



Book of Love

THE BOOK OF LOVE, PART 2: THE ART OF DATING

Most relationships don't fall apart overnight—they fade slowly. Passion cools, routines replace romance, and pursuit turns into autopilot. Many couples assume attraction should be automatic and lasting, while singles often confuse intensity with intimacy. God's Word tackles both assumptions.

The reality is that pursuit doesn't end at marriage, and chemistry alone can't sustain love. Are we still intentionally pursuing the person we say we love—or have we stopped doing what once made the relationship come alive?

BIG IDEA: Pursue your spouse every single day, because what is won can be lost.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What's the most memorable date you have ever been on? What made it memorable?
2. What's the most memorable or funniest thing you've ever done—or seen someone do—in the name of love? Why do people often put more effort at the beginning of a relationship than later when they're in the relationship?
3. *With your Bible or Bible App, [read Genesis 2:24](#).*

“A man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife and they will become one flesh.”

[Genesis 2:24 \(NIV\)](#)

4. Kim said, “*Dabach* (דָּבַח) to cling or adhere, to pursue passionately or to catch by pursuit, to pursue hard with affection and devotion. How does this definition challenge the idea that pursuit ends after marriage?
5. Kim said that people pursue hardest what they don't yet have. Why do you think pursuit often fades once security sets in? How have you seen this affect marriages over time?
6. *With your Bible or Bible App, [read Song 1:9, 15](#).*

You are as exciting, my darling, as a mare among Pharaoh's stallions.

[Song 1:9 \(NLT\)](#)

How beautiful you are, my darling, how beautiful you are! Your eyes are like doves.

[Song 1:15 \(NLT\)](#)

7. Solomon repeatedly calls the woman “my darling,” meaning *best friend*. Why is friendship essential for lasting romance? How does friendship deepen attraction beyond the physical?
8. Kim said, “Date your best friend.” What does that look like practically for married couples today? For those who are single, what qualities define a true best friend?
9. Kim warned that increasing physical intimacy too quickly can shallow verbal communication. Why does strong communication need to come before physical intimacy? How does verbal communication build trust and emotional safety, in a way that physical intimacy does not?
10. *With your Bible or Bible App, [read Song 2:7](#).*

Promise me, O women of Jerusalem, by the gazelles and wild deer, not to awaken love until the time is right.

[Song 2:7 \(NLT\)](#)

11. Why is the question “*When is the time?*” more important than “*Where is the line?*”? How does honoring timing protect future intimacy rather than restrict it?
12. *With your Bible or Bible App, [read Song 1:10–11](#).*

¹⁰ *How lovely are your cheeks; your earrings set them afire! How lovely is your neck, enhanced by a string of jewels.* ¹¹ *We will make for you earrings of gold and beads of silver.*

[Song 1:10-11 \(NLT\)](#)

13. Solomon expresses love through affirmation, gifts, and service. Which love language do you most naturally give? Which do you most need to receive? How can small daily “deposits” strengthen relationships over time?

He is like a bouquet of sweet henna blossoms from the vineyards of En-gedi. ¹⁶ You are so handsome, my love, pleasing beyond words! The soft grass is our bed; ¹⁷ fragrant cedar branches are the beams of our house, and pleasant smelling firs are the rafters.

[Song 1:14, 16-17 \(NLT\)](#)



14. Kim described En Gedi as a place of rest, beauty, and connection in the middle of the desert. What would an “En Gedi place” look like in your current season of life or marriage? Why is intentional space for connection so important?

15. *With your Bible or Bible App, [read Song 2:14.](#)*

My dove is hiding behind the rocks, behind an outcrop on the cliff. Let me see your face; let me hear your voice. For your voice is pleasant, and your face is lovely. [Song 2:14 \(NLT\)](#)

16. Why is emotional vulnerability harder to maintain over time in relationships? What keeps people from being tender and open with one another?

17. *With your Bible or Bible App, [read Song 2:15.](#)*

Catch all the foxes, those little foxes, before they ruin the vineyard of love, for the grapevines are blossoming! [Song 2:15 \(NLT\)](#)

18. What are some “little foxes” that quietly damage relationships today? Which foxes—if left unchecked—can prevent love from maturing?

19. Kim closed by saying, “*To get what you once had, you must do what you once did.*” What’s one thing you could begin doing again this week to intentionally pursue your spouse?

MOVING FORWARD

Love doesn’t fade because people stop caring—it fades because people stop pursuing. Whether single or married, God’s design is intentional, daily pursuit marked by tenderness, communication, and commitment. This week, choose one intentional act of pursuit—encouragement, time, service, or vulnerability—and watch how small steps begin restoring depth and connection.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Catch all the foxes, those little foxes, before they ruin the vineyard of love, for the grapevines are blossoming!
[Song 2:15 \(NLT\)](#)