

Song of Solomon 2:1-3:5

10-4-99

“Courtship!”

1. Intro:

- 1.1. What was your 1st date like? Or, the 1st few months?
 - 1.1.1. Kelly & my 1st date – Sea Fare Inn. {butter, zipper, trip}
 - 1.1.2. Just hearing their voice on the phone (SDSU).
 - 1.1.3. Commitment – Courtship – Kind words – thoughts of romantic love?

2. COURTSHIP CONTINUES!

- 2.1. **COMPARISONS!** (2:1-3)
- 2.2. (1) How many have heard this in reference to Jesus?
 - 2.2.1. Think of any songs calling Christ the “Rose of Sharon” or the “Lily of the Valley”?
 - 2.2.2. It’s actually speaking of the Shulamite. (esp. see next verse/comparison)
 - 2.2.3. **Rose** – Meadow saffron or Crocus. Narcissus, Iris, daffodil.
 - 2.2.4. **Lily** – (shushan) A garden flower.
 - 2.2.4.1. Solomon had made 7’ capitols on top of his 2 pillars in front of the Temple, which were in the shape of lilies.
 - 2.2.5. She’s saying, “I’m just a common flower!”
- 2.3. (2) *“Baby, you’re the top flower in my Greenhouse!” – “You’re like a White Pearl in an ugly Oyster!” - “You’re like a Lily among a bunch of thorns!”*
 - 2.3.1. The daughters say, “Hey, wait a minute?”
- 2.4. (3) She compliments him in a similar way.
 - 2.4.1. Out of 117 verses of this song 55 are clearly her speaking, & another 19 are probably hers.
 - 2.4.1.1. It is the responsibility of **both** to be romantic & “Say it w/Love!”
 - 2.4.2. She said, “Solomon compared to others...you win hands down.”
 - 2.4.2.1. **Ladies** do you build up your men like this? – They can go along way.
 - 2.4.2.2. **Men** do you stand out like an apple tree in a forest. – Bearing fruit in your life? – What tree would she liken you unto?

- 2.5. **I HEAR WEDDING BELLS!** (4-7)
- 2.6. (4,5) She now anticipates her wedding night & consummating the marriage.
- 2.6.1. She does have a strong desire for her husband.
- 2.6.2. She revels in his love for her!
- 2.6.3. **Banqueting house** – House of wine (bet-ha-iine)
- 2.6.3.1. Most see it as a reference to the bridal chamber.
- 2.6.4. **Banner** – A “standard” or a “sign”.
- 2.6.4.1. Often times during a battle an infantry will carry in their infantry’s logo & motto on a banner.
- 2.6.4.2. We proudly display them on the sidelines of the soccer field.
- 2.6.4.3. She said that Solomon’s banner was just one word... “L.O.V.E.”
- 2.6.4.4. **Boyfriends**...what would your girlfriend say your banner reads?
- 2.6.4.4.1.L.U.S.T.? - His Career? – Sports? – LOVE?
- 2.6.4.4.2.If you couldn’t pick love, what other word or phrase would you pick to be your baner.
- 2.6.4.5. **Girlfriends** ...what would your boyfriend say your banner reads?
- 2.6.4.6. **Christian** what would Jesus’ banner read that he’s placed over you?
- 2.7. (6) This is very poetic & quite sensual...flat out steamy.
- 2.7.1. Again this is in her mind, not happening.
- 2.7.2. But note guys, the sexual act isn’t for himself, but he’s sensitive to her desires!
- 2.8. (7) Another defense for marital love(2:7; 8:4) – another statement warning against pre-marital & extramarital sex.
- 2.8.1. Don’t arouse yourself or someone else until it is time for that passion to be satisfied.
- 2.8.2. **Why?** Because **feelings** of love can create intimacy that overpowers **reason!**

