

**THE GREAT LOVE STORY**  
**God's Game-Plan for Life: Love People**  
**John 15:9-17**  
*February 14, 2010*

**Act 1** – Before we deserve it, God loves us and (pursues us).

*“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.” – John 15:9*

*“You didn’t choose me, remember; I chose you....” – John 15:16 Msg*

**Act 2** – We all (run away) from the one who loves us most.

*“Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love.... This is my command: Love each other.” – John 15:9-10, 17*

*“All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God’s paths to follow our own.” – Isaiah 53:6 NLT*

*“When Israel was only a child, I loved him.... But when others called him, he ran off and left me. He worshiped the popular sex gods, he played at religion with toy gods. Still I stuck with him.... I rescued him from human bondage, but he never acknowledged my help, never admitted that I was the one pulling his wagon.... My people are hell-bent on leaving me.... But how can I give you up...how can I leave you to be ruined? How can I turn you loose?” – Hosea 11:1-8 Msg*

**Act 3** – Jesus does the unthinkable to (win our hearts).

*“Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.” – John 15:13*

*“This is the kind of love we are talking about—not that we once upon a time loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to clear away our sins and the damage they’ve done to our relationship with God.” – 1 John 4:10 Msg*

**Act 4** – The conclusion of the story is (up to us).

*“If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved.... For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” – Romans 10:9-10, 13 NLT*