

# The Song of Songs

## Part 3 – The Cry for Intimacy: 'Let Him Kiss Me'

### I. The Cry for Intimacy

1. The bride's cry in vs2 sets the tone for the entire book.  
**1:2** Let Him kiss me with the kisses of His mouth!  
For Your love is better [more delightful] than wine.
2. It tells us something important about how to love – love begins with longing.
3. And it tells us something important about how to read love's story – read for encounter.
4. The cry for intimacy with God is buried deep within the human spirit – whispers of Eden.
5. It is awakened as we start to understand the invitation. What prompts her cry is the back story:  
**1:4b** The King has brought me into His chambers.
6. God longs to consume our hearts in love, but He does so by invitation only. Hunger and longing is the beginning of passion.
7. Over and over again, throughout the Song, the bride has the opportunity to stop hungering – to settle in the place she's at – and often they're pleasant places. But she keeps saying 'yes... I want love.'
8. There are no limitations to God's ability to satisfy, only to our willingness to hunger.
9. The invitation of Song 1:2 – 'Let Him kiss me with the kisses of His Word' is a great phrase to add to our prayer language, particularly as we're studying the Song of Songs.

### II. Let Him Kiss Me

1. The bride's cry 'let Him kiss me' is a cry to experience His love. 'Your love is better' is actually plural in the Hebrew: 'Your loves' – the tangible expressions of Your love.
2. There are two reasons given for why she desires to receive His love:
  1. Because it brings her pleasure:  
**1:2b** For Your love is better [more delightful] than wine.
  2. Because it awakens love in her:  
**1:4a** Draw me after [away with] You and let us run together!
3. We were created to receive God's love and to return it. To be satisfied by God's love, and to satisfy God's desire. Nothing fulfills our soul as much as that flow of love to us and through us.
4. God desires to reveal His love to us for those two reasons: for His glory, and to awaken His inheritance of voluntary love in us.
  1. Jesus prays in John 17 that we would know that the Father has loved us just as He has loved the Son, so that we would love God just as the Father has loved the Son.  
**John 17:20** "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: 23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. 24 "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. 25 O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. 26 And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

2. In the beginning of John 17 He connects all that He has done and is about to do with the Father's glory. 'God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him.' – John Piper  
**John 17:1** Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, 2 as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. 3 And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.
3. Paul prays for the church of Ephesus that God would grant them a revelation of His love. He connects that revelation with them coming to fullness in God.  
**Ephesians 3:14** For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, 16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, 17 that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— 19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.
4. Both before and after the prayer, Paul connects it with God receiving glory in His church.  
**Ephesians 3:10** to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, 11 according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.  
**Ephesians 3:20** Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, 21 to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

### III. The Kisses of His Mouth

1. What do we mean by knowing God's love? What do we mean by intimacy with God? What is it that we're hungering for?
2. One way to describe intimacy with God is an affectionate relationship built on the awareness of His nearness.
  1. Intimacy means nearness – i.e. an intimate setting.
  2. Intimacy means awareness – i.e. an intimate moment.
  3. Intimacy means affection – i.e. an intimate friendship.
3. God has fulfilled the first by sending His Spirit to dwell in us. He is with us always. As we choose to cultivate an awareness of His presence our relationship grows.
4. This longing to actual experience loving God is contrasted with just being around God:  
**1:3** Pleasing is the fragrance of Your perfumes;  
 Your name is like pleasing perfume poured out.  
 Therefore the maidens love You.
5. The bride's cry in vs2 is actually not directed to her Beloved – it's 'let Him', not 'let You.' She's trying to explain what's happened to her to the daughters – trying to convey the hunger that has awakened in her after realizing His invitation.
6. The maidens love Him – they rejoice in Him, they love His fragrance, His name. But they have not yet realized the invitation to enter into His chambers, to experience His love.
7. God invites not just to adore Him from a distance, but to experience His love and experience loving Him as those He desires and has brought near to Himself. Jesus prays it in **John 17**, but nothing makes it so clear as the fact that God has made His home in us (**Ephesians 3**).

