Family Seasons Lesson 6 2Q 2019 The Royal Love Song

by Tim Jennings (announcements at end)

Warning this lesson explores God's design for marital intimacy and human sexuality and may contain themes not appropriate for younger audiences.

Before we get to the lesson I want to share an email:

Dear Dr. Jennings and Team

I have written this letter 100's of times in my head. I can add no more to any of the stories you have already received about how this ministry has brought Light to the darkened hearts and minds; smashed distortions with beautiful truths melting the hardened heart, stimulating the intellect and giving a burning desire to share the beautiful truths of God's character and His design law with anyone who shows the least bit interest!!

A little about me. I was brought up SDA all my life. My father was a Minister and there was a lot of pressure to conform and be "good". I was good at being "good". I thought my life was going along well until it all started falling apart and I could not figure out why!! I had kept the rules, did the rituals, at least most of the time, surely God had enough mercy to forgive a few slip ups!!!!

If I were to recount how God, through this ministry, has brought to life the beauty of truth to me, dismantling one distortion after another, it would be a book!!! So I will mention only one.

In the book, Could it be this Simple?, the Myths of forgiveness gripped me. There was only one myth I did not hold!!! I remember thinking, Wow, I have this all backwards. At that point in time, I was in a drained emotional and spiritual state and didn't know how to take action on the information. I didn't even go to your web site.

But God knew my heart and He was not finished. He brought the myths around again a couple of years later through the Healing the Mind Seminar webcast. (I ached and longed for healing of mind and heart) As I listened to the presentation the Spirit was convicting me of the truth of what I was hearing. I was happy and angry all at the same time. Happy to have the light of truth break through the darkness revealing a wonderful, beautiful way, of understanding God and His plan for His children. Angry because I felt deceived and cheated by the church, my family and myself!! That is when I decided to cooperate with God in removing the distortions about His character of love and His design law. My hardwiring was so entrenched, I needed to listen to that section 7 times before I understood God's principles and how to apply them in my everyday life. God is still revealing areas this distortion affects. Praise Him for His loving mercy in healing and restoring me back to His original design!!

Literally I have gone from death to life. It is a journey I look forward to every day. God showed me I had been living out Is. 50:11 – Walk in the spark of your own fire and I will have nothing but torment. (I'm paraphrasing) That was my life, torment- emotionally, relationally, spiritually and physical health! The insidiousness of holding a distorted view of God is it distorts views on every aspect of life.

My yoke is easy and my burden is light. Matt. 11:30 I use to think, "If You call this light, I would like to know what heavy is"!!! Now I am daily, getting a better perspective. Praise GOD!!

"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed". Jh. 8:36 KJV

"So if the Son sets your hearts and minds free from selfishness, you will be free to love indeed". The Remedy

I pray for you, your family and your whole team daily. I will ever be grateful to God for this ministry and your cooperation with the Spirit.

SABBATH

Read first paragraph, "Among the seasons..." How did God design marriage to function? In God's design was there to be a hierarchy in marriage with one spouse ruling over another?

From the book *Patriarchs and Prophets:*

God Himself gave Adam a companion. He provided "an help meet for him"--a helper corresponding to him--one who was fitted to be his companion, and who could be one with him in love and sympathy. Eve was created from a rib taken from the side of Adam, signifying that she was not to control him as the head, nor to be trampled under his feet

as an inferior, but to stand by his side as an equal, to be loved and protected by him. A part of man, bone of his bone, and flesh of his flesh, she was his second self, showing the close union and the affectionate attachment that should exist in this relation. "For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it." Ephesians 5:29. "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife; and they shall be one." {PP 46.2}

God celebrated the first marriage. Thus the institution has for its originator the Creator of the universe. "Marriage is honorable" (Hebrews 13:4); it was one of the first gifts of God to man, and it is one of the two institutions that, after the Fall, Adam brought with him beyond the gates of Paradise. When the divine principles are recognized and obeyed in this relation, marriage is a blessing; it guards the purity and happiness of the race, it provides for man's social needs, it elevates the physical, the intellectual, and the moral nature. {PP 46.3}

How did God design marriage to function? With equality of the two partners in other-centered love, neither ruling over the other.

