



The Book of Romance: What Solomon Says about Love, Sex and Intimacy

Tommy Nelson

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The Bible is well-known for its wisdom on spiritual concerns and righteous living. But did you know it can also guide you in matters of dating, courtship, and marriage?

"Based on what God knows about us," says Tommy Nelson, "He has provided an instruction manual in the Song of Solomon with eight very enlightening, explicit, and highly practical chapters on the topics of love, sex and intimacy."

Wise and engaging, "The Book of Romance" digs deep into the Song of Solomon and what it says about the Bible's most passionate lovers. As you learn about their relationship, you'll discover how you, too, can experience the deep emotional, sexual, and spiritual satisfaction that God created to be enjoyed in marriage.

The Book of Romance: What Solomon Says about Love, Sex and Intimacy Details

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Author : Tommy Nelson

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Rachel says

This is a special book to me for many reasons. I read this book while in college and for the first time I realized that the God that I loved created sex and it was a beautiful and wonderful thing- not a sin like I had thought or a "naughty" word. I used this book and accompanying study guides to teach a class with young women in my youth group while in college and it was a really awesome study. We all benefited from learning from Scripture and this study. It talks about what God says about sex and how wonderful it can be within the covenant of marriage.

Callie Conklin says

WomanofGod24

WomanofGod24

This book was excellent! It's so deep and well written! I read it with a group of women for a women's Bible Study and it was great to get to read a book of the Bible that I have never read before and have a book that explains what I'm reading. I didn't agree with a few points Tommy Nelson has in here, but that can be so with any Bible Study that uses a study book along with the Bible. I highly recommend this book!

Kari says

I just started this book this afternoon.

I wish I had started it five years ago. Actually, even twelve years ago it could have had a huge impact on my life.

I highly recommend it to all of you. Yes, you. Male, female; young, old, single, married, dating, divorced, widowed...

If you asked me what are the key elements of our marriage, the list I'd have given is pretty close to this book's ideas. No coincidence that my husband read it shortly before we got engaged. I am so thankful he did. And now, that I am.

Christina says

Tommy Nelson is one of my all time favorite teachers! I was first exposed to his expository style in college at Campus Crusade for Christ conferences. His study of Solomon is so good, I had already heard it twice while single and then newly married, I took my husband to hear him teach it again. This book is a great

representation of his talks, which are probably available for purchase somewhere online. UPDATE: The Podcasts for this study are available for FREE under Denton Bible Church on itunes. But if you ever get the chance, hear him speak in person or podcast his church- Denton Bible Church in TX. I would highly recommend this book for any young single adult or newly married couple. This book highly impacted my life, my marriage, and even the type of church I attend today (with a strong emphasis on exegesis and expository style Bible teaching).

Mike Adams says

I really enjoyed this book! It's not really a very good exposition of the Song of Solomon, but it is filled with lots of Biblical, pastoral advice for those who are married, soon to be married, or hope to be married. I highly recommend it.

Shannon Shackleford says

I only read the first half this time around. This is a must read for my children when they begin to date. Tommy does a fantastic job of talking though the difficult issues of dating and offering very sound advice on the kind of person one should be looking for in a dating/marriage relationship.

Lisa Godfrees says

Tommy Nelson pulls from God's Word and his own experiences with marital counseling to share the truth about God's ideals for dating, marriage, and intimacy. Drawn primarily from the Song of Songs (or Song of Solomon) and enhanced with other biblical passages, The Book of Romance looks at several practical questions for single and married people in the church today:

When should I start dating?

What's the big deal about sex before marriage?

When/do you share those dark secrets from your past?

How do you know if the person you're dating is really the right person for you?

What is God's plan for sex inside marriage?

How do you resolve conflict?

How do you keep the flame of romance ignited?

How do you show love to your spouse in a way they can appreciate?

What does God say about divorce?

If any of these questions interest you, then consider The Book of Romance for your home library.

Readability:

The Book of Romance is written in simple terms anyone can understand. Tommy Nelson sprinkles real life examples into the text to engage the reader and bring practical examples to the points he is trying to convey.

Suggested Audience: Teen and older (PG-13)

Sex is discussed in general terms, not in detail.

Recommended for:

- Teens that are ready to consider dating.
- Parents of teens.
- Single men and women.
- Married men and women.
- People separated or contemplating divorce.
- Divorced adults ready to date again.

Not recommended for:

Anyone who is looking for a line-by-line explanation of the Song of Songs. While The Book of Romance does bring in the text and discuss it, it is not a commentary or exposition.

Chuck Engelhardt says

There are so few resources out there dealing with the Song of Solomon and Tommy Nelson provides one of the best here. Although it falls short of the connectiveness in Video Series, Tommy still brings a practical application and human interest aspect to the lessons it contains. Highly recommended - especially for those contemplating marriage.

