

The Song of Solomon 6:4-8:4 *The Duet of Reconciliation*

UNDERSTANDING THE PASSAGE

1. **Main Idea of the Passage:** The conflict between the husband and wife has now led to repentance, reconciliation, and renewal of their covenant through sexual intimacy, which points to the ultimate duet of love between Christ and His Bride, the Church.
2. **Melodic Line of the Book:** God is love and The Song of Solomon sings of that love, revealed in human marriage, a gloriously-intimate bond between God and His people.

KEY WORDS/THEMES

1. **Return (*šub*) v. 6:13 (4x)** – to turn around, repent; to turn to, to be devoted to. Repentance requires both a change in action and a change of heart, often over a period of time.
2. **Desire (*t^ešūqāh*) v. 7:10 (see also Gen. 3:16; 4:7)** – “found in Gen. 3:16 in reference to Eve’s desire for her husband. It is as if we are observing the Fall momentarily reversed. ... It obviously is a very strong, almost overpowering, urge. His desire for her easily equals hers for him. She is at no disadvantage. She relishes the security of her relationship to her husband.” Kinlaw, EBC.
3. **Adjure (*šāba*) v. 8:4 (see also 2:7; 3:5; 5:8-9)** to plead with someone (the daughters of Jerusalem) forcefully; to make one swear an oath, give a charge.

STRUCTURE/OUTLINE OF THE SERMON

- I. Introduction
- II. The Text
 - A. He Sees Again (6:4-10)
 - B. She Is Seen Again (6:11-12)
 - C. Repentance (6:13a)
 - D. Two Solos Turn into a Duet (6:13b-8:4)
- III. The Most Important Duet of All
- IV. Conclusion

GOSPEL CENTRALITY

The most important ‘I DO’ moment for you is not the one you will say at your wedding. It is the one you will say to Jesus as he offers himself to you. The most important duet of love is the one you will sing with the Lord. The most important moment of forgiveness, gift, love, and union is the moment you are given to Jesus, as he becomes your Beloved and realize his desire is for you.

KNOWING AND BEING KNOWN

- Reflect on and recount with your group, if you have not already done so, your conversion story.
- How does your 'great I do moment' affect your relationship with your spouse? with others?
- What power have you been given that you are being called to give away or share? What relationships are you being called to value or renew?
- What opportunities have you had to be 'conduits of God's grace' for others? Who has God placed in your life or in your sphere of influence that you might be called to pour into their lives?
- Read 1 Corinthians 13 and ask God where he wants you to apply this in your life? in your group?

RESPONDING IN PRAYER

- Thank God for the good news of the gospel – that Jesus both desires us AND makes a way for us to be in relationship with Him.
- Repent and ask for forgiveness for times you have valued power and personal pleasure over love.
- Pray for opportunities and boldness to be used as a conduit of God's grace in the lives of others.
- Pray for those among your family, friends, and community who have not put their trust in Jesus, that they would give as much of themselves as they know how, to as much of Jesus as they understand, and then trust Him to wed Himself to them and take them the rest of the way.