

**Explore the Bible Extra!**  
**Week of May 25, 2014**  
**Invest in the Best**  
**Song of Songs 5:6-8; 6:1-3; 8:4-7**

**In the News:**

Helen Felumlee of Ohio died on April 12 at the age of 92. Her husband of 70 years, 91-year-old Kenneth Felumlee, died 15 hours later. The couple met as teenagers and were inseparable from that point on. They held hands at breakfast every morning of their marriage. They raised eight children together. They were active in their church and Kenneth was diligent about lending a helping hand to others. There would be times when he wasn't home and Helen was caring for the children, but she didn't mind because she understood his need to help others. When the children were grown and on their own, the couple traveled the country together and were deeply in love to the end. When Helen's health failed, she was restricted to her hospital bed. Kenneth would hold her hand while looking away because he couldn't stand to see her in pain. He began to fade, as well, about 12 hours after her death. He told his family that he was ready to go, but had held out so that he wouldn't have to leave her here on earth by herself.

(To find news stories about this couple, search the Internet using the phrase "couple married 70 years dies.")

**Get Started:**

Relay the story above. Ask: *What qualities do you see exhibited by this couple?*

Point out that today's study focuses on what Solomon said about making our marriages strong and God honoring. We will see that our love for our spouses needs to be a longing love, an exclusive love, and a true love.

**Get to the Point:**

Remind learners of the example of the Felumlee marriage. Ask: How do you think the Felumlee marriage could have influenced others? Is it one that can be a positive influence on the marriages of others around you? What changes can you incorporate to improve your marriage immediately?

Challenge everyone to look for ways they can take a stand for biblical marriage in our society.