What happened? Sin, they infected their hearts with selfishness and love was displaced as the primary motivator to action.

When God said to Eve that her desire would be for her husband and he would rule over her, was God making a new design for marriage? Did God say, "Well, my original design in Eden isn't quite right. I need to have men rule over their wives"? No!

Was God saying, "Eve you sinned and deceived your husband so you need a minder, a handler, a supervisor, someone to think for you and tell you want to do. So I am instituting a new rule that you must submit to your husband and let him tell you want to do?" No!

God, was merely diagnosing the reality of what they did to themselves. He said, "Eve, you have infected yourself with fear and selfishness and love and trust are no longer the primary motivators in your heart. Therefore, the natural results of the selfish are that the strong will dominate the weak and the weak seek the protection of the strong. So, Eve, you will desire your husband, but he will rule over you."

Does God want people in this sinful world to continue to live dominated by fear and selfishness?

What does God want for each human heart?

- To be reborn
- recreated in the inner man
- to have the law written on the heart and mind—what law?

Would having the law of God written on the heart and mind mean that trust and love displace fear and selfishness and we get transformed back to God's original design?

Then what would marriage look like? Would it be equality between the two partners?

And would this translate into how we treat each other? Would it also translate into leadership roles in the church?

Do we see that the so-called headship theology in which people are put into a hierarchy based on gender is part of sin infecting God's creation? It is not part of God's design—God's design is equality of human beings submitting to the one true Head Jesus Christ.

In Jewish tradition the Song of Songs is considered an allegory of God's relationship with His people. The first and second century Rabbi Akiva, when asked if they should reject this book said, "God forbid! [...] For all of eternity in its entirety is not as worthy as the day on which Song of Songs was given to Israel, for all the Writings are holy, but Song of Songs is the Holy of Holies." (Schiffman, Lawrence H., ed. (1998), Texts and Traditions, Ktav, Hoboken, pp 119-120).

What do you think of when you think of the "Holy of Holies"? The sanctuary? And what transpires in the Holy of Holies in the sanctuary? Atonement—is there anything about the Song of Solomon that fulfills this function? What is happening in marital intimacy? Are two becoming one? Is that atonement?

When you think of the Day of Atonement or Investigative Judgment are you thinking of a wedding—a honeymoon, of the intimacy of love?

Why not? What is happening during this time in history? Jesus is cleansing His bride. Jesus is bringing the hearts and minds of His people into complete unity, intimacy, oneness with Him. For those who trust Jesus, He enters into the most holy place of our beings to remove all defects and impurities and to **instill** His perfection, His love, His goodness, His life into our hearts and minds—this is a union of minds/hearts/beings.

Can you see how sexual intimacy in which, in love and trust, life is deposited from one to another to form a new life, is a beautiful metaphor for God's plan to save us? In love and trust we open ourselves up to Christ who deposits His life into us and we are reborn—a new life begins. This is becoming one—in marriage with the spouses, in Christianity with God. This is openness, this is being known, this is healing and restoration. It is beautiful! It is lovely! It is wonderful! It is a mystery!

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. ²⁸ In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ After all, no one ever hated his own body, but

he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church—³⁰ for we are members of his body. ³¹ "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the **two** will become one flesh." ³² This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. Eph 5:25-32

What obstructs God's plan to accomplish this in people's hearts?

The false legal lens of imposed law that teaches the Day of Atonement and Investigative Judgment is a judicial process a legal accounting. Such teachings close hearts, create barriers and instead of people disrobing, opening themselves up to the presence of Jesus, people instead put up barriers, beg for a covering to hide them from their Groom.

God cannot complete His mission of reuniting humanity to Himself in perfect unity until we reject the imperial law lie and stop teaching penal substitution theology in our institutions.

The lesson points out that Song of Solomon is an inspired book to teach God's beautiful plan for marriage.

But, have you ever wondered, why God chose Solomon to write this inspired book on God's plan for marriage?