- 2.9. **SPRING IS IN THE AIR!** (8-17)
- 2.10. (8) Spring arrives & brings the blossoming of their love & longing.
- 2.10.1. **Voice** – Remember just to hear her/his voice? (H.S. Kel had a lil lisp, was soo cute)
- 2.10.1.1. The telephone calls, could talk for hours!
- 2.10.2. **Note** – he’s enthusiastic in his coming!
- 2.10.2.1. **Leaping & Skipping** – not slowly walking asking himself...
“Is this the right thing?” – But **running** to get there!
- 2.10.2.2. **Q:** Do you look forward to getting home? Or, do you find excuses to stay at work, or at a friends?
- 2.11. (9) She’s a Filly(1:9) he’s a Gazelle!
- 2.11.1. **Gazelle** – like a deer, runs swiftly, most graceful, (mentioned 7 times).
- 2.11.2. **Young Stag** – full grown gazelle in the prime of life & strength.
- 2.11.3. **Q:** Men would you be likened unto a **Gazelle** or a **Bull in a China Shop?** A **Gazelle** or a **Gorilla?**
- 2.11.4. (9b) **A peeping tom?** – No, intently looking for her...not checking her out.
- 2.12. (10) He asks her out! (repeat in 13)
- 2.12.1. He doesn’t barge in & demand his won way & rights. He is gentle & loving, & in the end quite persuasive!
- 2.12.2. * **This kind of sounds like the Rapture also!**
- 2.13. Let’s talk about *Dating/Courtship*! {define}
- 2.13.1. Not all cultures handle the same way.
- 2.13.1.1. No exact **biblical way** is given to date/court, but **biblical wisdom** is throughout the book to keep you pure!
- 2.13.2. **Let’s look at some keys!**
- 2.13.3. [1] **Date/Court “Towards Marriage”!**
- 2.13.3.1. Can you come up with a good reason to Date if it isn’t to go towards marriage?
- 2.13.3.2. I don’t mean you have to be engaged the 1st time you go out to dinner.

2.13.3.3. Junior High parents it is dumb to let your children have boyfriend/girlfriend relationships, let alone encourage them?

2.13.3.3.1. What possible good is this for them? They're just getting hormones, they don't even know what to do w/them.

2.13.3.3.2. They aren't going to marry the person the date in Jn.high.

2.13.4. [2] **Stages - For safety sake!**

2.13.4.1. Get to know her/him **in groups**; then **w/ other couples**; then **as a couple** when your engaged (but set up good perimeters).

2.13.5. [3] **Take Time to get to know the person!**

2.13.5.1. **Too short...too dangerous.** Yes, some make it, but most have such a hard go at it.

2.13.5.1.1. It is easy to **Fall in Love** – But will they **Grow in Love**?

2.13.5.2. "Till death do us part" **God takes seriously!**

2.13.5.3. **Real practical** - Personally I think it's necessary to have had a good fight & hit all the holidays. (too practical?)

2.13.5.4. Learn their character, friends, family, habits, & goals!

2.13.5.5. Learn how they will treat you later on down the line.

2.13.5.6. **Q:** Do they show respect & responsibility? Is there yes, yes? On time? Financial habits?

2.13.6. [3] **Stages - For safety sake!**

2.13.6.1. Get to know her/him **in groups**; then **w/ other couples**; then **as a couple** when your engaged (but set up good perimeters).

2.13.7. [4] **Date w/o sexual involvement**

2.13.7.1. Sex confuses things. – You don't need to "try the person out" (which is the world's philosophy)

2.13.8. [5] **Grow spiritually together.**

2.13.8.1. Don't wait until your married thinking you'll then have time to pray & do devotions together!

2.14. (11-13) Note, there is **timing** involved with this.

2.14.1. Winter is over, Spring's in the air!

2.14.2. I just picture Thumper running out all twitter-patted after I read this.

- 2.15. (14) Seems to jump to Solomon speaking here (“your” is in the feminine)
- 2.16. (15) The little foxes would come & eat the low hanging tender grapes as they harvested.
- 2.16.1. **Tender grapes** – or young relationships can be easily hurt!
- 2.16.2. This urges diligence in dealing w/those things that can harm the relationship.
- 2.16.3. It can also be interpreted “*Let us catch the foxes*” – Speaking of a **mutual** decision to protect their relationship.
- 2.16.4. Q: What lil foxes are spoiling your vine?
- 2.16.4.1. These lil foxes are the kind of problems that can **disturb** or **destroy** a relationship.
- 2.16.4.2. **Temecula Vineyards** are getting wiped out this year because of a tinny-tiny insect.
- 2.16.4.3. **It is often the little foxes that cause the biggest problems!**
- 2.17. (16,17) **Reaffirmation of love & exclusive commitment!**
- 2.17.1. Engagement, commitment, loyalty to one.
- 2.17.2. He seems to leave for a time. Remember to give your partner some room. Being willing to release them to do their work & ministry.
- 2.17.3. She seems to be a little anxious over him leaving.
- 2.17.4. **Gazelle?** or Gorilla?
- 2.17.5. **Young Stag skipping & leaping?** Or, elephant, stomping & smashing?
- 2.18. **A DREAM! (3:1-5)**
- 2.19. (1-5) Her anxiety seems to surface in a dream, where she searches, finds, & brings him home to her moms house.
- 2.20. (5) The refrain of waiting is repeated!
- 2.20.1. 1st time(2:7) **desire** shouldn’t rush love! – 2nd time(here) **fear** shouldn’t rush love either!