The Beauty of Making Up
Love That Won't Let Go
Song of Solomon 6

Pray God speak to us today
- I pray that Your Holy Spirit would do a healing work in our relationships.

this week we will learn how to heal broken relationships
- And the truth is, all relationships at some point get strained, cracked & broken,
  - the question is, Is there any hope for them? There is if you seek God for help!

last time we were together as we began chapter 5 we saw Solomon
- finally gets home from work, it's probably the middle of the night
  - he's so excited to see his wife and he can't wait to hug her and to be with her
- and he knocks on the door and he wants kisses but she says not tonight honey

I'm sleeping and I don't want to get up & let you in, so he turns around and leaves

And then in chapter 5 & 6 we see she has a change of heart
- And she desires to restore that relationship
  - and make things right. They make up. They forgive each other.

- Some of you may be in a place right now where things aren't so good.

But with the help of the Holy Spirit, and through the power of Christ,
- there can always be a fresh work, because in Christ, He can make all things new.

If things are bad right now, but there are two people seeking Christ,
- He can give you something better than you could ever ask, think, or imagine.
  - God resist the proud but lifts up the humble

bring yourself before God, and ask Him to have His way –
- if you see any selfishness in you– and I see it in me all the time.
  - say, "God, help me to die to myself

Help me to be a servant like you, and to be a blessing to my spouse."

- In this chapter They are actively seeking to restore their relationship.

And therefore the daughters of Jerusalem asked the question, where is your beloved?

1 Where has your beloved gone,
O fairest among women?
Where has your beloved turned aside,
That we may seek him with you?

In the previous chapter, the daughters of Jerusalem asked the bride,
- *What is it that makes your beloved so special and so unique?*

What's so great about the king that you keep telling us you are in love with him?
  - Last chapter she told her girlfriends all the things why she admired him…
- And now that they have listened and observed the testimony of the bride,
  - they want to know where to find him also & go search for him with her.

Our Marriages should be a Billboard that points people to Jesus

the relationship between husband and wife were designed by God

- to serve as a picture to this world of Christ's love for the church
    - and the church's response to Christ. Love & Respect

Eph. 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

When the world looks at how a Christian couple loves each other,

- prayerfully they will see Jesus at work in the midst of those two people.

And your relationship will make people desire to know more about Jesus,

- **to seek him with you**!!

Hopefully our relationship with Jesus is attractive not just as couples,

- but also as individuals, especially if your single…
- When you have the opportunity to share your testimony
    - about your relationship with Christ, there are those who may ask,
        - what makes Jesus so great?

Why are you so devoted to Him? What sets him apart from others?

- And in that moment, you can share your testimony.
    - as they want to know what it is that you have.
- And they may even ask you, tell us where we can seek this one that you serve
    - Can we seek Jesus with you? Can you point me to Him also?

The Bible tells us in Matthew 5:16, it says, let your light so shine before men that when they see your good works, they may glorify your father who is in heaven.

- live in such a way that when people see your testimony and how you live for Christ,
    - that they also want to serve Him.

Perhaps you're a single person and

- maybe you've observed Christian couples and you've been blessed by
    - their relationship that you have seen.
        - And your question is, **where is my beloved**?

And you have a desire for a godly, healthy relationship also.

- there's nothing wrong with that desire.
    - I believe that desire is placed there by the Lord.

The key is you want to make sure your relationship with Jesus

- **is the most important relationship you have.**
    - **That He would be the focus of your life.**
- B/c He will never lead you astray. He will never break your heart.

He'll never leave you alone. And as you make Jesus the center of your life,

- then in time he will bring that other person into your life.

Psalm 37:4 Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.

Secondly, only date those who share that same passion for Christ that you have,

- 2 Corinthians 6:14 Do not be unequally yoked together with non-believers.
    - Don't date a non-believer

Don't think that you have a special calling to do missionary dating

Be patient and don't settle for less than what the Lord has for you.

- You want God's best for you. Too many people settle b/c their tired of searching.

Concentrate on being the right person and God will bring you the right person.

- Be the person that you desire to marry.

Love Jesus with all that you are and in time, he'll bring you the right person.

When she realized she was in the wrong she was willing to humble herself

- and seek her husband and I think the point here is pretty simple
    - when we have problems and issues in our marriage
- we need to humble ourselves and we need to go to our spouse
    - and take the high road and confess our sin, repent of our sin
        - and ask for forgiveness

the bible says in James 5:16 we should confess our sin one to another

- say I messed up, I'm sorry, That was my fault, will you forgive me?

Jesus said in Matthew 5:23 when you bring your gift to the altar and you remember that somebody has something against you, leave your gift at the altar seek them out and reconcile, ask for forgiveness then go offer your offering to god

this is important b/c if we don't humble ourself, God will

- and it's better to humble ourselves than to let God do it…

2 My beloved has gone to his garden,
To the beds of spices,
To feed his flock in the gardens,
And to gather lilies.
3 **I am my beloved's,**
And my beloved is mine.
He feeds his flock among the lilies.

