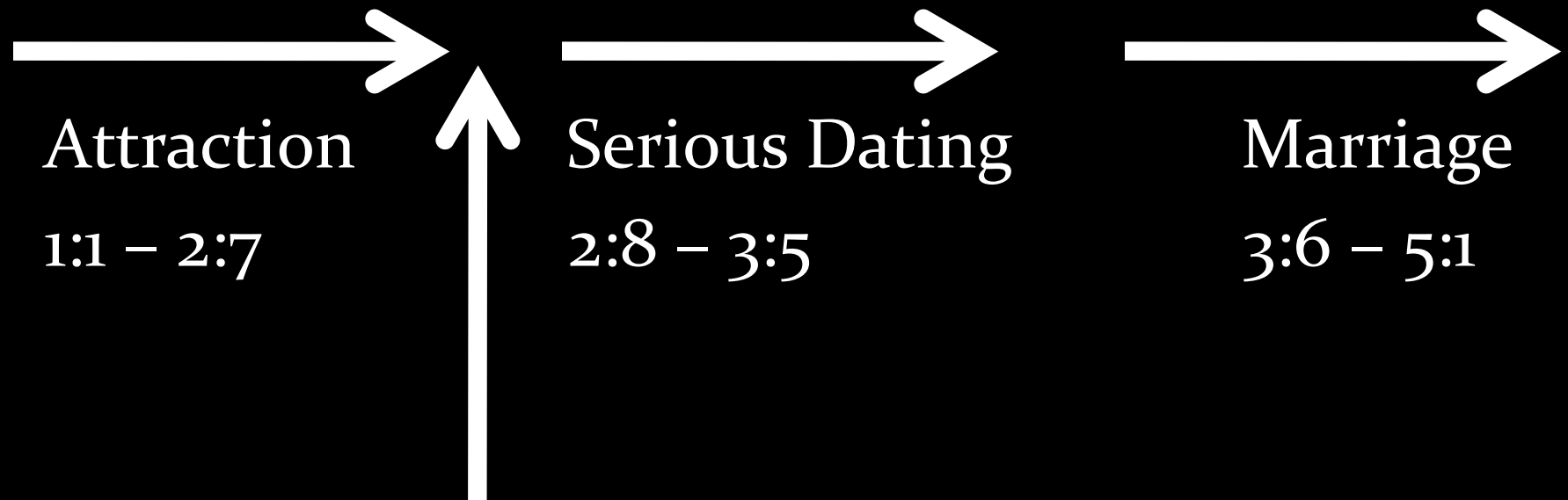
Dating and Physical Intimacy

1. For discernment for marriage, you don't need arousal, or even much physical intimacy at all
2. Arousal is a false promise

Dating and Physical Intimacy

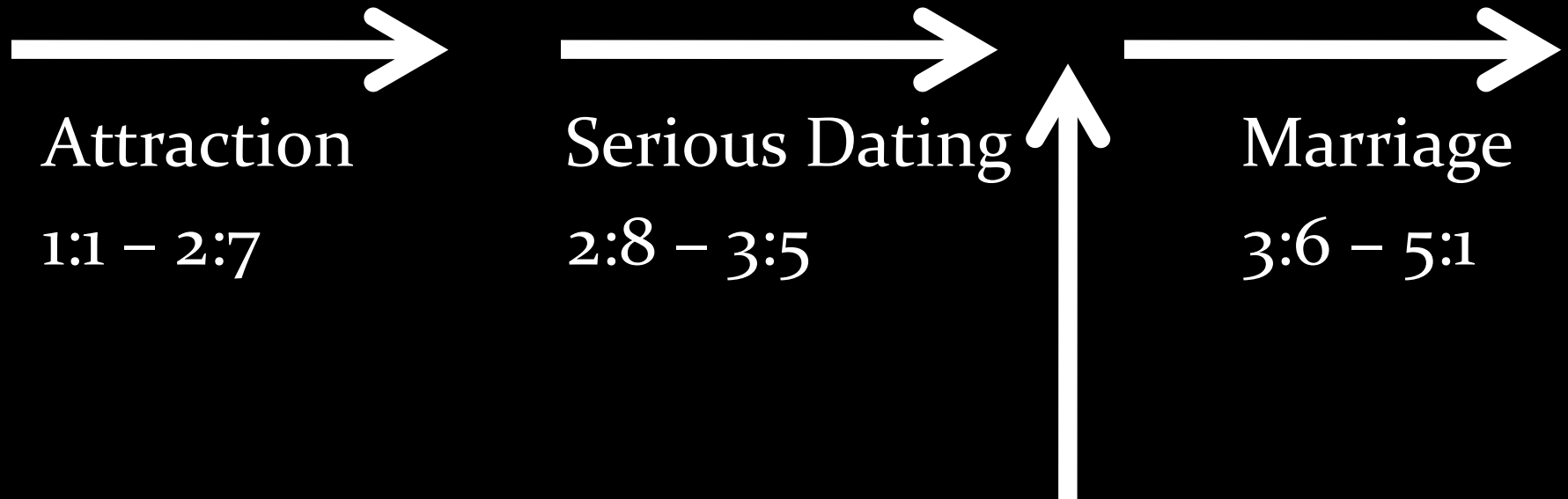
1. For discernment for marriage, you don't need arousal, or even much physical intimacy at all
2. Arousal is a false promise
3. Affection, not arousal

