

“Worship Drama on Committed Relationships” **by Shane Miller and Carol Duerksen**

This drama can be incorporated into a worship service and used as a discussion starter regarding relationships with each other as sexual beings. It incorporates parts of the Song of Solomon, Hosea and Gomer, and Samson and Delilah.

CHARACTERS:

Narrator

Beloved: male

Lover: female

Delilah: female

Samson: male

Gomer: female

Hosea: male

Begin the drama with introductions of the characters. Characters should come on stage, one at a time, and introduce themselves as follows:

DRAMA:

Beloved: My story is found in the Song of Solomon. I am known as Beloved.

Lover: My story is found in the Song of Solomon. I am known as Lover.

Delilah: My name is Delilah and my story is found in the book of Judges. I had a “relationship” (use fingers to show quote marks) with a strong man named Samson.

Samson: My name is Samson. My story is tied in with hers (he indicates Delilah) and yes, I specialize in muscles ... and hair.

Hosea: My name is Hosea. I have my own book in the Bible. I had a wife who cheated on me constantly, but I still loved her unconditionally.

Gomer: My name is Gomer. I cheated on him (indicates Hosea) a lot. Big time.

Characters leave stage and go to back of sanctuary. The narrator goes to the podium on stage.

NARRATOR: And God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into him the breath of life. And God planted a garden and made beasts and birds and fish, for God thought, "It isn't good for the man to be alone." But for the man, no suitable helper was found. So while the man was sleeping, God took one of his ribs and out of it formed another being, a woman. So God created humankind. They were made male and female, and were made in the image of God.

BELOVED: Walking down the left aisle, starry-eyed, lovestruck: I wish she could kiss me right now, I wish I could kiss her back! Her love is...indescribable! Just the sound of her name is like music to me! I wish she were here!

LOVER, likewise lovestruck, walks down right aisle, doesn't see Beloved:
Where is my beloved? Sigh. He is more handsome than one thousand paintings, his eyes sparkle like the stars in the midnight sky.

BELOVED: What was that? Looks across sanctuary, Could it be her? It is! Sighs, She stands so elegantly, like a statue wrought out of silver, yet as graceful as a rose!

LOVER, looks over at Beloved:
My love! You're here! Runs toward Beloved and they meet and embrace (or clasp hands) in the middle, or to the L of the podium if there is no raised stage. They freeze in that position.

NARRATOR: But not long after God created male and female, they disobeyed God, and sin entered the world. The perfect relationship between God and humans was broken, as was the one between men and women. Pauses, then says with sorrow: Why did humanity have to fall?

Samson starts down center aisle, and Delilah follows him.

DELILAH: Why won't you trust me? Why can't you tell me your secret! You know everything about me, but you're so secretive about yourself. Why won't you tell me?

Samson, clearly frustrated, reaches Lover and Beloved, pushes them apart but acts as if they aren't even there.

SAMSON: Because, I've told you a hundred times, if I admit I have weaknesses, someone that can do bodily harm to me will find out, and then I'm in big trouble!

Samson and Delilah freeze, facing each other right of podium.

NARRATOR: Broken relationships. Can they be fixed? Why can't our problems just disappear? Why can't things be the way they were in the beginning?

LOVER, concerned:
Darling, your eyes, they aren't sparkling like the stars! Where is their splendor?

They drop hands.

SAMSON, walking away from Delilah:

I can't tell you my secrets. I won't be strong anymore if I do. I won't be able to be strong for you anymore. Freeze.

GOMER, looking panicked, runs in from backstage, weaving in between characters, and breaking Beloved and Lover apart as she goes, knocking them further apart:

I've got to hide, before he finds me! He's going to be furious! Crouches down, as if hiding.

NARRATOR: God must be saddened to see how humanity has messed up such a beautiful thing—this thing called male/female relationships.

DELILAH, walking over to Samson:

You're afraid you won't be strong enough for me? Nothing could change the way I think about you, not even the most horrifying secret in the world. I promise, you can trust me.

HOSEA, walks in from backstage:

Oh dear Gomer, why? Why must you do this to me? Looks around the stage for Gomer.

SAMSON, looks at Delilah, sighs loudly and says:

Okay, okay, I'll tell you.

They exit backstage.

NARRATOR: Our sinfulness rips us from one another, and the consequences of our sin hurt the ones we love, no matter how much we think we love them.

HOSEA, finds Gomer and rushes to her, happy to see her, but still upset:

There you are! I've been looking everywhere, worried sick the whole time. Asks gently, Why have you done this, how could you have hurt me like this?

GOMER, stands up and walks away from Hosea, pushing Beloved back as she goes:

Well, it was just the two of us alone there, and we'd both had a little too much to drink. I didn't think you'd find out. Sorry.

BELOVED: My love, I can't see you anymore. Where are you?

LOVER: I'm here! Can't you hear me?

NARRATOR: Sometimes, even though we are very close, we are so far apart. We let each other down. We break promises. We talk past each other. We hurt each other. We start over again.

HOSEA, reaches for Gomer's hand:

It's all right, my dear, I forgive you. No matter what you do, I could never stop loving you.

Hosea and Gomer exit.

SAMSON, marches on stage, enraged:

How could she do this to me! She couldn't keep her mouth shut if her life depended on it. And mine does! I trusted her and she totally betrayed my trust!

DELILAH, comes on stage with a stack of money in her hands:

He used me, so turnabout's fair play. I can use him too. She flips through the bills. I'm thinking shopping trip, you know what I mean?

She keeps walking offstage.

GOMER, runs onstage, muttering to self:

Here we go again. I messed up, and he found out. He's really gonna kill me this time.

Gomer hides.

HOSEA, comes onstage, weeping:

Oh, where could she be? I'm worried sick, why does she put me through this? I show her so much love! Why does she do this to me?

GOMER, comes out of hiding and approaches Hosea:

I'm so sorry! I didn't mean for this to happen again, it just sort of did. I hate putting you through this, I'm so sorry.

SAMSON, almost on top of Gomer's words:

I CAN NEVER TRUST HER AGAIN!

Silence and Pause.

Gomer exits down left aisle, Delilah exits backstage, and Samson exits down right aisle.

HOSEA, to Narrator: Will they never learn?

Both exit backstage.

Pause

BELOVED, across stage to Lover:

Are you still here, my love?

LOVER: I am.

Pause. Exit down aisles.

QUESTIONS:

Questions for discussion following the worship (perhaps in Sunday school groups or during a fellowship time around tables.)

- 1 What do you think was the main point of the drama?
- 2 Is there more to the story of Hosea and Gomer than an unfaithful wife and a forgiving husband? (See the book of Hosea.)
- 3 How many times should spouses forgive each other?
- 4 How do persons find the balance between giving each other forgiveness and grace, and keeping each other accountable?
- 5 Think about the people you know. Do you know more Samson/Delilah's or more Beloved/Lover's? How can we foster more Beloved/Lover's?
- 6 What does Hosea want the other characters to learn?