

Week 04  
017/348

**Transforming Daily**  
**“... a lily among thorns ...”**  
*Song of Solomon 2:2*

How poetic is The Beloved to The Shulamite. In this illustration, The Beloved compares The Shulamite with other women and claims that she is a lily among thorns. Not too flattering to the other women, I'm afraid, but then again, that is the point. The Beloved wants The Shulamite to know how smitten he is with her. He wants her to know that all pale in comparison to her.

All of these words are not used purely for illustration. Much of what is said here is literal. The thoughts and actions demonstrate the romantic notion of each toward the other between The Beloved and The shulamite. Some would describe their conduct as “gaga” for one another, making “goo goo” eyes at each other, or “pitching woo” (read verses 8-17 of chapter one). All of which is necessary for a healthy relationship and deepening fellowship between a husband and wife.

God comes first in any relationship, and then the respective parties, husband and wife, to each other, comes second followed by children, thirdly. For children, the priorities of relationships should be God, parents, and then siblings. After that, relationships vary in their order of priority, e.g., parents of extended families, in-laws, co-workers, etc. If the order of priority is out of place, the rest of one's relationships and subsequent fellowship will suffer.

God's relationship to the church is so evident, in that while we were still sinning Christ died for us, that God so love the world that He gave His only begotten Son. Further, Christ was slain before the foundation of the world that we might have eternal life. There is no doubt about God's priorities toward and within the Godhead and in relationship to His people. What about your priorities regarding Him?

Do you love God? Are you smitten with His Word? Do you find any romantic notion in the relationship between the Bridegroom, Jesus Christ, and His bride, the church? The church now awaits the day when the Bridegroom, The Beloved of God, returns to take her away to His Father's house; the church, to Him is a lily among thorns!