

Sermon Study Notes 19 June '16 Song of Songs 2:11-15 "Little Foxes"

In last weeks sermon we saw that in the book of Acts, the first impact of the Holy Spirit on the disciples was on their voice ...

Acts 2:4 *"All of them (the disciples of Jesus) were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them."*

- Why did God do this? ... So all nations hear the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ.

God equipped them to speak. He loves hearing voice! So we go to the Old Testament book of Song of Songs to see how God restores our voice so we can spread the good news.

- **Hope emerging**

2:11 (Beloved) *"See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come ..."*

- In the Song of Songs there is a dialogue between the Lover and the Beloved. Here the Beloved senses a new season, a time of hope & change.

Reflect: Have I sensed a new season in my life coming while still in a 'winter' period?

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Isaiah 43:19 *"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."*

Reflect: What is my response to the verse above?

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- **Re-uniting**

2:13,14 (Beloved) *"Arise, come my darling" ...*

(Lover) *"My dove in the clefts of the rock, in the hiding places on the mountainside, show me your face, let me hear your voice."*

Here we see a willingness by both parties to be re-united.

The whole story of Bible is that of God relentlessly pursuing us with his love, but his 'Beloved' must want it!

Reflect: In what way is there dis-unity between God and I?

Do I really want to be united with him, or is my independence all powerful?

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- **3. Fox hunting**

2:15 *"Catch for us the foxes, the little foxes that ruin the vineyards, our vineyards that are in bloom."*

Jesus: Jn15:4 *"Remain in me and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine."*

The Key to 'fox hunting' > Forgiveness. Who stole your voice?

- Remember the situation > identify who needs forgiving, and for what.
- bring to the light of God in prayer, and experience freedom from the power of the offence.

>> Reclaim your voice, and practice expression!

My prayer:
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