

5. Whispering/Gossiping

Proverbs 17:9 AMP – He who covers and forgives an offense seeks love, but he who repeats or harps on a matter separates even close friends.

OVERCOMING FOXES

Song of Songs 2:15-16a AMP – My heart was touched and I fervently sang to him my desire. Take for us the foxes, the little foxes that spoil the vineyards (of our love), for our vineyards are in blossom. (16) She said distinctly, My beloved is mine and I am His!

1. Acknowledge the Caretaker

-We must ask the Father and the Bridegroom to be our caretaker

2. Develop Accountability

-Must open ourselves up to trusted accountability persons permitting them to speak into our lives

3. Accept Instruction

-We must be willing to accept instruction and correction

4. Confess our Sins

James 5:16 AMP – Confess to one another therefore your faults (your slips, your false steps, your offenses, your sins) and pray also for one another, that you may be healed and restored to a spiritual tone of mind and heart.

5. See the Big Picture

-Determine to be a part of what God is doing and not a part of what the enemy is doing.

6. Be Committed

-Committed not just when it's convenient
-Be committed to the Body not just the Head

THE BRIDE OF CHRIST UNVEILED PART 4 – OVERCOMING LITTLE FOXES

May 4, 2003 – Debby Baril

REVIEW

Song of Songs 8:5a AMP - Who is this who comes up from the wilderness leaning upon her beloved?

-They made it through the trials of the relationship that threatened to destroy intimacy

1. Insecurity/Unworthiness 1:5-6
2. Little Foxes/Hidden Things 2:15
3. Indifference 5:2-7

Manifestations of Insecurity

1. Insignificance/Unworthiness
2. Jealousy
3. Possessiveness
4. Control/Manipulation
5. Arrogance/Independence
6. Unbelief
7. Isolation

Overcoming Insecurity

1. Exposure
2. Repentance
3. Tear Down Strongholds
4. Receive Truth

TRIALS OF LITTLE FOXES

Song of Songs 2:15 AMP – My heart was touched and I fervently sang to him my desire. Take for us the foxes, the little foxes that spoil the vineyards (of our love), for our vineyards are in blossom.

Song of Songs 2:4 AMP – He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love, for love waved as a protecting and comforting banner over my head when I was near him.

- Foxes are noted for their destructive tendencies in crop fields; they are crafty, mischievous, filthy...
- They gnaw at the roots and destroy the fruit in its most tender stage

EXPOSING LITTLE FOXES

1. Self-Protective Walls/Barriers

- Walls of coldness
- hardness
- distance
- silence
- busyness

- We must be willing to become vulnerable
- Most hurts are the result of misunderstandings and not the result of intentional hurt
- We get hurt because of the lenses we wear; we perceive words and actions wrongly

2. Unforgiveness

Matthew 6:14-15 AMP – (14) For if you forgive people their trespasses (their reckless and wilful sins, leaving them, letting them go, and giving up resentment), your heavenly Father will also forgive you. (15) But if you do not forgive others their trespasses (their reckless and wilful sins, leaving them, letting them go, and giving up resentment) neither will your Father forgive you your trespasses.

- We cannot harbour unforgiveness and carry the anointing too.

Colossians 3:13 AMP – Be gentle and forbearing with one another and, if one has a grievance (a grievance or complaint) against another, readily pardoning each other; even as the Lord has freely forgiven you, so must you also forgive.

- So often we want grace for ourselves and justice for others
- We must take up the cross and follow Christ's example of forgiveness

2 Corinthians 2:10-11 AMP – (10) If you forgive anyone anything, I too forgive that one; and what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, has been for your sakes in the presence and with the approval of Christ the Messiah, (11) To keep Satan from getting the advantage over us; for we are not ignorant of his wiles and intentions.

3. Folly

Ecclesiastes 10:1 AMP – Dead flies cause the ointment of the perfumer to putrefy and send forth a vile odour; so does a little folly in him who is valued for wisdom, outweigh wisdom and honour.

- Ointment represented reputation

Ecclesiastes 7:1 AMP – A good name is better than precious perfume.

- Little things can ruin integrity and cause mistrust to develop

- secrets/hiding things
- 1/2 truths
- little lies

4. Carnality

Exodus 30:31-32 AMP – (31) And say to the Israelites, This is a holy anointing oil (symbol of the Holy Spirit), sacred to Me alone throughout your generations. (32) It shall not be poured upon a layman's body, nor shall you make any other like it in composition; it is holy, and you shall hold it sacred.

- We are not to mix the anointing with the flesh

Galatians 3:3 NAS – Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?