

In the last chapters of the Song of Solomon, we see the marriage maturing. The honeymoon has ended, and real life sets in. The story reveals a tension—some argument or conflict that has divided Solomon and his bride. Interestingly, this happens right after a season of blessing. The bride says, *“I sleep, but my heart is awake; it is the voice of my beloved! He knocks, saying, ‘Open for me, my sister, my love!’”* (Song of Solomon 5:2).

He is outside their chamber, waiting, but she hesitates. She thinks, *“I have taken off my robe; how can I put it on again? I have washed my feet; how can I defile them?”* (v. 3). In other words, she doesn’t feel like being inconvenienced. By the time she decides to open the door, he is gone (vv. 4–6). Panicked, she goes looking for him: *“I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, if you find my beloved, that you tell him I am lovesick!”* (v. 8).

This may sound dramatic, but it’s nothing unusual. Every marriage faces conflict. Disagreements don’t mean a marriage is doomed—they mean two people must learn how to reconcile. As someone once said, *“Keep your eyes wide open before marriage and half shut afterward.”* The truth is, no two people are perfectly compatible. The strength of a marriage is not in avoiding conflict, but in handling it well—with honesty, humility, and grace.

If left unresolved, small irritations become *“little foxes”* that spoil the vineyard of love (cf. Song of Solomon 2:15). But if a couple works through disagreements, love matures. And that’s what happens here. Though the text doesn’t spell out the details of their reconciliation, the outcome is clear: *“Before I was even aware, my soul had made me as the chariots of my noble people”* (Song of Solomon 6:12). Solomon publicly honors her, demonstrating their relationship has been restored.

Later, the couple reaffirms their deep commitment: *“Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm; for love is as strong as death... Many waters cannot quench love, nor can the floods drown it”* (Song of Solomon 8:6–7). She knows she is cherished above all, and she gives her heart to him fully: *“My own vineyard is before me. You, O Solomon, may have a thousand”* (v. 12). In other words, while Solomon could have chosen anything wealth could buy, her greatest treasure to offer was her love—and he received it with joy.

Someone once wrote, *“Getting married is easy. Staying married is more difficult. Staying happily married for a lifetime should rank among the fine arts.”* That *“fine art”* requires effort—daily giving of yourself, humbling yourself, and placing the other person first. When both husband and wife do that, they create a picture of God’s faithful covenant love.

And that's the deeper message of the Song of Solomon: this tender love story points us to the greater reality of Christ and His bride, the Church. Just as the Shulamite longed for her beloved, so we as believers long for our Bridegroom, Jesus, to return.

Practical Application:

- In marriage: conflicts are not the enemy; unresolved conflicts are. Seek reconciliation quickly. Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger (James 1:19).
- In faith: just as love must be continually renewed in marriage, so must our devotion to Christ be rekindled daily through prayer, obedience, and surrender.

Invitation:

Just as the Shulamite realized that no wealth could replace true love, so nothing in this world can replace the love of Christ. He is at the door of your heart, knocking, saying, "*Open for Me, My sister, My love*" (Song of Solomon 5:2). Don't delay as she did. Open the door now. Give Him your life, and let Him fill you with His unfailing love.

And for those who already know Him—keep opening the door every day. Trust Him, walk with Him, and renew your devotion. The romance of following Jesus is not just for the first day of salvation; it is for a lifetime and beyond, until the day when the Bridegroom comes again to gather His bride.