Solomon had 700 wives and 300 concubines—how is it God chose him to write a book that is considered to be the epitome of divine plan for marriage? In other words, if God's plan for marriage is monogamy why would God have the greatest polygamist of all time write the book on marriage?

Why was God angry at Solomon and took the kingdom, except one tribe from him? Was it because of marrying many women? No, it was because of allowing his many wives to lead him into worshipping other gods. If he had not worshipped other gods, God would not have disciplined him so. Which means, that God's chastisement of Solomon was not for having many wives, but for worshipping false gods.

So, why did God choose Solomon to write this book on marriage?

To understand this we must understand a couple of other points. First, Israel is not only historical, but metaphorical.

What I mean is that there were millions of descendants of Abraham who lived during Bible times, yet we have recorded in Scripture only a very small number of individuals. God selected from these real historical events the events He wanted recorded in Scripture to tell, not only historical facts, but reveal a larger reality—God's plan of salvation.

These things happened to them [Israel] as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come. 1Cor 10:11

For instance, there were seven miracle births in the Bible—all historical facts, but also all teaching a larger reality—the coming Messiah:

- 1. Sarah-Isaac: The promised one who will be sacrificed
- 2. Rebecca-Jacob: Overcomes fear and renamed Israel the father of the nation built upon twelve sons; Jesus overcame temptation to be the cornerstone of the church built upon twelve apostles
- 3. Rachel-Joseph: Sold into slavery, became ruler to save people; Jesus became a servant but is exalted to be ruler
- 4. Monoah's wife-Samson: Blessed with strength to deliver Israel and rule over them; Jesus has the strength to deliver us from sin and rule the universe
- 5. Hannah-Samuel: Became High Priest; Jesus is our High Priest
- 6. Shunammite woman-Child died and was resurrected; Jesus died and rose again
- 7. Elizabeth-John the Baptist: Greatest of prophets; Jesus was the greatest of all prophets

Before we understand why Solomon, with 700 wives, was chosen to write this book on marriage and intimacy, we need to understand Solomon's origins.

David committed a terrible sin in seducing Bathsheba and murdering Uriah. When did sexual relations between David and Bathsheba stop being sin for David and why?

The only way this can be answered is to reject the human law lie of imposed rules and return to God's design law for life.

Under imposed rules the answers that given are:

- When David repented—but isn't repentance turning away from sin—did David turn away from Bathsheba or did he embrace her and have more intimate physical relations with her?
- When he married her—is God's law superseded by human custom? If I moved to a country today where polygamy is legal would the church say it is okay for me to take a second wife and marry her legally? Why not?

The imposed law view never gets the answer right. But design law is about restoration to Godliness. So, when David experienced a new heart and right spirit and had selfishness removed and Godly love restored within David then had the motive to heal, as far as possible, the damage his sin had caused Bathsheba. So, in that culture he, if David was going to be like Jesus, now that his heart was renewed, he had to restore to Bathsheba what he had taken. What had he taken?

- Her good name and reputation
- Her home
- Her income and security
- Her livelihood
- Her hope of being a mother
- Her husband who loved her

So, in that culture, the only way David could act in Godly love and restore what he took was to marry her and love her—which he did. Thus, David is no longer living in selfishness, but in harmony with God's design for life.

Notice, in the object lesson of Israel, David, when acting in selfishness had a child with Bathsheba—and what happened to that child? It died—which teaches a lesson that sin/selfishness breaks God's design for life and results in death.

But, David, after being healed in heart and acting in Godly love had another child with Bathsheba—and who was that child? Solomon—the child of wisdom, revealing that only in harmony with God's design is there life and this is true wisdom.

So, now we turn to Solomon, why does God choose Solomon to write this book?

In the song:

- Solomon is a shepherd and Jesus is depicted as the Shepherd
- Solomon is the wisest in history—who is the true person of wisdom?
- Solomon means "peace" who is the Prince of peace?
- Solomon is the son of King David, who is the descendant of David who is to reign as the King of kings?
- Solomon is the groom and Jesus is the groom and the church the bride

In other words, Solomon, in addition to being a real historical figure, is a representative of Christ. With this in mind, is there any reason you can think of that Solomon (representing Christ) would have 700 wives, and be the one to write about a single intimate relationship epitomizing God's design for marriage?

