

# SUMMER OF LOVE

Week 7

FAMILY & GROUP DISCUSSION

## BRIDE OF CHRIST. EXCITEMENT. (SOS 3)

### INTRODUCTION

We should be excited about God and his relationship with us, that He forgives sin, that welcomes us home. That excitement must transform into commitment and into a deep commitment with Christ. Just like newly weds are excited to be married, their excitement must transform into commitment or else the relationship won't thrive, like a marriage should.

### DISCUSSION

What was the most fun you have had at a wedding?

### EXPLANATION

How is your spouse a safe place to you?

How does the excitement you feel in relationships move into commitment?

### APPLICATION

Read Ezekiel 16

God views our relationship with Him like a marriage (a very serious thing).

How do we view it?

How does our unfaithfulness to Christ hinder our excitement or commitment to God?

In what ways does a person show their excitement and commitment to Christ?

### MISSION

How can showing excitement and commitment in our relationships influence our culture for the better?

In what ways can we redeem this idea of marriage in our culture, so they can understand how serious a commitment to Christ he calls us to?



# SUMMER OF LOVE

WEEK 7 - BRIDE OF  
CHRIST. EXCITEMENT.  
(SOS 3)

Week 7 Notes  
& SCRIPTURE VERSES

Romans 15:13

Song of Solomon 3

John 14:2

Isaiah 62:5

Romans 5:8

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## BRIDE OF CHRIST. EXCITEMENT. (SOS 3)

***Romans 15:13 “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”***

### **THE DREAM: SOS 3:1-4**

In the days before their wedding, she has a dream and her worst fear comes true, she is without the one she loves, the one her heart longs for is gone. So, she searches everywhere and finally finds him. Filled with joy that he is not gone forever, she leaps into his arms the safest place she knows.

### **THE WEDDING: SOS 3:6-11**

Weddings are in large part a metaphor for us and God, in fact, in the scriptures believers are often called the bride of Christ. In ancient Jewish times, if a man wanted to marry a woman, he would go to her father's house with 3 things:

- 1) a large sum of money (or other expensive items) to pay a bride price. We see Jesus do this by coming down from His heavenly throne and paying the price for our sins. Hebrews 19:5.
- 2) The man would bring a betrothal contract with his promises written to the bride. Again, we see Jesus do this by setting up a new covenant. 2 Corinthians 3:6.
- 3) The man would bring a skin of wine and, if the father approves the marriage, the girl would be called in and they drink the wine together; during this she would commit her self to the man. We see Jesus do this in taking communion with His disciples. Matthew 26:27-28.

Now, after everyone agrees and these steps have taken place, the two are now married, but before she moves away from her parents' house, the man goes and builds a place for the new couple to live. Jesus does this in John 14:2. There are tons of metaphors in a Jewish wedding that God relates to His relationship with His people. Those who are believers should be excited about this. Excited about living life with God, about Him providing and the fact we get to enter into a loving relationship with the creator of everything.

Sadly, what often happens is we take this excitement and, instead of it transforming into commitment into something good, it transforms into disconnection. We become an adulterer against God. We are unfaithful to Him; we try and distance our self from Him; we don't listen to His wise council; we don't submit ourselves to Him. Ezekiel 16. We are unfaithful to God, and now, instead of being excited about our relationship with Christ, we are scared of the repercussion of our actions. Wrongly, we think Jesus is not interested in us, and instead of commitment, we settle for disconnection.

We should be excited about God and his relationship with us, that He forgives sin, that welcomes us home. That excitement must transform into commitment and into a deep commitment with Christ. Just like newly weds are excited to be married, their excitement must transform into commitment or else the relationship won't thrive, like a marriage should.