

## In-Love Illustration

Call up two volunteers—one guy and one girl. Tell them that they are going to be a part of an illustration that has nothing to do with their real lives and so, to conceal their true identities, you are going to give them fake names. Give each of them an off-the-wall name such as Herman Smellfungus and Ima Gal.

**SAY:**

(To the girl) Let's say that one day you are walking down the hall of your school and suddenly you see this incredible stud of a man. Now, I know you're looking at me right now, but we're actually talking about him. Your knees go weak. You melt like butter. And he walks up to YOU and says, "How you doing?"

Then let's pretend that several weeks go by and these two get to know each other better and before long, she's "in-love." Actually, I don't think people fall in love; I think people fall in ditches, but that's another story...And finally, the day comes when he looks at her and says, "I love you, babe."

Wow! He loves her! But then two days pass and he doesn't call her...four days...a week. So she gets concerned. You would get concerned, right? So she calls him. "Is everything okay between us?" she asks. "Yeah, everything's great," he says. "I love you!" And she melts like butter again. "He loves me. He loves me."

Then the next day at school, she sees him in the hallway, but he looks the other direction and doesn't even acknowledge that she's there. So she calls him again and he says, "Everything's okay. I love you." And she melts again. "Oh, he loves me. He loves me."

But the next day, she sees him talking to and hanging on other girls and she tries to talk to him but he just ignores her and blows her off. So she calls again, and again he says, "Everything's okay. I LOVE you."

(To the girl) Does he love you? (No!) How do you know? Because of what he's doing. Loving someone isn't about what you say to them. True love is shown in what you do...The same is true with you and Jesus. You can come to church and say you love Him, but the depth of your love for Him is revealed in how you live at home and at school and by what you do everywhere you go.

What you do shows what you believe...Everything else is just a bunch of religious talk.

(See John 14:15-21)