

IS THE *BEAUTIFUL WORD*: SONG OF SONGS BIBLE STUDY RIGHT FOR YOUR GROUP?

Overview

Song of Songs: The Long We Long For is a seven-session group Bible study by Lisa Harper designed to help participants engage one of Scripture's most vivid and often misunderstood books. Participants will read the entire book of Song of Songs and discover how it's not only a poetic love story, but also a window into covenant love, spiritual longing, and the depth of God's affection for His people.

This study invites participants to slow down, dig deep, and honestly engage with what it means to be fully known, deeply loved, and faithfully pursued by the God who authored the ultimate love story.



Study Structure

Each session focuses on a key theme in Song of Songs and a featured memory verse, helping participants see the Scriptures as both a divine love story and within its historical and Christological context. During personal study between sessions, participants will dig deeper into the passages, reading through the entire book of Song of Songs by the end of the study.

Typical Session Format (60–90 minutes)

- **Opening Group Activity:** An icebreaker or reflection prompt to help participants settle in and connect (10-15 mins)
- **Video Teaching** (approx. 35 mins)
- **Group Discussion:** Group questions that invite honest response and biblical reflection. (30-45 mins)
- **Closing Reflection and Prayer:** Space for prayer, personal application, and Scripture memory (3 mins)
- **Personal Study Time:** Three days of personal study to dig deeper in between sessions.

Sessions

- **Session 1: Into Me You See** – Lisa introduces the study and lays the foundation for understanding Song of Songs.
- **Session 2: Stopped in Your Tracks** – Consider Shulamite’s perspective in chapter 1, exploring her insecurity in her relationship and Solomon’s public declarations of their love.
- **Session 3: Suitors Who Run and Foxes Who Ruin** – Contemplate the image of Solomon leaping toward his beloved and picture God running toward us. Be challenged to identify the “little foxes” that can interrupt our relationship with Jesus.
- **Session 4: A Breathless Search and a Big Parade** – Experience Shulamite’s desperate search for Solomon, the wedding parade, and the ceremony as imagery for God’s pursuit of His people.
- **Session 5: The Pinnacle of Passion** – Explores the power of passion and affection and shows the parallels to Jesus as our Divine Bridegroom.
- **Session 6: When Delight Turns to Drudgery** – Addresses distance, neglect, and the tension that can enter relationships over time. Reflect on how to protect intimacy and remain attentive in love.
- **Session 7: Sealed with Security** – Concludes the study by addressing the ways security in a relationship can bring confidence and contentment. See the declaration of unconditional love between Solomon and Shulamite as a parallel to God’s unconditional love for us.



Watch Session 1 Now!

<http://youtu.be/vlDrwqvekBE&t=9s>

Key Features

- 1 Video Driven Content:** 7 video teachings with Lisa. Free streaming access is included with the study guide purchase.
- 2 Discussion Oriented:** Dedicated time in each meeting for discussion, plus a leader’s guide with tips for facilitating.
- 3 Scripture Memory Cards and Coloring Pages:** Encourage participants to memorize key scripture in a hands-on way.
- 4 Personal Application:** Between sessions, participants engage with three days of personal Bible study and reflection.

Recommendations & Resources

Materials for Leaders

- A copy of the *Song of Songs* Study Guide (which includes the leader's guide and video access code).
- Bible
- A dedicated meeting space
- A device to stream the video sessions, like a smart TV, computer, or tablet

Materials for Participants

- A copy of the *Song of Songs* Study Guide for each member.
- A Bible and pen



Ideal Size:

8-10 participants



Great for:

Women's ministry
Women's small groups



Facilitation:

The leader acts as a facilitator rather than a teacher, guiding the experience and cultivating a safe environment for growth.

About the Author

Rarely are the terms “hilarious storyteller” and “theologian” used in the same sentence—much less to describe the same person—but **LISA HARPER** is definitely not stereotypical! She has earned a doctorate from Houston Theological Seminary, has published extensively, and teaches the Bible around the world, but she's also a frequent belly laugher. She describes her greatest accomplishment as being Missy's mom through the miracle of adoption, followed closely by learning to wake surf in her sixties.



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