8. The tokens of God's love are not physical, but they're very real. They come in all shapes and sizes: unexpected blessings, answered prayers, strength in times of trial, songs that awaken our heart, teaching that stirs us, grace to resist temptation, touching His heart in prayer times, dreams, visions, words of encouragement from fellow believers, etc. The primary way God speaks to us, though, is by His Word – 'the kisses of His Word.'
9. 'Let Him kiss me with the kisses of His mouth.' Her longing is specific to her Beloved – she wants to receive love directly from Him.
10. When God opens up the Scripture to us, it causes our hearts to burn.  
**Luke 24:32** And they said to one another, "Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?"
11. This is a cry written into the human spirit that was created to be a priest, not to have a priest.
12. Our desire to hear directly from God is an echo of God's desire to speak directly to us.  
**Hebrews 1:1** God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son
13. Jesus prays for all who believe in Him to be with Him where He is and to behold His glory. He made the way through His death on the cross. The veil was torn and men were redeemed as a kingdom of priests.  
**Matthew 27:50** And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. 51 Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom  
**Revelation 5:9** And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, 10 And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth."
14. God sent His Spirit to dwell in us to be our teacher – to reveal God to us.  
**John 14:26** But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.  
**1 Corinthians 2:9** But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.
15. As good as truth is in any form, there's nothing quite like hearing it straight from God Himself. Besides just finding out about God, we actually get to relate with Him and get to know Him.
16. For God, who is so far above, to stoop so near as to speak to human beings is a demonstration of His love, whatever the message.  
**Psalms 113:5** Who is like the LORD our God, the One who sits enthroned on high, 6 who stoops down to look on the heavens and the earth?

#### **IV. Reading the Song of Songs for Encounter**

1. Use the language to your advantage. One of the great things about the Song of Songs is that it uses such unusual language that we have to stop and think about it.
  1. It helps to remove the language – to look at the larger scene to figure out what's being said, and then say that in your own terms.
  2. Then we can use the original language to help express what we now know to be the message.
2. Let it be the conversation that it was written as. The majority of the Song of Songs is a conversation – the bride speaking to her Beloved or the Beloved speaking to His bride. Let it be a conversation between you and God.

1. When the bride makes a request of her Beloved turn it into a prayer for your own life:
  - 1:2a** Let Him kiss me with the kisses of His mouth!
  - 1:4a** Draw me after [away with] You and let us run together!
  - 1:7** Tell me, O You whom my soul loves,  
Where do You pasture Your flock,  
Where do You make it lie down at noon?  
For why should I be like one who veils herself  
beside the flocks of Your companions?
  - 8:6** Set me as a seal upon Your heart, as a seal upon Your arm.
2. When she makes a statement about her Beloved turn it into worship of your Beloved:
  - 1:2b** For Your love is better [more delightful] than wine.
  - 3 Pleasing is the fragrance of Your perfumes;  
Your name is like pleasing perfume poured out.
  - 5:10** My Beloved is radiant and ruddy,  
Chief among ten thousand.
3. When she makes statements about who she is to her Beloved, declare them about yourself:
  - 1:4b** The King has brought me into His chambers.
  - 1:5b** Dark am I, yet lovely
  - 7:10** I am my Beloved's, and His desire is for me.
4. When the Beloved makes a request of His bride, declare your intention to respond and ask for grace.
  - 2:14** O my dove, in the clefts of the rock,  
In the secret places of the cliff,  
Let me see your face,  
Let me hear your voice;  
For your voice is sweet,  
And your face is lovely.
  - 2:15** Catch for us the foxes,  
the little foxes that ruin the vineyards,  
our vineyards that are in bloom.
5. When He makes a statement about His bride prophesy those words over your own heart:
  - 1:15** Behold you are fair, My love [friend]! Behold you are fair!  
You have dove's eyes.
  - 4:7** You are altogether beautiful, My love;  
there is no flaw in you.
  - 4:9** You have ravished My heart, My sister, My bride;  
you have ravished My heart with one glance of your eyes,  
with one jewel of your necklace.
3. One of the best ways to engage with the Song of Songs is to sing it. Singing the Word is a very helpful tool in meditating on Scripture, and Song of Songs is really well suited to it.
  1. Singing helps to make it part of our language, which is one thing Song of Songs is particularly useful for.
  2. Singing helps us to slow down and consider what the words really mean – to put them into our own language, which is essential for Song of Songs.
  3. Singing helps to engage not just our minds, but our hearts. Music is the language of emotion and emotion is very much a part of the message of Song of Songs.
  4. Singing helps us to interact with God and not just read, which is what the cry of Song of Songs 1:2 is all about. Let this book be a pathway to encounter with God.