

WEEK TWO : PERFECT TIMING

WELCOME:

Ice Breaker Questions: What is your idea of a perfect date? What is your dream first date? (*Hint: the answer is not April 25^{th.}*)

WORSHIP:

Sing, Goodness of God

Introduction:

Feelings of attraction are part of God's design, but Solomon and the Shulamite woman recognized that God's desire was that they wait for the right season to express those feelings. God has defined seasons for relationships-a season of perfection, a season of preparation, and a season or purity. The key to setting a relationship on a solid foundation and making it work is living a God-first life no matter the season.

WORD: SONG OF SOLOMON 2:1-17

Observation Questions:

1) What did the Lover and the beloved compare themselves to in this verse 1-3?

2) Where did the Lover take his Beloved in verse four and what did the Beloved ask her Lover to do in verse 5?

3) What did the Beloved tell the Daughters of Jerusalem they should do? (Song of Solomon 2:7)

4) What sort of relationship did the Lover and the Beloved have in these verses? (Song of Solomon 2:8 and Song of Solomon 3:5)

5) How did the Beloved describe her Lover? (Song of Solomon 2:8-9) and what did the Lover say to his Beloved in these verses? (Song of Solomon 2:10-13) 8) What time of year was it, according to these verses of this book (Song of Solomon 2:11-13) and how did the Lover describe his Beloved's voice and face? (Song of Solomon 2:14)

9) What did the Lover ask his Beloved to catch and why (Song of Solomon 2:15) and how did the Beloved describe her relationship with her Lover? (Song of Solomon 2:16)

Pastor Jon gave the following sermon points:

1. THE TIME FOR PREPARATION.

- Become the right person.
- Walk in love.
- Fix all your hopes and dreams on God.

2. THE TIME FOR PERCEPTION.

- Limit your time.
- Limit your talk.
- Limit your touch.

3. THE TIME FOR PURITY.

- Put parameters around your passion.
- Use family and spiritual community as your safeguard.
- Let Jesus make all things new.

Application Questions:

1) Regarding preparation: What do you feel God is calling you to work on in your spiritual life right now? How can we support each other in our spiritual growth?

2) Regarding perception: What role does prayer and spiritual discernment play in your relationship, and how can you make it a greater part of our daily lives? Are there any specific spiritual practices you'd like us to develop as a single person or as a couple?

3) Regarding purity: A. What's my goal of being in a relationship? B. What parameters has the Lord given me in His word regarding purity?

WORK: Will you commit to honoring God as your first love?