

Catalyst Home Group

Discussion Questions • 11/23-27, 2009
Song of Songs 5:2-6:3

Intro/Review • “The Pursuit”

You are selfish. Anyone who says they aren't is either naive or dumb. Selfishness is one of the inescapable facets of human life. It infiltrates all of who we are. We want to be taken care of first and to have our needs met above others'. This is the case here with Solomon and his wife. Their selfishness causes a conflict in their marriage. There is the sin of sexual selfishness. He demands intimacy and she denies him intimacy...and a separation occurs. This week, we are forced to examine our selfishness in relationships and the devastating effects they can have in a marriage.

Discussion Questions:

[1] What questions do you have from Sunday's sermon? What stood out to you? What confused you?

[2] Chris noted on Sunday that selfishness is one of the greatest enemies of intimacy. What does this mean? How have you seen this in your relationships?

[3] **Read Song of Songs 5:2-6:3.** How is Solomon being selfish? How is his wife being selfish? What's the problem here?

[4] Notice how she rejects him. What are her excuses? Are these legit? Is this type of rejection wrong in marriage?

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Discussion Questions Continued...

[5] His selfishness is played out in demanding sex without thinking of her first. Is he justified in his frustration and response to her rejection?

[6] Do you think these issues are typically gender specific? Why or why not?

[7] **Read 1 Corinthians 7:5 & 1 Peter 5:8.** What happens when we use sex for selfish purposes & manipulation?

[8] How does Satan use sex to pull us away from one another and away from God?

[9] Comment on these phrases:
God made sex pure;
Satan uses it for perversion.
God created sex for oneness;
Satan uses it to bring division.
God designed sex to produce life;
Satan uses it to bring death.

[10] How could they have averted this conflict if they were better servant lovers?

[11] What are some areas of selfishness in your life (or marriage) that needs to change?