



Pursue It. Protect It. Prove It.

Scripture: Song of Solomon 2:8-3:5

Speaker: Andy Deane

Date: 4/26/2026

3,000 years ago, a king and a country girl were navigating love, and God preserved their story in Scripture, unfiltered and deeply practical. The Song of Solomon gives us a model for pursuing, protecting, and proving real love.

Love is intentionally pursued

Song of Solomon 2:8-13, She says: *8 Listen! My beloved! Look! Here he comes, leaping across the mountains, bounding over the hills. 9 My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look! There he stands behind our wall, gazing through the windows, peering through the lattice. 10 My beloved spoke and said to me, He says: "Arise, my darling, my beautiful one, come with me. 11 See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. 12 Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land. 13 The fig tree forms its early fruit; the blossoming vines spread their fragrance. Arise, come, my darling; my beautiful one, come with me."*

Overcome all obstacles, instead of making excuses

- Love pushes past busyness that comes with kids, work, hobbies and education and makes it happen.

Choose holy attention, not sinful distraction

- God is pleased with our sexual attraction towards a spouse so focus your attention there.
- **Job 31:1, I made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully at a young woman.**

Don't stay silent and assume, speak often and show your love

- When one is in love the feeling is like the spring season.
- Pastor Andy mentioned this "[Twitterpated](#)" clip from Bambi.

Love is carefully protected

Song of Solomon 2:14-17, He says: *14 My dove in the clefts of the rock, in the hiding places on the mountainside, show me your face, let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely. 15 Catch for us the foxes, the little foxes that ruin the vineyards...that are in bloom. She says: 16 My beloved is mine and I am his; he browses among the lilies. 17 Until the day breaks and the shadows flee, turn, my beloved, and be like a gazelle or like a young stag on the rugged hills.*

Be sensitive to the other's feelings, not harsh

- You may not agree with their feelings, but they are entitled to have them.
- It's been said that when conflict erupts, skunks want to make a big stink, and turtles hide in their shells. Both need adjusting for better reconciliation:
 - SKUNKS (1) Slow your reaction before you speak (2) Lower your volume & raise your influence (3) Address the issue, not the person (4) Take a timeout if emotions spike
 - TURTLES (1) Lean in instead of pulling away (2) Say what you're feeling (3) Set a time to re-engage (4) Share why you want to run
- **Proverbs 21:19, Better to live in a desert than with a quarrelsome and nagging wife.** (this can obviously be true of the husband as well)

Be decisive with relationship problems, not passive

- Their relationship is like a fruitful vineyard and the little foxes will damage the vineyard unless they are stopped.
- Something small may eventually turn into something big. **Ecclesiastes 10:1, As dead flies give perfume a bad smell, so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honor.**

Which "little fox" is most dangerous in this season of your relationship?

- Intimacy Stagnation
- Poor Communication
- Misunderstandings
- Time Spent Poorly
- Outside Interference

431 responses

- Your responses are private, you'll see your own selection, while others will only see overall percentages, not individual choices.
- **Why Marriages Succeed or Fail: And How You Can Make Yours Last** (not a Christian book, FYI). The "Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse That Can Destroy Your Marriage" the author mentions are all related to communication: criticism, defensiveness, contempt, and stonewalling.
- Read the "[7 Early Warning Signs That Can Lead to an Affair](#)" article.
- **Hudson Taylor** thought of the "little foxes" that may ruin our relationship with Jesus Christ: "The enemies may be small, but the mischief done great . . . And how numerous the little foxes are! Little compromises with the world; disobedience to the still small voice in little things; little indulgences of the flesh to the neglect of duty; little strokes of policy; doing evil in little things that good may come; and the beauty, and the fruitfulness of the vine are sacrificed!"

Be committed for the long haul, not just when it

- Reconcile the relationship often. Repair brokenness quickly. Exhaust every option before thinking about divorce!
- Things get a little hot again, so they wisely separate so they don't cross any boundaries.

Love is thoughtfully proved

Song of Solomon 3:1-5, She says: *1 All night long on my bed I looked for the one my heart loves; I looked for him but did not find him. 2 I will get up now and go about the city, through its streets and squares; I will search for the one my heart loves. So I looked for him but did not find him. 3 The watchmen found me as they made their rounds in the city. "Have you seen the one my heart loves?" 4 Scarcely had I passed them when I found the one my heart loves. I held him and would not let him go till I had brought him to my mother's house, to the room of the one who conceived me. 5 Daughters of Jerusalem, I charge you by the gazelles and by the does of the field: Do not arouse or awaken love until it so desires.*

Singles, consider these questions before you say, "Yes!":

Does their absence genuinely trouble your heart?

Is this relationship worth the risk and effort to pursue?

Are you inviting wise voices into this decision?

Are you ready for a lifelong covenant?

- **Dennis Kinlaw**, "She is not looking for an illicit consummation of their love. Consummation she wants, but even in her dream she wants the consummation to be right. Where in human literature does one find a text so erotic and yet so moral as this?"

If those questions showed that you aren't ready, then trust God as you wait.

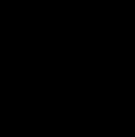
What if this has not been your experience?

Maybe you have stopped being pursued, your love has been trampled on, not protected, and actually you feel like love has been disproved by someone! Solomon would fail this bride one day. The man who wrote this love song didn't finish well.

But there is One who did. **Jesus** intentionally **pursued** you, leaping over every obstacle, including death, to get to you. Jesus carefully **protects** you, saying the gates of hell won't prevail against the church. Jesus has already **proved** His love, not with words, but with a cross (Romans 5:8). And one day He's coming back. The wedding feast of the Lamb is in your future.

Whether you're single, dating, or married, you are already pursued, protected, and loved by the One whose love makes Solomon's look like a rough draft.

That's **love worth singing about**.



76



1

