



Week 6 | Song of Songs | November 6

Key Focus: "You should marry your best friend."

Opening Up:

- Are you the kind of person who has a "best friend?" Explain.
- Does friendship come easy to you? Explain.
- What makes friendships hard?
- What is the difference between a romantic relationship and a friendship?

Reference: Song of Solomon 5:2-6:10

Discuss:

1. The formula for love is not static, but fluid. Relationships are hard because people are always evolving and changing. Are you more of a relationship guru or a relationship dummy? Do you know anyone who is a relationship guru? Describe them. What about relationships dumbfounds you?
2. It has been said that "married life doesn't drift toward intimacy; you have to work at intimacy." If you let your life and relationships drift, where would you be drifting?
3. In 5:2-6 this couple's life is out of sync. There are at least three areas that caused this marriage to be off its rhythm: 1. Time together, 2. Patience, 3. Communication. Why are these three areas important? How did your parents do at these growing up? What do you want to do better? What have you learned in these areas of your life?
4. In 5:7 she is beating herself up. Have you ever "beat yourself up" over a mistake in a relationship? Explain.
5. Expectations without communication produce vexation. How have you seen the dangers of expectations without communication in relationships?
6. In 5:10-16 she describes her man. She says that he is her friend. Stereotypically men like to do friendship side-by-side (in activity) and women like to do life face-to-face (in conversation). Both kinds of activities are important. Which is more important to you? Explain.
7. There are three types of relationships. How have you witnessed these three types? How is friendship the answer to an "H" shaped relationship? Three types of marriages:
 1. A – No life (When one spouse is allowed to turn all of the focus on his or her agenda.)
 2. Y - Separate lives (When spouses chase their own passions at the exclusion of the other.)
 3. H - Shared life (When friendship of two individual spouses hold a relationship together.)
8. She is described in 6:4 and 6:13 as a peace maker. She sought after him and made peace. Why is peace and reconciliation hard establish? Some have said, "love is war." Is it possible to have war in marriage that brings about peace? How so?
9. In 2 Corinthians 5:17 we are told that Christians have received a new life. How are the ways of the new life with Christ different than the old life's ways? How does the new life change how we seek peace in a relationship?
10. Pray.