

**Draw a
sketch for
each
paragraph.**

Every year, in the Jewish tradition, this beautiful love poem, The Song of Songs—the entire book—is read on the first night of Passover, at the conclusion of the Seder meal. Why? Because it celebrates and commemorates God’s faithfulness to God’s people. Jewish rabbis explain that the song embodies the whole story of the Exodus, metaphorically—that it sings the story of how God has promised to love us and always keeps that promise. It sings the story of how God redeems us, and restores our lives with freedom and hope.

**Jot down
one word
for each
paragraph.**

And the turtledove, in this love song, is the voice of the Messiah. The voice of the turtledove is the voice of God.

So imagine, if you will, what it might have been like to be with Jesus at the Last Supper, eating the Passover meal with his friends. Remembering the Exodus. Sharing the bread and the cup together. And then hearing these beautiful words: “Lo the winter is past...and the time of singing has come.”

As if God, the Father, was saying to Jesus, the Son: “My dearly beloved Son, now is the time for you to sing. There’s a song of redemption to be sung. A song that only YOU can sing. Now is the time.”