I love how it says I am his and he is mine. I committed to him. He committed to me.

- We're going to stay in sync. We're going to make this work.
    - Were going to get through this hardship.

That is a statement that indicates that the emotional distance that was there

- between her and him is over, it's gone. I love him. He loves me

Now we know from scripture that Solomon spent a considerable amount of time

- planting vineyards and gardens and cultivating their growth.
    - He tells us this in Ecclesiastes 2:4-6

I made my works great, I built myself houses, and planted myself vineyards. I made myself gardens and orchards, and I planted all kinds of fruit trees in them. I made myself water pools from which to water the growing trees of the grove.

- As the Shulamite was asked, Where is this one that you love?
    - She knew right where he was.

There is trust. There is transparency. She knows his whereabouts.

- they trusted one another.

Problems will arise quickly in a relationship, in a marriage when the truth isn't told.

- Relationships that are solid & healthy are built on honesty and trust.

King Solomon was always working cultivating beautiful things.

- And in the same way, when I think about our king, Jesus,
    - I'm thankful that he is at work in our lifes

The Bible tells us in John 15:1-8 Jesus speaking about himself, said, " I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He [a]takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 **Abide in Me**, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you[b] will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

- Here we see that Jesus is desiring to cultivate things within our lives
    - that bring him glory. He wants us to Abide in Him & we will become like Him
        - And then be fruitful for Him

Abiding illustration of Tea Bag that they showed us this week at NAMB

- The longer the Tea Bag sits in the Water, the stronger the tea gets
    - Just like the longer we sit in Gods Word the stronger we will get

He may prune some things, cut some things back,

- but for the purpose of future growth.

The apostle Paul Knew Jesus wanted to work in our life's and he prayed
in Ephesians 3:17-21 that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— 19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.
20 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, **according to the power that works in us**, 21 to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.

He prayed that the church would sink their roots deep into the love of God

- and out of that soil of his love would come forth beautiful things
    - that would bring him honor and glory.

Now Solomon, he wasn't only planting and cultivating things that were beautiful,

- but it also says here that **he was among His flock**
    - **and that he was feeding and caring for them.**

And in the same way, Jesus, is not just the divine grower

- planting things within our lives that can cause us to be fruitful,

- but he is also the shepherd that leads his sheep. He is among the flock.

In the scriptures, the Bible likens God's people to sheep.

- they're really not the smartest creatures in God's kingdom.
  - They can go astray quickly.

in Isaiah 40:11. It says that he will feed his flock like a shepherd. He will gather the lambs in his arms and carry them and gently lead those who are with young.

- As a shepherd, whatever your need is, if you need to be fed, then he'll feed you.
  - He'll provide what you need.

If you need to be carried in this season of your life, He'll carry you.

- That's the kind of shepherd he is.

If you need to be led, then he'll lead you in the direction that you need to go.

Jesus is the good shepherd. And he even said this about himself. In John 10:11
" I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

4 O my love, you are as beautiful as Tirzah,
Lovely as Jerusalem,
Awesome as an army with banners!
5 Turn your eyes away from me,
For they have overcome me.
Your hair is like a flock of goats
Going down from Gilead.
6 Your teeth are like a flock of sheep
Which have come up from the washing;
Every one bears twins,
And none is [b]barren among them.
7 Like a piece of pomegranate
Are your temples behind your veil.

Turza was this beautiful place in Israel. one of the most beautiful locations

- that you could go to.
  - he's saying to her, "You're like the most beautiful place I have ever been."

you are delightful and the perfection of Israel.

- He's like, "there's a world out there, but you are my capital city."

the goats in gilead had that long flowing beautiful black hair

- and so he says her hair is beautiful

Her teeth are all shiny and bright & she's got all her teeth

- You're not a pirate. she's not like a hockey player with missing teeth

these verses sound familiar to the previous chapters.

- this is like the chorus on loop. He repeats it.
  - He says Shes lovely. She is beautiful. She's amazing. He's praising her!

I don't think that there's a woman here today who grows tired of hearing & being reminded

- that she is loved and that she is beautiful to her husband.
    - I don't think that we could say it enough.
        - We probably don't say it enough.

we need to continue to say it over and over. They don't grow weary of it.

- And not just the physical beauty, but other things that we admire & appreciate.
    - There is this consistent reaffirming of His love for her,

And the truth is I never grow tired of hearing how much the Lord loves me.