Does Jesus have intimacy with more than one person? Does Jesus have intimacy with more than one species? But does Jesus interact with each person as if they were the only one, i.e. their relationship is personal and specific and loving?

Is it possible God had these events recorded in Scripture because they are not only historical, but they teach a larger reality in metaphor of Christ's union with His people? If so, we can see how this lesson is quite corrupted by Solomon when he worshipped false gods and why God had to take action to demonstrate the worshipping of false gods was not only wrong for Solomon, the nation at that time, Solomon's wives at that time, but also misrepresented Christ's victory over all temptations.

SUNDAY

What is the Biblical view of the human body?

Human beings are integrated, our individualities are embodied. We cannot experience, grow, share, learn and love without a body. The body is not evil and the spirit somehow holy, the body is part of our total being and required for actual functioning.

However, because of sin, our bodies are decayed, filled with disease and defects, and can become a source of temptation to us, either powerful desires or powerful discomfort can tempt us. Some are tempted to act in ways to cause positive feelings of pleasure, others are tempted to be angry and frustrated and discouraged because of feelings of pain.

Read last paragraph, "Powerful sexual taboos..." Are we comfortable talking about this topic?

If God created us as sexual beings, if this unity in marriage is part of God's design, if it is the culmination of true intimacy and love which also acts our God's plan for unity with us, then why are we uncomfortable talking about it?

In Eden, how were Adam and Eve dressed? In light—which would mean what? Would it mean that they had barriers to being known, that they were hiding part of themselves, or that they were totally open and known by the other?

What happened after Adam and Eve sinned? They ran and HID because they were afraid, they made coverings to HIDE themselves. Why?

They felt guilt and shame; they didn't want to be known; they wanted a covering to hide them from God and they hid themselves from each other.

In the union of marriage, even in this sinful world, there is disrobing, taking off of the coverings, revealing oneself, becoming naked and exposed to the other.

What is required to be able to do this without fear, without guilt, without shame?

Love and trust—love which is bidirectional—you love the other person but you also KNOW that you are loved, cherished, valued, for WHO you are, not for your body. This requires uncovering your true self BEFORE sexual intimacy, becoming known in heart by your partner so that genuine trust is experienced.

Love and trust cast out fear. When we have come to KNOW the other and find they love us and that they are trustworthy, then we can disrobe both emotionally and physically and enter into that physical unity with our marriage partner. We can talk openly about our most secret selves, because we know we are united with one who loves us and wants our best.

When we get to heaven how do you think we will dress? Will we be known? Will we be open? Will we be afraid or ashamed? Will we have intimacy with others? With whom will we have intimacy in heaven?

So, why do you think there is so much fear and shame around sex? Because there is so much fear and shame in our hearts, and sex is a place of great vulnerability, of great openness of placing oneself in a place of undress and we fear being hurt, not being enough, being rejected.

TUESDAY

Read second paragraph, "Solomon invites her..." Why can there be no force or manipulation in this intimate setting?

Does this apply to God's relationship with His people?

Does this mean God does not use force or manipulation on human beings?

Does this mean that theologies that teach God is the source of inflicted punishment and death for sin are lies? What theologies do this? The penal legal ones.

Do you see that Christianity is deeply infected with lies about God that undermine love and trust, that obstruct God's plan to heal us, to bring us to at-one-ment with Him?

The message for this time is the message of love, the truth about God, that He is a being of perfect love whose laws are the protocols upon which life is created. Only in union with Him is their life.

THURSDAY

Read first paragraph, "God had a special..." Will we have gender opposites in heaven? Do angels have gender? What did Jesus mean when He said there will be neither marriage or giving in marriage but we will be like the angels?

Is gender the primary point we should focus on as Christians—or is it something else?

Read second paragraph, "Scripture disapproves..." Do you agree?