Affection, not Arousal



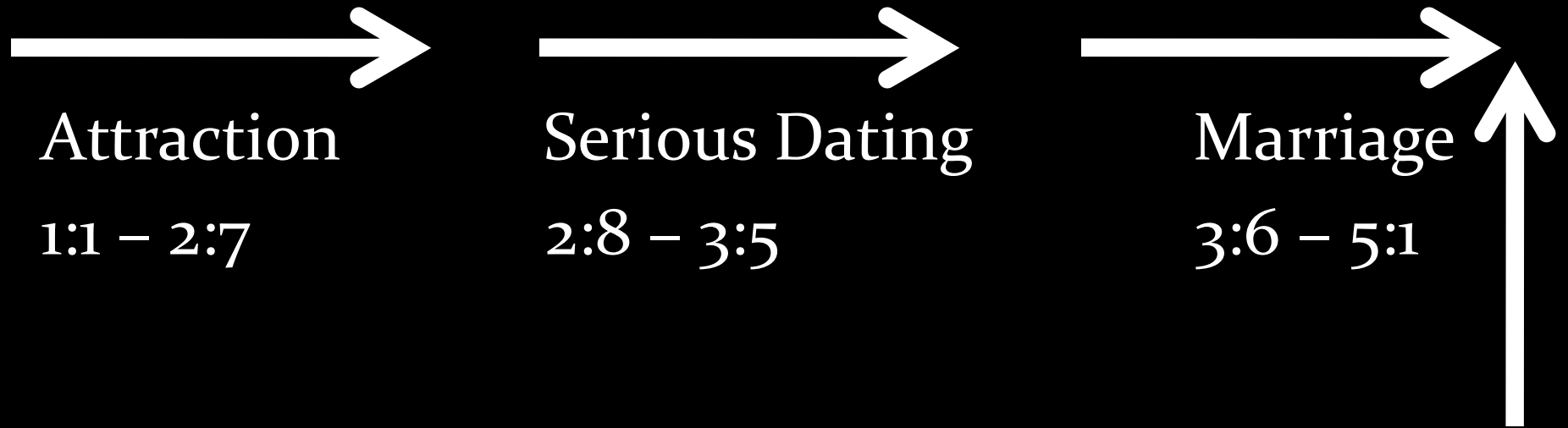
2:7 I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
By the gazelles or by the hinds of the field,
That you will not arouse or **awaken** my love
Until she pleases.

Affection, not Arousal



3:5 I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
By the gazelles or by the hinds of the field,
That you will not arouse or **awaken** my love
Until she pleases.

Affection, not Arousal



4:16 **Awake**, O north wind,
And come, wind of the south;
Make my garden breathe out fragrance,
Let its spices be wafted abroad.
May my beloved come into his garden
And eat its choice fruits!

Dating and Physical Intimacy

1. For discernment for marriage, you don't need arousal, or even much physical intimacy at all
2. Arousal is a false promise
3. Affection not arousal
4. Sex outside of marriage is absolutely contrary to who God is, not just what He commands

Views on Sex – A Comparison

God's View

- Sex is for the couple
- Sex is a communal issue
- Sex reasons – the why's

Our Culture's View

- Sex is for the public
- Sex is a personal issue
- Sex techniques – the how's