

## Meaning in the Ordinary, June 4-7, 2026

### WHY LEARNING COMMUNITIES? *Circle Two Opportunity...*

To become better and better disciples of Christ TOGETHER so we can face *anything* through...

1. Deeper learning of Biblical truth and 2. Stronger “iron sharpening iron” relationships

**Ephesians 4:12–16 (ESV)**

**Bible Recap:** pages 771-827, 1 Kings 1-4, 2 Chron 1, Song of Songs, Prov 1-3, assorted Psalms, circa: 970-950 B.C.

From last Sunday's sermon:

- ✓ We are *dumber than we realize*, more Upside-Down than we think
- ✓ Wisdom books invite us to live Right-Side Up – but it is not our default. *It requires deliberate effort.*  
**2 Timothy 3:16–17      Romans 12:1–2      Isaiah 55:8–9      Jeremiah 17:9–10**
- ✓ Wisdom books invite us to live Right-Side Up – but it is not our default. It requires deliberate effort.

### Passionately Pursuing God's Right-Side Up Wisdom Living

#### † PSALMS – “New Song” scriptures, ALL about Transformation

**Psalm 33:3      Psalm 40:3      Psalm 96:1-2      Psalm 98:1      Psalm 144:9-10      Psalm 149:1**

#### † HISTORY – Solomon begins to reign – transition.

*REMEMBER: the essence of ALL the Bible is “His-Story” of Messiah saving His people BECAUSE God loves us!!*

1 Kings 1 David in Old Age, Adonijah attempts to be King, Nathan & Bathsheba to David, Solomon Anointed King

1 Kings 2 David's Instructions to Solomon, Death of David, Solomon's Reign Established,

1 Kings 3 Solomon's Prayer for Wisdom, Solomon's Wisdom,  
**1 Kings 3:5–15 (ESV)** (pew Bible page 282/ Bible Recap page 798)

1 Kings 4 Solomon's Officials, Solomon's Wealth and Wisdom,  
**1 Kings 4:20–34 (ESV)**

2 Ch 1 Solomon Worships at Gibeon, Prays for Wisdom, Given Wealth

#### † PROVERBS: practical wisdom to turn RSU.

Henry Cloud, “Necessary Endings,” and in YouTube presentation identifies three kinds of people identified in Proverbs... wise, fools, evil. (Tara-Leigh Cobble names wise, fools, simple)

1. Wise: humbly receive instruction and put it into practice  
**Prov 9:9** Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.
2. Fools: resist with excuses & blaming, only respond to consequences  
**Prov 1:32** For the simple are killed by their turning away, and the complacency of fools destroys them;
3. Evil: refuse instruction and actively try to hurt others  
**Prov 6:12–14** <sup>12</sup>A worthless person, a wicked man, goes about with crooked speech, <sup>13</sup>winks with his eyes, signals with his feet, points with his finger, <sup>14</sup>with perverted heart devises evil, continually sowing discord;

#### *Which will you be as you read Proverbs?*

Prov. 1 Beginning of Knowledge, Enticement of Sinners, Call of Wisdom

Prov. 2 Value of Wisdom

Prov. 3 Trust in Lord with All Heart, Blessed Is One Who Finds Wisdom

#### † SONG OF SONGS: God's design for intimacy to correct USD ways.

*A model of joy, desire and connection God created for marriage that points to the relationship between Christ and His Church (people).*

From *The Bible Project*, ([bibleproject.com/guides/book-of-song-of-songs/](http://bibleproject.com/guides/book-of-song-of-songs/))

**The Big Idea:** Even though our relationships are often distorted by selfishness, love is a transcendent gift meant to show us something greater—the gift of God's love that will one day permeate and transform his beloved world.

One of the basic themes uniting the poems is the intense desire the couple has for each other, expressed through their constant “seeking” and “finding.” Another repeated theme is the joy of their physical attraction to each other.

Through these poetic cycles, the tension builds on their desire, joy, and attraction for each other. The spiraling repetition becomes a poetic way of heightening and focusing on the mystery and power of sexual love. It all comes together in the conclusion, which pauses to summarize what these poems are all about.

