Waiting: The Song of Songs on Singleness
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Time and again, I’ve listened to Christian undergraduates recount to me how their relationships turned sexual. One thing I never ask them is why. I know why. Because sex feels great, it feels connectional, it feels deeply human. I never blame them for wanting that. Sex is intended to deepen personal relationships, and desire for it is intended to promote marriage.
- Christian sociologist, Mark Regnerus

a) Introduction: Interpreting the Song

b) Song 2:8-17: Waiting

Woman:

8 The sound of my beloved!
Look, now he comes,
leaping over the mountains,
bounding over the hills.

9 My lover is like a gazelle or a young stag.
Look, there he stands behind our wall,
gazing through the windows,
looking through the lattice.

[Man:] “Arise, my darling, my beautiful one, and come away,
for look, the winter rains are past;
the spring rains have come and gone.

10 The blossoms appear on the earth,
the time of singing has come,
and the sound of the dove is heard in our land.

11 The fig tree ripens its figs,
and the vines are in blossom, emitting fragrance.

Arise, my darling, my beautiful one, and come away.

14 O my dove in the clefts of the rock, in the crannies of the cliff,
let me see your form,
let me hear your voice,
for your voice is sweet, and your form is lovely.”

Woman:

15 “Catch the foxes for us, the little foxes that spoil the vineyards,
for our vineyards are in blossom.

16 My beloved is mine, and I am his
- he who grazes among the lilies.

17 ‘Until the day comes to life and the shadows flee, turn around, my beloved,
like a gazelle or a young stag on the mountains of Bether.’”
Additional Resources:
A longer audio lecture entitled “Interpreting the Song of Songs” can be found here: http://media2.wts.edu/media/audio/duguid_9-18-13.mp3
The full series of sermons on the Song can be found at Christarp.com