sermon notes

November 1, 2026 | Tony Caffey, Messiah Bible Church | **Song of Solomon**
"Can't Buy Me Love" | **Song 8:5–14**

1) Romantic love is _____ and _____ given (8:5–7)

2) Romantic love is _____ _____ (8:8–10)

3) Romantic love is _____ to be _____ (8:11–12)

4) Romantic love is _____ by ongoing _____ (8:13–14)

Questions for Further Application of God's Word:

GO DEEPER

Read Song of Solomon 8:5–14. The Shulamite calls love "strong as death" (8:6). What does she mean by that? She describes love and the jealousy associated with it as "the very flame of the LORD." What does that mean? How is the power of romantic love properly used? How is it misused? Why would God design the romantic love between man and wife so that it is as strong as death?

Song of Solomon affirms the importance of sexual purity (2:7; 3:5; 8:4). How does 8:8–9 present sexual purity as a family responsibility? How might that responsibility extend to the wider community of believers (see 1 Cor 5:1–13; Gal 6:1–2; Eph 5:3–12; 1 Thess 4:3–8; Titus 2:3–6; Heb 13:4)?

Why does the Shulamite compare her vineyard to Solomon's vineyard (8:11–12)? What is she intimating with that contrast? How has the Shulamite chosen a better path than Solomon? What possible wordplay connects the Hebrew word *shalom* ("peace") with the names Solomon and Shulamite?

GET PERSONAL

The Shulamite says to her husband, "Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm" (8:6). What does she desire? How are commitment and fidelity demonstrated in a marital relationship? If you are married, how have you communicated commitment and fidelity to your spouse through meaningful symbols, words, and actions?

The Shulamite says to her husband, "I was in his eyes as one who finds (or brings out) peace" (8:10). What does she mean by that statement? How does she find peace in his eyes? How can love that is "strong as death" foster peace, security, and wholeness within marriage? If you are married, how can you cultivate those qualities in your relationship?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

How can families in today's world help their children develop healthy convictions and boundaries as they mature? How can the church support singles in sexual purity and married couples in faithfulness and exclusivity? Identify one practical step you can take this week to strengthen purity in your own life or encourage it within your family or church.

ADVANCED QUESTION

What do the "mountains of spices" indicate in 8:14? Compare 8:14 with 2:8–17; 4:5–6; and 7:1–13. How do the recurring images of mountains, gardens, and spices help explain her invitation? How does this final invitation provide a fitting conclusion to the book?