Did you notice the paragraph focuses on sexual practices, but Jesus focused on the desires of the heart? What happens if a person has a heart desire they never practice?

What happens if persons practice male/female sex within a legal marriage, but their hearts are actually desiring someone of the same sex?

If you are a heterosexual, imagine for a moment living in a culture where 97% of the society is homosexual and heterosexuality is considered evil and you, in order to avoid being stoned, marry someone of the same sex. What would you experience if you had intimacy with them—would it be positive and uplifting or destructive?

What if a person is homosexual and because of social pressure enter into a heterosexual marriage what would that be like for them? Would it be positive and uplifting or destructive?

In Romans 1 staring in verse 18 Paul describes that the wrath of God comes because the people rejected the truth about God, exchanged the knowledge of God for images made with their own hands. In other words, they were involved in Roman cult worship and Paul describes that God's wrath is giving them up to reap the results of their choices and he lists what happens with a long list of destructive consequences on of which is the following:

Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ²⁵ They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

²⁶ Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. ²⁷ In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion. Verses 24-27

Did you notice that at first it is sexual impurity with each other, i.e. heterosexual sexual promiscuity—fertility cult worship. Then, what happened—they "exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones."

Can you exchange a blue shirt for a red shirt if you don't first possess a blue shirt?

The Bible is not describing people born with various genetic and biological differences because of sin altering our human genome. The Bible is talking about those who are clearly heterosexual degrading themselves with activities that change their healthy normal desires for desires they did not previously have.

What is the image of God? Is God a being with perfect vision? So would a person with blindness represent the image of God? Should we oppose activities which cause blindness? Should we oppose people who are blind?

In OT times Levites with bad vision could not function as priests—should we set this up as a rule in our churches that any pastor who needs glasses must be fired? Why not? Why did Israel have this rule? Because Israel was not just historical people but acting out a larger reality. Because Levites with visions problems could not be priests, does that mean people with vision could not be saved?

But what about the prohibitions in the Old Testament? We must remember the recording of the OT is not just historical—but metaphorical, Israel are actors on a stage to act out a larger reality. Thus, many things that were prohibited for them were prohibited because of what they represented in the larger reality, not because that activity was itself wrong. For instance:

- They must not marry women defiled by prostitution or divorced from their husbands, because priests are holy to their God. Lev 21:7
 - O Why? Does this mean a believer today is not to marry a woman who was a prostitute but has found Christ and been renewed? Or a woman who divorced her husband because he was unfaithful?
 - Then why were the priests forbidden to do this? Because of the metaphorical application—we are to be married to Christ and Christ is not a prostitute and He will not divorce us.
- The daily priest could not serve if they had any physical deformity (crippled foot or hand)
- The daily priest could not serve if they had skin lesions, were hunchbacked or dwarfs
 - O Does this mean that today we should not allow any to serve in ministry who have any physical deformities, or skin lesions?
 - How do we understand these prohibitions? It the theater these actors could not play the
 roles accurately with these disorders for they symbolize spiritual leaders who are blind,
 or leaders who are not partaking of the remedy that would heal them.
 - o "Say to Aaron: 'For the generations to come none of your descendants who has a defect may come near to offer the food of his God. ¹⁸ No man who has any defect may come near: no man who is blind or lame, disfigured or deformed; ¹⁹ no man with a crippled foot or hand, ²⁰ or who is hunchbacked or dwarfed, or who has any eye defect, or who has festering or running sores or damaged testicles. ²¹ No descendant of Aaron the priest who has any defect is to come near to present the offerings made to the Lord by fire. He has a defect; he must not come near to offer the food of his God. Lev 21:17-21
- 'The high priest...must not let his hair become unkempt or tear his clothes Lev 21:10
 - O Does this mean that our conference presidents can't serve if they let their hair become windblown or get a tear in their clothing?
- He must not enter a place where there is a dead body. He must not make himself unclean, even for his father or mother... Lev 21:11
 - Ooes this mean that our church leaders cannot go to the funeral of their own parents?
 - No, in the theater the High Priest represents Christ and Christ is the source of life and would banish death so the High Priest needed to stay away lest the lesson be drawn that death wins in Jesus presence.
- 'The woman he [High Priest] marries must be a virgin. ¹⁴ He must not marry a widow, a divorced woman, or a woman defiled by prostitution, but only a virgin from his own people, Lev 21:13.14
 - o Should we require this for our church leaders?
 - o Why was this required for the High Priest?
 - o The bride of Christ must be pure in heart and loyal to Him