- I don't think we will ever get to this place where we think,
    - "You know what? I don't need to hear about grace anymore.
- **No, Lord, tell me more. Lord, keep reminding me how gracious you are.**
        - Lord, tell me that you still forgive me.
        - Lord, tell me that I still belong to you.
        - Lord, tell me that you're still merciful
            - and that those mercies are new every morning.
        - Lord, tell me that there's power in the Holy Spirit.
        - Lord, tell me once again that these promises are for me."

you cant hear those things enough! I never grow weary of it.

- And here is the king singing over his bride, singing of her beauty,
    - singing of what he appreciates and admires about her.

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,
The favorite of the one who bore her.
The daughters saw her
And called her blessed,
The queens and the concubines,
And they praised her.
10 Who is she who looks forth as the morning,
Fair as the moon,
Clear as the sun,
Awesome as an army with banners?

Out of all the women of the land out here.

- I still am putting the glass slipper on your foot.

I still choose you.

The king mentions there are queens, concubines, there are virgins without number.

- There's a lot of other women in the world, but he says here she was the only one.
    - The rest of them, don't matter to me.

you're one in a million, you're the best, "there's nobody like you.

- I forgive you and want to be reunited with you!

And the truth is "Forgiven people should be forgiving people."

Here we see the exclusive nature of their relationship one for another

- and that the king only had eyes for his bride.
    - This is extremely important that we only have eyes for our spouse.

There is nothing more discouraging and will create a greater sense of insecurity

- that if you are somewhere with your spouse & you begin to check out the other sex,
    - it is so damaging and it ought not to be so.

we have to, as Job said, make a covenant with our eyes that we wouldn't sin.

- We need to be careful & guard against what comes through our eyes.
    - **Our wife & husband need to know that we only have eyes for them.**

Don't have wandering eyes.

- And I love this because he's focused upon her & everything else is in the peripheral.
    - She's all that really matters to him.

he sees her as a special individual and says there's nobody else like you.

And as the Lord looks at you today there's nobody else like you

- You're unique, fearfully, wonderfully made.
    - He doesn't see you as a number among billions of people on the planet.
- He sees you as an individual. He sees you personally and loves you.

There are many in the world, but he says, "I have eyes for you."

- I want a personal relationship with you!

He says…

You take my breath away like seeing an army marching with all their banners & artilary

- A king loves to see the scene of an army marching with all their power
    - So he tells her she is a big deal to him and loves what He sees!!!

11 I went down to the garden of nuts
To see the verdure of the valley,
To see whether the vine had budded
And the pomegranates had bloomed.

The bride says She's observing to see whether or not the vine has budded,

- whether the pomegranates have bloomed.
    - she's taking stock of what has been planted
        - to see if anything is actually being produced.

That's something that is extremely important in our relationships that we have.

- She takes stock of the relationship to see if its growing & fruitful.

Are we investing in our relationship, are we putting logs on the fire.

- Are we loving each other well = are we going in the right direction?

Have we just been focusing on the kids & not cultivating our relationship?

- What are we living for? Are we serving the Lord together?
    - Are we accomplishing our goals together? Where are we headed?

Is our relationship still budding & healthy? what needs to be watered or uprooted?

she takes stock & evaluates!

- when was the last time you as a couple just took stock of your relationship
    - and had some heart to heart discussions & evaluations?
        - That youchecked in with one another to see how each other are doing?

And sometimes those conversations are difficult to have, but they're necessary.

- make sure that the vine is still blossoming. that there's fruit still on this tree
    - and continue to cultivate things that are important to each other

The Bible says to examine ourselves,
2 Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves.

Psalm 139:23–24 Search me, O God, and know my heart;
Try me, and know my anxieties;
24 And see if there is any wicked way in me,
And lead me in the way everlasting.

12 Before I was even aware,
My soul had made me
As the chariots of [c]my noble people.
13 Return, return, O Shulamite;
Return, return, that we may look upon you!
What would you see in the Shulamite—
As it were, the dance of [d]the two camps?

"Return, return." He's returned. She's returned.

- You can't stay in sync when you've taken your ball and gone home.
    - They're back moving and flowing together like an ice skating couple
        - It says like the dance of 2 camps

2 Chapters 25% of the book was dedicated to this fight.

- To help you understand that there is difficulties in marriage.

It needs focus, work & attention.

Ephesians 4:32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

If your marriage feels disconnected today, there is hope!

- Every Marriage goes through hard seasons
    - Even Solomon and his bride, have days like this. But it didn't end there.
- They chose communication & fought to get back in sync

many have commentated that this dance that they speak of, of two camps,

- it's an expression of joy as they are reunited

The Bible tells us in Psalm 30:5 that weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

The Bible says in Psalm 30:11 that he has turned my mourning into Dancing.

I don't know where you are in your relationship with God today

- But if there is distance I want to encourage you to return to him
    - To have a vibrant relationship with Him
- He wants to give you His peace & Joy!

Share Gospel

Pray