



The Words of Christmas - Love

Sunday, December 17, 2017

**Lesson:**

*There are many words that surround the Christmas season - and for the next few weeks we will look at four of them: Hope, Joy, Peace, and Love. This week, the study guide will look at the word love.*

**ICEBREAKER:**

Outside of the story of Jesus, what is the greatest love story you've ever heard? This could be from a book, movie, tv show, or personal experience.

**QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:**

1. Why do you love:
  - a. your spouse?
  - b. your child(ren)
  - c. your parents?
  - d. your friends?
  - e. others?
2. Why does God love you?
3. What are some of the best and worst love stories in the bible?
4. Turn to Hosea. Who does Gomer, the prostitute, represent?
5. Why did God choose a prostitute to symbolize his children?
6. Why did God have to say he would no longer love the Israelites, and that they would no longer be His children?
7. The Israelites do nothing but lie and hurt God in the book of Hosea, yet God still wants to be their God and continue His love. Why?
8. Read Hosea 11:7-9. Discuss why God has a change of heart.