

“The Little Foxes” – Part 2

Pastor Kevin Reich

- Main Scripture – Song of Solomon 2:15 – “Catch us the foxes, The little foxes that spoil the vines, For our vines *have* tender grapes.”
 - The Shulamite woman was brought to the table of the King and she recognizes his beauty and power. She wants to protect her relationship with him. Foxes were pests that could easily wreck a vineyard, even the little foxes. She was using this as a metaphor for the little things that can bring destruction to her relationship with the King.
 - Recap - We need to “catch the little foxes”, the little offenses, sins, etc. that can bring destruction to our relationship with the Lord. We need to stay ready and on guard of our connection to the vine of God and to stay at the table of the King.
 - The enemy wants to kill, steal, and destroy, so guard your hearts, but also be on guard for the little foxes in your life.

- 1 Corinthians 12:1 – “Now concerning spiritual *gifts*, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant”
 - Be mature and recognize the gifts that God is giving you.
 - God wants you to grow and mature in Him.
 - We need to be able to love our enemies and neighbors.
 - We need to forgive offenses.
 - We need to be wise.
 - We need to be able to take instruction and submit to authority:
 - 1 Peter 5:5 – “Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to *your* elders. Yes, all of *you* be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.””
 - 2 Peter 3:18 – “but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him *be* the glory both now and forever. Amen.”
 - 1 Corinthians 16:16 – “that you also submit to such, and to everyone who works and labors with *us*.”
 - Romans 10:3 – “For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and seeking to establish their

own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.”

- Romans 5:19 – “For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man’s obedience many will be made righteous.”
- Don’t be ignorant toward biblical truths or the gifts of God, but be wise about God’s gifts and submit to His authority.
 - Recognize that no matter how much you know (or think you know) about God, that there is always something new to learn, something new to find, and a new revelation and experience that can be had because of who He is.
- God used the disciples, quite ordinary men (tax collector, fishermen, etc.) and through Him they were used mightily to advance the kingdom of God.
 - Acts 4:14 – “And seeing the man who had been healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.”
 - The people recognized that there was something different about the disciples, and they recognized that they had been with Jesus, even though they were ignorant and unlearned.
- Jesus is making himself known through you. Allow Him to use you!
 - No matter who you are or where you’ve been, God does forgive, love, heal, and bring new beginnings! We just have to let Him!
 - Catch those little foxes in your life and let God flourish in your heart! Don’t be ignorant or deceived by this world.
- 2 Corinthians 2:3-11 – “³And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is *the joy* of you all.
⁴For out of much [a]affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.
⁵But if anyone has caused grief, he has not grieved me, but all of you to some extent—not to be too severe.
⁶This punishment which *was inflicted* by the majority *is* sufficient for such a man,
⁷so that, on the contrary, you *ought* rather to forgive and comfort *him*, lest perhaps such a one be swallowed up with too much sorrow.
⁸Therefore I urge you to reaffirm *your* love to him.

⁹For to this end I also wrote, that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things.

¹⁰Now whom you forgive anything, I also *forgive*. For ^[b]if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ,

¹¹lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.”

- Paul is dealing with conflict and controversy in the Church.
 - The conflict was challenging Paul’s authority and it brought grievance to the body of Christ (the church).
 - The conflict was destroying the unity in the church.
 - One little thing can disrupt unity.
- We have to catch the little foxes and protect the unity in the Church.
 - True unity enables the Spirit of God to move freely.
- Don’t be ignorant of Satan’s devices. There will be warfare and we can win through Christ.
 - Satan wants to cause distraction, discord, and confusion.
 - We have to protect what God is doing in our lives personally and corporately as the body of Christ.
- 3 Things to be aware of when under a spiritual attack:
 - Recognize It!
 - The Holy Spirit can help you recognize the little fox or the offense and identify the issue.
 - Guard yourself against the attack (pray, read scripture, find help).
 - Release It!
 - Submit yourself to God.
 - Bring yourself under complete obedience to God.
 - Don’t hold onto the issue (ungodly habit, impure thought, etc.)
 - Don’t pretend that there isn’t an issue, don’t ignore it, release it to God and confess it. Recommit yourself to God and make yourself accountable to someone who can help you and pray you through.
 - In the middle of the battle is no time to walk away.
 - Resist It!
 - Don’t run to the enemy, resist the enemy and he will flee!
 - God has given us power to resist the enemy.

- We often withdraw and resist God, our relationships, our time in the Word, and our prayer lives, but that will only hurt us further because it gives the enemy ground.
- We need to recognize the issue, release it to God, and resist the attacks of the enemy every single time.
- Don't run from God, but run to Him. Don't run to the enemy, but resist him.
- Don't be ignorant, guard your heart, and catch the little foxes in your life.