

SUMMER OF LOVE

Week 5
FAMILY & GROUP DISCUSSION

DO NOT STIR UP LOVE UNTIL IT PLEASES - SOS 2:2-7

INTRODUCTION

V7 I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, by the gazelles or the does of the field, that you not stir up or awaken love until it pleases. Don't rush in; allow God His time to work...let dodh come when it should, after marriage when you have a lifetime to explore it in the safety and sanctity of that covenant.

DISCUSSION

How is our response to God's love meant to change how we react and interact with those around us?

EXPLANATION

Read Matthew 22:37-39

Why do you think it is important to God that we love each other?

Why do you think it is important HOW we love each other?

APPLICATION

What is your love language?

What is your spouse's love language?

How do you meet your spouse's love language?

What is something your spouse or best friend has done that made you feel the most loved?

MISSION

What is the best and most biblical way to show love to those around you?

Is there a time when you weren't shown love by someone around you?

Have you ever not shown love to someone around you?

Brainstorm a way for your Community group to actively show God's love this week.



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Week 5 Notes
& SCRIPTURE VERSES

Song of Solomon 2:2-7

Genesis 22:2

Genesis 44:20

Exodus 21:5

Leviticus 19:18

Deuteronomy 10:19

Genesis 27:4, 9, 14

Ecclesiastes 5:9

Psalms 119:47-48, 127

Song of Solomon 8:6-7

Song of Solomon 1:2

Proverbs 7:18

Matthew 7:24-27

Proverbs 14:1

1 Peter 3

Ephesians 5:25

Jeremiah 31:3

Deuteronomy 4:37-39

Hosea 11:1

Malachi 1:2-3

Proverbs 3:12



DO NOT STIR UP LOVE UNTIL IT PLEASES - SOS 2:2-7

SOS 2:7 *“I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, by the gazelles or the does of the field, that you not stir up or awaken love until it pleases.”*

The link between love and obedience is seen again and again in the Old Testament (Dt 30:16-20; Jos 22:5; Ps 119:113, 119, 127, 159, 163, 165, 167). But, in the context of the Old Testament, God's commands were given only after he had acted to redeem Israel. In the Exodus, God demonstrated his faithfulness to his ancient promises given to Abraham, and he showed his power. So, when the people of Israel were called to love and to obey God, they were able to respond on the basis of God's clear self-revelation.

This is a basic feature of the call to love God. Love is to be a response to God's initiating acts of saving love. God initiates. Man responds. It is also important to note that the commandments associate love for God with love for others. Thus Jesus placed love for neighbor second only to one's love for God in the two “great commandments” of the law.

This is also how a husband is to approach and love his bride, the same way God approaches and loves His children.

The Song of Songs uses three different words for Love between a man and a woman.

- **Rayah** - This is a general word for “love” or “like,” and it varies in intensity with its subject and its object.
- **Ahabah** - Deep affection. It is when your mind and your heart are bent towards your lover.
- **Dodh** - Literally, dodh means to caress, to rock, or to *fondle*. Dodh comes from an unused root meaning, properly, to boil.

When a man and a woman come together, these three loves are to become combined; when they are combined they create a new thing, a new element, which is powerful and creates energy and gives off heat that can power a love for a lifetime.

Works like this:

- Rayah is like the foundation, for a house, it's built on friendship, trust and love.
- Ahabah is the house itself. The walls, siding, roof, rooms, all built on top of the foundation.
- Dodh is like the furnishings.

Garry Chapman wrote a book called the 5 love languages that people have:

- **Touch**
- **Time**
- **Service**
- **Gifts**
- **Words/Talking**

Song of Solomon 2:3-6 As an apple tree among the trees of the forest, so is my beloved among the young men. With great delight I sat in his shadow, and his fruit was sweet to my taste. He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love. Sustain me with raisins; refresh me with apples, for I am sick with love. His left hand is under my head, and his right hand embraces me!

Three things from these verses:

- 1) She needs a protector - *his banner over me was love.*
- 2) He needs, in certain circumstances, to be told WHAT TO DO. *His left hand is under my head, and his right hand embraces me!*
- 3) Communication is key.

Men don't need to understand women, they need to understand their woman. Christians are to serve each other.

I believe God wants his children to serve each other in marriage, make love to one another, grow old together, be faithful to one another, and DELIGHT in each other.

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