



Don't Kiss Dating Goodbye

Song of Solomon 2:8-3:11 • September 6th, 2026

BIG IDEA

Godly dating pursues real love while protecting it for marriage's proper time.

OUTLINE

Song of Solomon 2:8–3:11 teaches us to...

1. Feel desire without being ruled by it (2:8–13).
2. Pursue depth over allure (2:14).
3. Guard love against small compromises (2:15).
4. Build devotion that leads and protects (2:16–17).
5. Endure the ache of waiting well (3:1–4).
6. Delay physical intimacy until marriage (3:5).
7. Celebrate marriage as God's gift, publicly declared (3:6–11).

CALL TO RESPOND

1. Take stock of your current relationship (or your readiness for one).
2. Identify the "little foxes" quietly threatening your love.
3. Apply the seven non-negotiables honestly — not just what someone is, but what they're becoming.
4. Invite real accountability into your dating relationship.

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Solomon comes running to his beloved, and she's already watching for him (2:8–13). Is it okay to feel strong desire and excitement for someone you're dating? Where does that go wrong?
2. Communication has three levels: cliché ("How's it going?"), information ("Where do you work?"), and feeling ("I'm actually struggling with..."). What level are most of your friendships and dating conversations stuck at, and why?
3. The sermon warns against confusing allure with beauty (Prov. 5). What's the practical difference between the two when evaluating who to date?
4. "My beloved is mine, and I am his" (2:16). The basis of real security in a relationship is not that I can make someone love me, but that Christ's love for me isn't earned. How does resting in Christ's love change how you pursue or wait for a relationship?

DIRECT APPLICATION

1. Song of Solomon 3:5 says, "Do not arouse or awaken love until she pleases." Are you currently protecting your relationship's physical and emotional boundaries, or are you pushing past them?
 - a. If you're guarding well, share what habits or boundaries have actually helped.



b. If you're struggling, confess this honestly rather than minimizing it, and name one boundary you need to reinstate this week.

c. As a group, commit to asking each other about this again — not to shame, but to help each other actually wait well.

2. Walk through the seven non-negotiables together. Which one do you (or did you) tend to minimize when you're "head over heels" for someone, and why?