

# **“Catch the Little Foxes”**

**Song 2:14-15  
Eph 4:1-6, 11-16**

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# The Song of Solomon

- Title: **“The Song of Songs, which is Solomon’s” (1:1 ESV)**
- **Love poem** likely sung during a wedding—conversation between the bridegroom, the bride and their friends.
  - **“He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love.” (2:4)**
  - **“My beloved is mine, and I am his...” (6:13)**
- Depicts the **covenantal love between God** (the Bridegroom) and **his faithful people—Israel and the church** (the Bride).
- Many applications to our relationship with God, and with one another, especially in marriage and in the church.

# God's delight in us (Song 2:14)

Song 2:14 O my dove, in  
the clefts of the rock,  
in the crannies of the cliff,  
let me see your face,  
let me hear your voice,  
for your voice is sweet,  
and your face is lovely.

- **The bridegroom (God)** sees his love as a **vulnerable dove**.
- **The bride (us)** hides in **fear** from the harshness of life, and in **unworthiness** of the bridegroom's attention.
- God has a **deep longing** for us, to see us live in His presence, to hear our voice in prayer; we bring Him **great delight**.

# Vulnerable Vineyards (Song 2:15)

15 ...the little  
foxes  
that spoil the  
vineyards,  
for **our vineyards  
are in blossom.**



- “**Vineyards...in blossom**” – **Young relationship** between bridegroom and bride. Sweet and fragrant, yet **vulnerable and easily damaged.**
- Christ declared that the Kingdom of God has **already come...**
  - Luke 10:19 “say to them, ‘The *kingdom of God has come near* to you.’”
- ...but **not yet fully consummated** until His return
  - Luke 11:2 “When you pray, say: “Father, hallowed be your name. *Your kingdom come.*”
  - Luke 22:18 “from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine *until the kingdom of God comes.*”

# The Foxes...that spoil the vineyards in blossom

15 the little foxes  
that spoil the  
vineyards..."



- **What foxes do** – Gnawing the little branches, leaves and flowers, digging holes and loosening the ground, spoiling the foundational root structures.
- Satan actively seeks to **undermine, sow distrust, divide and destroy** our relationship with God, and with one another in marriage and in church.
  - John 10:10 “The thief comes only ***to steal and kill and destroy.*** I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

# Catch the foxes when they are little

**15 Catch the foxes for us,  
the little foxes...**



- **“The little foxes”** – May look cute and harmless. But it’s often the little things that ruin the big things. E.g., it takes only a little hole to sink a huge ship.
- **“Catch...for us”** – **Mutual commitment and resolve** between bridegroom and bride, **supported by** their community of friends and allies, not to let little problems come between them.

# To belong to God also means to walk with one another (Eph 4)

4 There is **one body and one Spirit**—just as **you were called** to the **one hope** that belongs to your call— 5 **one Lord, one faith, one baptism,** 6 **one God and Father** of all, who is **over all and through all and in all**. (Eph 4:4-6)

- **One Lord, one faith, one baptism:**  
“in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matt 28:19).
- **Living up to our calling** means “to walk... with all **humility** and **gentleness**, with **patience**, **bearing** with one another in **love**, 3 eager to maintain the **unity** of the Spirit in the bond of **peace**.” (Eph 4:1-3)



# Catch the Little Foxes that spoil our relationship with God and with one another

14 ... children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. (Eph 4:14)

- **Little Foxes:** Misunderstandings, misinformation, immature attitudes and expectations, false teaching.
- **Catching the Little Foxes:** “...speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ...” (Eph 4:15)



**Cherish  
our vineyards  
in blossom.**



**Catch the  
little foxes  
before they  
ruin our walk  
with God and  
with one  
another.**