Jonathan Beigle says

The book is Tommy Nelson's take on the Song of Solomon. I've been around Tommy Nelson's Book of Romance for a long time. I went to a Song of Solomon conference in college and then we did his video series in a young married Sunday School class at church. However, this is the first time I've read the book. I actually came away from the book a little discouraged, especially in the first half. The way I read the first half of the book (which is primarily focused on dating through engagement) was that if you argued and weren't perfect around each other 99% of the time, then it is not God's intention for you to get married. I most enjoyed the chapter on resolution of conflict. I felt like the second half of the book was better and more uplifting, but the first half really bothered me. Overall, I think this book is best suited for a college aged single/dating person. Nearly half of the book is focused on pre-marriage and would be more suited for someone that isn't married.

Best quotes of the book:

p. 10 - "The best way for I know for you to discern character is to observe what happens to that person when 'pressed.'"

p. 14 - "[Young people] are ready to date when they are ready to begin the process of choosing someone to marry or when they have convictions they will not compromise.

p. 29 - "My advice to men is that they never win an argument. Do so and lose a mate."

p. 59 - "An admission of one's foibles, flaws and past sins is almost like a vaccination - it keeps your beloved from being surprised if those aspects of your personality and history crop up later."

p. 88 - "Planned Parenthood has determined from its polls that only 5% of the women who seek their services have ever had a parental conversation about sex."

p. 97 - "Only the holy and selfless can truly be great lovers."

p. 106 - "Good marital conflict leads to resolution and greater closeness. Bad marital conflict presses for

victory, which leads to alienation and the potential for revenge."

p. 132 - "Marital disagreements, arguments, and conflicts are inevitable. Why? Because marriage vows do not erase differences in individual personalities, opinions, ideas, and past histories."

p. 141 - "Never start an argument after ten o'clock at night."

p. 161 - "Early on, it was your instinct to be romantic. Later it must become a discipline."

p. 168 - "Show me a man who can go home from work to a wife who is pure and holy before God, and who gives him refreshment and joy, and I'll show you a man who is eager to get home!"

p. 170 - "My home is wherever my wife happens to be at the time."

p. 171 - "Show me a woman who feels that her husband deals with her tenderly - with kindness, good manners, generosity, genuine affection, and understanding - and I'll show you a happily married woman, regardless of external circumstances that may come against their union or family."

p. 183 - "We've come a long way when we (kids) no long wonder what a dad does, but where a dad lives."

Jenn says

This book/study has a special place in my heart since it was the first study that my husband and I completed together with a small group of couples when we were in college 12 years ago. I knew what Song of Solomon was about, but didn't really read it and understand it until this study helped open my eyes to true Godly romance. I appreciate how the Bible and Mr. Nelson make this study applicable to any stage of a relationship. We still make mention of this study and we've been married for 10 years.

Norma Varner says

Loved this book!

This book would make a great graduation gift with good Christian concepts in selecting a spouse, but also as a wedding gift that a newlywed couple should read together. Tommy Nelson uses the Song of Solomon as the perfect guide in a relationship from the courtship stage to full commitment stage in a marriage!

Tami says

I never knew the Song of Solomon was so explicit. I knew it spoke of a woman's body, but how good it was for a married couple to look to for great advice on sex in the marriage. Many Christians feel they can't do certain things once they are married and they loose all romance. God created sex and created it to be good for husband and wife to enjoy. I recommend this book for people who are dating, courting, engaged and married.

John Zak says

If I had the option, this book would have received a 3.5 out of 5. Prior to writing this, I kept oscillating between the 3 and 4. Regardless, this book is worth reading. The Book Of Romance—which was essentially an exposition on the Song of Songs—integrated biblical truth, practical experience, and wisdom in a concise, and comprehensive fashion.

The thesis of the book is centered around examining the Song of Songs, extracting practical wisdom, and applying it to one's marital relationship. As Nelson promises to do, he works through Song 1-8 and addresses many other topics along the way. Overall, the author does an excellent job at remaining focused on his thesis. What is unique about Nelson's book is his reliance upon the Song of Songs as the guidelines for a healthy relationship. Typically, authors cite particular verses to bolster their claims, but this book is written in a way which resembles a commentary at times. In his younger days, Solomon exemplifies godliness in the way he commits to one woman with an unwavering passion. He adheres to God's command in Genesis to leave, cleave, and become one flesh with his spouse. Due to the nature of Song of Songs, several topics are covered including finding a mate, pursuing them, marrying them, resolving conflict, and keeping romance alive in the ensuing years of a marriage.

For my full review click the link below:

<http://www.premarriage.com/>

Sam says

I thought this was a very good book. It's almost a commentary on song of solomon. He goes all the way through the book (S.S.) and does a pretty good job of explaining it. Although, there ARE other interpretations and he didn't mention those. I also was surprised by his conflict resolution chapters that I didn't know were in the book of romance. Very interesting. Overall, a very good read. I would recommend to others and probably re-read or go back and check out my highlights.

Christopher Mathis says

Such a great document and further guide for everything associated with ever-changing periods concerning your significant other. Spritually enlightening and straightforward, a true book that every christian should pick up, regardless of what phase your relationship happens to be in.