Do we understand the prohibitions on homosexuality in the same way? That we should oppose activities which damage or alter what is healthy on any level, but we don't condemn people who have various differences that they did not choose?

The lesson asks what the church's attitude should be toward homosexuals?

They should be introduced to Jesus and loved as children of God!

MONDAY

Read first paragraph, "The Song of Solomon..." What is a friend?

What is required for genuine friendship?

Can you have a friend who is not a spouse?

Can you have a spouse who is not a friend?

Why is it the best when your spouse is your best friend?

The Bible says:

A friend loves at all times... Proverbs 17:17

Does Jesus want to be friends with us?

I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. John 15:15 NIV84

What does it mean to be a friend of Jesus? Is more required in friendship that just to love? Do friends in addition to love also understand? God is clearly our friend, but are we God's friends? What is required to be a friend of God?

Would it be that we come to love God? And would it be that we come to understand who God is, how He functions, His methods and designs? Would it be that we agree with and support God and God's cause?

Who in the Old Testament is described as God's friends?

- Moses
- Abraham

And both did what? Argued with God, why? What was their concern? Both were concerned with God's reputation, with how God would be perceived by others.

Are we?

WEDNESDAY

Why is sexual intimacy designed by God for marriage relationships and not all other relationships?

Because only in a healthy marriage is sexual intimacy healthy—in other relationships sexual intimacy becomes destructive. It is that simple.

And sex in marriage is only healthy if there is love in the marriage. Sex in a legal but loveless marriage is also not health, but destructive.

Thus, sex as God designed requires love and trust to be established prior to the physical union. Then, the physical union causes changes in the brain's reward and bonding circuits such that we come to experience our partner with greater joy, love, reward than others.

But, when sex happens outside of a loving marriage relationship, it can cause changes in reward pathways leading to sexual addiction or unhealthy attachments (dependency cycles).

Thus, the healthiest attachments and relationships are those in which people have remained chaste until a loving trusting marriage relationship.

FRIDAY

Discuss questions

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

To let you know what is IN THE WORKS in addition to our weekly class:

- Audio version of the Remedy is in production, we have them recorded and now doing final editing
- MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!! January 17-19, 2020, in Allen Texas (30 miles north of DFW airport) we will have a Come and Reason Ministries: The Power of Love Training and Equipping Course. If you would like to be prepared to more effectively share this message then come to this course. More details will be forthcoming shortly.

May 10,11, 2019: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at Barrie SDA Church, 140 Mapleton Ave Barrie, ON L4N 9N7 Canada

May 18, 2019: Dr. Jennings will be a speaker at the Love and Transformation Institute: The Epidemic Rise of Anxiety, Depression and Suicide at the Phoenix Seminary, in Scottsdale, AZ.

June 8, 2019: Dr. Jennings will present The Aging Brain Seminar at Mid Columbia Medical Center, in The Dalles, OR.

June 28, 29, 2019: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at Windsor SDA church in Windsor, Ontario Canada

July 10, 2019: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at the 3rd Global Health Conference, sponsored by the General Conference of SDA and held at Loma Linda University.

July 19,20, 2019: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at the Living Truth SDA Church in London, Ontario Canada.

September 13,14, 2019: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at Gentlebrook Intermediary Care Facility, Hartville, OH. **September 21, 2019:** Dr. Jennings will be speaking at Crossroads Community Church in Georgetown Delaware.

October 9-12, 2019: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at the American Association of Christian Counselors World Conference at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville. Come and Reason Ministries will have a booth in the exhibit hall sharing our material with the attendees.