



25 Sep 2022

Song of Songs 2:8-5:1 – Sigh No More Small Group Questions

Pray for God's help as you turn to look at His word, to understand and respond rightly to what you'll see. Read through the passage and then discuss these questions together.

1. What's your favourite season and why?

We all go through different 'seasons of the soul'. In 2:8-17 the man is calling the woman out of 'winter' into the 'springtime' of his love. At first she's resistant (vv14-15), but eventually he woos her (vv16-17).

2. Read 3:10-15, while thinking of Jesus in the role of the man and yourself in the place of the woman. How does it make you feel that he would come over mountains and hills (v8) to reach you and speak these words over you?
3. What can be the "little foxes" that hold back your relationship with him from flourishing?
4. Distance, frustration and longing can feature in any relationship, including the Christian's relationship with Christ. In 3:1-5, are those feelings a sign of the health or the lack of health in the relationship between the man and woman? How can the same be true in our relationship with Jesus?

A. W. Tozer, in 'The Pursuit of God', wrote, "Come near to the holy men and women of the past and you will soon feel the heat of their desire after God. They mourned for Him, they prayed and wrestled and sought for Him day and night, in season and out, and when they had found Him the finding was all the sweeter for the long seeking."

5. How does that consider you to pursue any lost intimacy with Jesus?
6. The centre of the song is 5:1, which describes the joyful moment of consummation. Estimates vary greatly, but it's supposedly something men in particular think about a lot. Spiritually, it's analogous to the day when Jesus will come to earth to be united to his bride, the church (see Revelation 21). How often do you think about that day?
7. How could thinking about all you will enjoy *then* help you to cope with what you do not have in *this* life?

Respond to God's word in prayer

Take some time to pray for each other

Our desire for small groups is that they would help us be a "people who are in the process of having their lives turned inside out and upside down by the progressive work of transforming grace."

(Taken from Lead by Paul Tripp, p42)