*“Love is as strong as death, its passions are as severe as the grave. Its flashes are of fire, a divine flame. Many waters cannot extinguish love, rivers cannot sweep it away. If one were to give all the wealth of one’s house for love, he would be utterly scorned.”*

The poem highlights the power and intensity of love. It’s beautiful, consuming, and dangerous. Like fire, it can destroy people if abused, but it can be life-giving if protected and nurtured. Ultimately, love expresses the insatiable human longing to know and be fully known and desired by another. Love is one of the most transcendent and mysterious experiences in human life, and, as part of the Bible’s wisdom tradition, *this book says that it’s a gift of God.*

### ***Other scriptures that point to marriage as a metaphor for relationship between God and His people***

**Jesus as Bridegroom Theological Implications,** ([biblehub.com/topical/u/understanding\\_jesus\\_as\\_the\\_bridegroom.htm](http://biblehub.com/topical/u/understanding_jesus_as_the_bridegroom.htm))

It emphasizes the personal and communal aspects of salvation, portraying the Church not merely as an institution but as a beloved community called into a deep, covenantal relationship with Christ. This metaphor also underscores the themes of love, sacrifice, and fidelity, inviting believers to respond with devotion and readiness for the Bridegroom’s return.

The imagery of Jesus as the Bridegroom serves as a powerful reminder of the depth of God’s love and the ultimate purpose of His redemptive plan—to unite His people with Himself in a relationship of eternal joy and communion.

**Ephesians 5:22, 25 (ESV)** <sup>22</sup>Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. <sup>25</sup>Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,

**Hosea 2:19–20 (ESV)** <sup>19</sup>And I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy. <sup>20</sup>I will betroth you to me in faithfulness. And you shall know the Lord.

**Isaiah 54:5–6 (ESV)** <sup>5</sup>For your Maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called. <sup>6</sup>For the Lord has called you like a wife deserted and grieved in spirit, like a wife of youth when she is cast off, says your God.

**Matthew 9:14–15 (ESV)** <sup>14</sup>Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, “Why do we and the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?” <sup>15</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast.

**Matthew 25** – Parable of 10 virgins waiting for the Bridegroom Jesus to return

**Revelation 19:7–8 (ESV)** <sup>7</sup>Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; <sup>8</sup>it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure”— for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

### **† DOUBTS – opportunities not problems.**

**Psalm 73 (ESV)** A Psalm of Asaph. (pew Bible p. 485 - 486/ Bible Recap p. 599)

**Takes his doubts to God in the Throne Room. States...**

- ◆ his faith, v. 1
- ◆ his doubt and questions his doubt, vs. 2-3
- ◆ his feelings of futility, “why bother?”, vs. 4-14

**Takes his doubts to God in Community**

- ◆ realizes his faith interwoven with others, vs 15-17
- ◆ can’t think his way out of doubt; had to experience

**Replaces his doubts with God’s Truth, another belief. Truth received...**

- ◆ in wrestling, hit bottom, v. 2
- ◆ in revelation, “aha”, vs. 18-20
- ◆ experiencing God as THE thing, vs. 21-28

**Psalms in Bible Recap this week**

Ps 111 Great Are the Lord’s Works

Ps 112 The Righteous Will Never Be Moved

Ps 113 Who Is like the Lord Our God?

Ps 114 Tremble at the Presence of the Lord

Ps 115 To Your Name Give Glory

Ps 116 I Love the Lord

Ps 117 The Lord’s Faithfulness Endures Forever

Ps 118 His Steadfast Love Endures Forever

Ps 37 He Will Not Forsake His Saints

Ps 71 Forsake Me Not When My Strength Is Spent

Ps 94 The Lord Will Not Forsake His People

Ps 119 Your Word Is a Lamp to My Feet

Ps 72 Give the King Your Justice

**Chronological Guide:** pages p. p. 59-60 and 63: 2<sup>nd</sup> half

**Takeaways:**

