



LIFE Group Discussion Guide

August 9, 2026

Song of Songs 5-6

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- What are some highs or lows you experienced this past week?
- What Scripture has been shaping you recently?
- Where have you seen God moving in your life this week?
- What did you hear in today's sermon OR read in today's passage that you would like to discuss?
- What did you learn about yourself in today's sermon/passage?
- What did you learn about God in today's sermon/passage?
- What convicted you as you listened to today's sermon OR read in today's passage?

OPENING

Think about one of your closest friendships. What are some things that help that friendship stay strong?

Whether it's friendships, family relationships, or our relationship with God, healthy relationships don't just happen. They require effort, communication, appreciation, and forgiveness.

In Song of Songs 5–6, we see a relationship experience distance and then restoration. While the book celebrates love and marriage, the principles in these chapters teach us important lessons about all of our relationships.

Today we'll learn that healthy relationships grow when we intentionally pursue, appreciate, and care for the people God has placed in our lives.

SCRIPTURE

Read the following passages together: **Song of Songs 5:2–8, 5:10–16, 6:1–3**

The relationship is restored as the couple is reunited.

Ask students to listen for:

- What caused distance in the relationship
- How the bride responded
- What helped bring restoration

PASSAGE SUMMARY

In these chapters, the bride and groom experience a season of separation. The bride doesn't respond immediately, and by the time she does, her beloved has gone away. Instead of giving up, she goes looking for him and remembers why the relationship matters. Eventually, they are reunited.

These chapters remind us:

- Relationships can drift if we neglect them.
- Appreciation strengthens relationships.
- Restoration is worth pursuing.
- Good relationships require communication and effort.

The main point is:

Healthy relationships don't happen by accident—they grow through intentional care and commitment.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What caused distance in the relationship in Song of Songs 5?

The bride delayed responding to her beloved. The passage shows how neglect or lack of attentiveness can create distance.

Why do friendships sometimes become weaker over time?

People become busy, stop communicating, take one another for granted, or don't invest in the relationship.

What stands out about the bride's response when she realizes her beloved is gone?

She intentionally pursues the relationship instead of simply giving up.

Why is it important to appreciate the people in our lives?

Appreciation strengthens relationships and reminds us not to take people for granted.

How can small misunderstandings create bigger problems if they're ignored?
Unresolved issues can lead to hurt feelings, assumptions, resentment, and distance.

Why is it sometimes hard to apologize or work toward restoring a relationship?
Pride, fear, embarrassment, or hurt feelings can make reconciliation difficult.

How can these chapters help us think about our relationship with God?
Our relationship with God also requires intentional time, communication through prayer, and pursuing Him daily.

APPLICATION

Is there a friendship or relationship that needs more intentional attention right now?

Think about:

- Friends
- Family relationships
- Relationships within your LIFE Group
- Your relationship with God

Have you been taking an important relationship for granted?
If so, what needs to change?

What is one practical step you can take this week to strengthen an important relationship?

Examples:

- Send an encouraging text.
- Spend intentional time with someone.
- Apologize for something.
- Forgive someone.
- Pray for a friend.
- Spend intentional time with God.

DIG DEEPER

Why do healthy relationships require effort?

What role does communication play in strong friendships?

Why is appreciation so important?

How can pride keep relationships from being restored?

What habits help us stay close to God?

CLOSING THOUGHT

Most relationships don't become strong accidentally. They become strong because people intentionally invest in them.

Song of Songs 5–6 reminds us that relationships are valuable and worth pursuing.

Healthy relationships grow when we:

- Communicate.
- Show appreciation.
- Pursue one another.
- Seek forgiveness and restoration.
- Invest time and effort.

Ask yourself:

- Is there a friendship I need to strengthen?
- Is there someone I need to encourage or forgive?
- Have I been intentional in my relationship with God?

Challenge:

This week, intentionally invest in one relationship by encouraging someone, expressing appreciation, or seeking restoration.

LOOKING AHEAD

Next week we will discuss **Proverbs 29:18** as Bro. Larry shares the State of the Church sermon.

PRAYER FOCUS

Pray together:

- Thank God for the relationships He has given us.
- Ask Him to help students become better friends, family members, and followers of Christ.
- Pray for wisdom to strengthen and protect important relationships.
- Pray for courage to seek forgiveness and reconciliation where needed.
- Pray that students would intentionally pursue a growing relationship with God.
- Pray specifically for the invitation portion of our worship services—that hearts will be open, the Spirit will move powerfully, and people will respond in obedience to Christ.

COMMENTARY

Song of Songs 5:2-8 / 5:10-16 / 6:1-3

Song of Songs 5:2–8: The Dream and the Reluctance

- **The Conflict:** Shulamith recounts a nighttime dream where Solomon (the beloved) comes to her door seeking entry. Out of laziness or comfort, she delays opening the door, and when she finally does, he has vanished.
- **The CSB Note:** This captures the realistic ebb and flow of romantic tension in a marriage—showing the painful consequences of taking a partner for granted. Her panicked search leads to the city watchmen beating and wounding her, illustrating the vulnerability and emotional turmoil that comes when a relationship is out of sync.

Song of Songs 5:10–16: The Tenfold Praise of Solomon

- **The Turning Point:** Prompted by the "daughters of Jerusalem" asking what makes her beloved so special, Shulamith breaks into an eloquent, ecstatic description of his physical beauty and character.
- **The CSB Note:** She calls him "radiant and ruddy, distinguished among ten thousand". The commentary highlights this as a ratio of supreme uniqueness. The vivid metaphors—comparing his head to "finest gold" and eyes to "doves beside streams"—are symbolic of purity, power, and intoxicating affection.

Song of Songs 6:1–3: The Reconciliation

- **The Pursuit:** The friends of Shulamith, now enchanted by her fervent praise, ask where her beloved has gone so they can help her search.
- **The CSB Note:** Shulamith's anxious search gives way to confident clarity: "My beloved has gone down to his garden... to gather lilies". The garden represents their intimate, private space. She concludes with the deeply reassuring vow of mutual belonging: "I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine". This marks total emotional restoration.