

HOW TO ENJOY SEXUAL INTIMACY

JIM NICODEM | NOVEMBER 19 & 20 , 2022

SONG OF SONGS

Introduction

1. Context of Covenant

2. The Context of Faithfulness

3. The Context of Affirmation

4. The Context of Leisure

Conclusion:

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & GROUPS

1. Describe a time when you found yourself wearing the wrong clothes for the occasion. How does the analogy of wearing the right clothes in the right context relate to this sermon's topic of sexual intimacy?
2. After watching the Bible Project video on Song of Songs (SOS), list what you learned about the background of this book. Why is it unlikely that King Solomon wrote SOS? Why is it incorrect to interpret SOS as an allegory of Christ's love for his church?
3. Why do you think God included an entire book in his Holy Word on sexual intimacy?
4. Read Genesis 2:22-24. According to these verses, what should occur before a man and a woman enjoy a "one flesh" sexual relationship? Make a case for why sexual intimacy should be reserved for marriage.
5. Read I Corinthians 6:12-20. What are Paul's reasons for saying that what we do with our bodies really matters? What does Paul call sex outside of marriage in v.18? Besides prostitution (the example in this passage), what other forms of sex outside of marriage should be avoided?
6. Read SOS 2:3, 4. What's the significance of the banner word picture? (Hint: see 2:16; 6:3; 7:10.) Why do you think faithfulness is such an important context for sexual intimacy?
7. Read SOS 2:15. What's the significance of the vineyard word picture--and what are the little foxes that have the potential of ruining our vineyard? Give some examples of little foxes that married couples should guard against.
8. Read SOS 4:1-5. Putting aside some of the strange metaphors in these verses, what can we learn about affirming one's spouse from this husband? Why would an absence of such affirmation undermine sexual intimacy?
9. Read SOS 1:4; 2:10; 7:11, 12. How does leisure time together contribute to a couple's sexual intimacy? What advice would you give to a couple who objects to the importance of leisure time because: they don't have similar interests, or they're too busy, or their kids' activities are a priority?
10. What's the danger of over-emphasizing the importance of sexual intimacy (for both singles and married couples)? Why is it critical to find our deepest satisfaction in Christ?