Sermon Notes & Study Guide

Song of Solomon 5-6

True love doesn't give up when relationships get difficult.

Song of Solomon 5:1
I came to my garden, my sister, my bride. I gathered my myrrh with my spice. I ate my honeycomb with my honey. I drank my wine with my milk.
Others
Eat, friends, drink, and be drunk with love!

I. Even Great Relationships Have Tension (5:2-8)
She
2 I slept, but my heart was awake. A sound! My beloved is knocking.
"Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my perfect one,
for my head is wet with dew, my locks with the drops of the night."
3 I had put off my garment; how could I put it on? I had bathed my feet; how could I soil them?
4 My beloved put his hand to the latch, and my heart was thrilled within me.
5 I arose to open to my beloved, and my hands dripped with myrrh, my fingers with liquid myrrh, on the handles of the bolt.
6 I opened to my beloved, but my beloved had turned and gone.
My soul failed me when he spoke. I sought him, but found him not; I called him, but he gave no answer.
7 The watchmen found me as they went about in the city; they beat me, they bruised me, they took away my veil, those watchmen of the walls.
8 I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, if you find my beloved, that you tell him I am sick with love.

II. Make Effort to Pursue One Another (5:9-6:1)
Others
9 What is your beloved more than another beloved, O most beautiful among women?
What is your beloved more than another beloved, that you thus adjure us?

A. She Reminds herself of his True and Good Character. (5:9-16)
She
[10] My beloved is radiant and ruddy, distinguished among ten thousand.
[11] His head is the finest gold; his locks are wavy, black as a raven.
[12] His eyes are like doves beside streams of water bathed in milk, sitting beside a full pool.
[13] His cheeks are like beds of spices, mounds of sweet-smelling herbs, His lips are lilies, dripping liquid myrrh.
[14] His arms are rods of gold, set with jewels. His body is polished ivory, bedecked with sapphires.
[15] His legs are alabaster columns, set on bases of gold. His appearance is like Lebanon, choice as the cedars.
[16] His mouth is most sweet, and he is altogether desirable. This is my beloved and this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem.

B. She makes an effort to go seek Him. (6:1)
Where has your beloved gone, O most beautiful among women? Where has your beloved turned, that we may seek him with you?

III. There is Hope in Reconciliation (6:2-13)
She
[2] My beloved has gone down to his garden to the beds of spices, to graze in the gardens and to gather lilies.
[3] I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine; he grazes among the lilies.
He
[4] You are beautiful as Tirzah, my love, lovely as Jerusalem, awesome as an army with banners.
[5] Turn away your eyes from me, for they overwhelm me—Your hair is like a flock of goats leaping down the slopes of Gilead.
[6] Your teeth are like a flock of ewes that have come up from the washing;
all of them bear twins; not one among them has lost its young.
[7] Your cheeks are like halves of a pomegranate behind your veil.
[8] There are sixty queens and eighty concubines, and virgins without number.
[9] My dove, my perfect one, is the only one, the only one of her mother, pure to her who bore her. The young women saw her and called her blessed; the queens and concubines also, and they praised her.
Friends
[10]Who is this that appears like the dawn, fair as the moon, bright as the sun, majestic as the stars in procession?
She

[11] I went down to the nut orchard to look at the blossoms of the valley, to see whether the vines had budded, whether the pomegranates were in bloom.
[12] Before I was aware, my desire set me among the chariots of my kinsman, a prince.
Others
[13] Return, return, O Shulammite return, return, that we may look upon you.
He
Why should you look upon the Shulammite, as upon a dance before two armies?

1. There can be tension in a relationship with Jesus
2. Make an effort to keep pursuing
   Hebrews 11:6b "He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."
3. There is hope in this relationship!
   Romans 5:3-5
   [3] Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, [4] and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, [5] and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Study Guide

- What did God speak to you this weekend?

Read SoS 5:2–8

- If you're comfortable, share a time you experienced conflict or tension in a relationship.
- Share a time when you felt tension or unmet expectations in your relationship with God.

Read SoS 5:9–6:1

- How do you naturally handle conflict or tension in a relationship?
- What are some ways you can pursue one another during conflict?
- How do you work through frustrations in your relationship with Jesus?

Read SoS 6:2–13

- In what relationships or areas of life are you tempted to feel hopeless?
- What are some reasons you can have hope in your relationships?