## **Expressions of Love**

Recount a time when you were embarrassed by something one of your parents did.

Read Hosea 2:2-23

- 1. What would you tell others about your mother or father if they were a prostitute?
  - A. I'd keep it secret.
  - B. I'd disown them.
  - C. I would just put it out there and have people deal with it.
  - D. I'd want to be just like them.
  - E. I'd want to be the opposite of them.
  - F. I wouldn't bring it up unless someone else did.
  - G. I'd focus on their strong points.
  - H. Other.
- 2. How would you react to someone who betrayed you?
  - A. I'd never speak to them again.
  - B. I'd figure out a way to punish them.
  - C. I'd make friends with a bully who would make their life miserable.
  - D. I'd lavish them with love and special gifts.
  - E. I'd have a heart to heart talk with them.
  - F. I'd pray that God would change their heart.
  - G. I'd just give up on them.
  - H. I'd keep pointing out what a great friend I was (but not theirs anymore).
  - I. Other.
- 3. What blessings that God provides are easy to take for granted?
  - A. Life.
  - B. Friends.
  - C. Family.
  - D. Food.
  - E. Talents you've developed.
  - F. Work.
  - G. Freedom.
  - H. Safety.
  - I. Other.

- 4. How does God show that He loves us?
  - A. He gives us special favors.
  - B. He sends messages that make us feel loved.
  - C. He focuses attention on us.
  - D. Sometimes He chases after us.
  - E. He gets us out of trouble.
  - F. He forgives us.
  - G. At times He puts us in a place where others envy us.
  - H. He treats us better than we deserve.
  - I. Other.
- 5. What thoughts or memories does God need to blot from your mind (vs. 17)?
  - A. The memory of certain people who still torment my mind.
  - B. The memory of a specific event I wish I could undo.
  - C. My sense of being a failure.
  - D. My feeling that I have everything under control.
  - E. A desire for revenge to payback someone who did me wrong.
  - F. I'd simply like to start over, blotting out all my past.
  - G. A bad habit pattern or addiction that easily controls me.
  - H. A negative image of God.
  - I. Other.

6. What makes you part of God's people? What stops or removes you from being part of God's people?

7. When you are part of God's people, how are other people, places, and things blessed by your presence?

8. What makes God "your God"? What stops God from being "your God"?