

Discussion Questions

“Feeling Sexy?”

Revelation 21:1-25

(Currently, where do you feel most at home? Why do you think you feel at home in that place?)

Jesus is in the process of bringing us home!

Jesus said, “This people—Jerusalem—honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.” He was quoting Isaiah, who goes on to say, “*Therefore, I will again do marvelous things with this people*” (Isaiah 29:13-14).

Hosea 2:14: “*Therefore, behold, I will allure her, romance her, entice her, and bring her into the wilderness and speak tenderly to her, and there I will give her vineyards; there I will make the Valley of Achor [Valley of Trouble] a door of hope.*”

Jesus is the Door; His broken flesh is the veil that’s torn in this wilderness world.

He is the Door that brings you home to yourself, your God, and all things with Him. —Peter Hiett
Part of what makes home so special is getting to go home after we’ve longed for or thirsted for home!
In this sermon, Peter pointed out that God is in the process of teaching us to thirst for Him so that we might find our true home—Him, but often we hide our thirst in shame rather than taking our thirst to Him and entering His embrace.

(*Please don’t feel compelled to share any of your answers to the following questions out loud in a group. These might be quite personal & are more meant to be just between you and God. However, if you like, it could be great to share what God revealed to you in the process of these questions to encourage others.)

- In your relationship with God, can you think of a desire a “thirst” that you try to cover or deny and that maybe you feel ashamed about?
- In what ways, in your own striving, do you try to quench that thirst?
- Why do you think you try to quench that thirst outside of God &/or hide that thirst from God?
- If you feel ashamed about it, where do you think that shame comes from? (It’s not from God “There is no condemnation...” Romans 8:1)

“Maybe Jesus, your Bridegroom, is attracted to that very place [of thirst] in you. And maybe His greatest sorrow is that you would hide it from Him.”—Peter Hiett

- What is it like to consider that maybe the longing you feel most ashamed about is the very longing that God most desires to fill with Himself?
- What would it be like to take your deepest longings and thirsts [especially those which you feel ashamed of] to God, asking Him to fill them, rather than trying to hide them from Him or attempting to fill them in your own striving?

On the cross, Jesus said, “I thirst.” In Rev. 3:20 the Bridegroom says, “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.”

- Do you suppose that the Lord thirsts for us to thirst for Him? If so, how does that make you feel?
- Take a moment to enter into the depths of God’s grace and love for you:

On the cross, Jesus literally lays down His life for you. He has given up absolutely everything for you—just as you are. You have hurt Him, & maybe you don’t even know it, & yet, He welcomes you; He is naked, forgiving you for every moment you have ever done anything to hurt Him. His arms are outstretched to you in passionate love & He says, “I thirst.” [I think He thirsts for His Bride (you). He longs for reconciliation & communion with you. He longs to “make all things new.”]

Now, imagine yourself before Him, looking up into His eyes; think of all the ways you’ve tried to fill yourself, your most embarrassing longings & your failed attempts to fill them, your most shame filled moments; He replies, “Father, forgive *insert your name* he/she knows not what he/she does. Now look into His eyes of love and say, thank you that I can stand shamelessly in your love and grace. I am so sorry that I have tried to fill myself with empty methods rather than drinking from the river of love that is in you. Lord, I want to take all my thirst to you. Set me free from the shame that surrounds my thirst and empower me by your Spirit to boldly take every longing to you and let YOU fill it. Thank you that you have promised to fill all of my emptiness with yourself.

“The Spirit and the Bride say, ‘Come.’ And let the one who hears say, ‘Come.’ And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price (Rev. 22:17).

By His Spirit may you say, “Come!”

**These questions were created by Kimberly Weymen*