HE ONLY HAS EYES FOR YOU!

Answer Key
and
Prompts for PowerPoint® Presentation

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Show slide #1 (title slide)
OPENING

Show slide #2
[If you have a audio version of this song, here would be a good place to play it.]
The song, I Only Have Eyes for You, was composed in 1934 by Harry Warren and Al Dubin. It has been recorded by numerous musicians, including Peggy Lee, Frank Sinatra, and Art Garfunkel.

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The Flamingo’s version is ranked 157th in Rolling Stone Magazine’s list of the 500 Greatest Songs of All Time.

THE LORD’S VERSION OF THIS GOLDEN OLDIE

In Isaiah 43:4a. He tells us, You are valuable [precious] in my eyes. The “you” is singular, not plural. It’s “you” not “you all.” Singular “you” denotes a focus that is individual and intimate, particular, and personal.

Read Isaiah 43:1–7. God’s care is cosmic and universal, to be sure, but to emphasize his exclusive love for you, he employs twenty-five second person singular words and suffixes in these verses. Over and over again it is you, you, you, you!

Those who first heard these promises were Judaites living in Babylon in the sixth century and the empire would have never said this. Babylon was distant, aloof, cold, and calculating.

Read Daniel 3 to see what life was like for Judaites in Babylon.

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THIS WORLD’S MIRRORS

As a child, one of the summer rituals of my family was to go to Elitch Gardens in Denver, Colorado. The park had all kind of rides and enough sticky cotton candy to amaze my little life. But what always fascinated me most — the fun house mirrors.

Show slide # 5
Some mirrors would make me look tall and skinny. Others would make me look short and fat.
Show slide # 6
And still others would make me look ugly and creepy. None of them reflected who I really was. And neither do the mirrors that surround us.

Show slide # 7
On a typical day in 2001, the average American consumed — intentionally or unintentionally — about five hundred visual advertisements. By 2009, that number had grown dramatically; from the time most people open the morning paper (or more likely, turn on the morning news) until they finally doze off in front of The Late Show or another rerun of I Love Lucy, Americans now typically encounter more than 2,000 advertising images.

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In most of these images we see perfect people with perfect families and perfect marriages delighting in perfect jobs. And when these images seductively summon us to gaze into their glass, what do we see? We see that we don’t measure up. You name it. We don’t have it. Addicted to how the world sees us, we begin feeling tall and skinny, short and fat, ugly and creepy. If we look into these mirrors long enough, we begin to feel worthless.

Discuss how the media impacts your self worth.

Show slide # 9
When we feel worthless, we not only discount ourselves, we begin discounting everybody else. Talk about how this happens in your life.

HOW IS VALUE DETERMINED?

How we stack up in the eyes of others does not reflect who we really are. Our identity is in the LORD, and He says: You are valuable in my eyes.

Value is based on ownership. Discuss how much your car is worth compared to one owned by your favorite celebrity.

Show slide # 10
Value is also based upon how much someone is willing to pay for an item. What is your favorite heirloom? How much do you think it is worth?

Since value is based on ownership, read Isaiah 43:6–7 to see who owns us.

And if value is based on how much someone is willing to pay, read Isaiah 43:4 to see what the LORD paid for his people Israel.

WHO IS THE LORD TO PLACE VALUE ON US?

We can trust the LORD to place value on us. As we read from Isaiah, we see some of the kinds of things God does. Fill in the blanks as you read these Scripture references:

A. Read Isaiah 41:8; 51:1–2; 54:9 where God explains what happened in the past.
B. Read Isaiah 44:28; 45:1; 52:13–53:12 where God predicts the future.
C. Read Isaiah 43:16–21 where God does things in the present that are radically new. The LORD is the holy, supreme, awesome, eternal God and there is no other.

Read Isaiah 40:12–31 and list examples of His power. Measured the waters in the hollow of his hand; held the dust of the earth in a basket; weighs the islands as though they were fine dust; brings princes of naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing.
Within Isaiah 40–55 the prophet employs numerous expressions to announce that the LORD isn’t a system, a force, an idea, a movement, a doctrine, or a higher power. The LORD is a person.

Match these Scripture references with the appropriate human characteristics of a person:

1. Read Isaiah 40:2; 41:20; 50:11; 51:16 .................................................. a. hands
2. Read Isaiah 40:10–11; 48:14; 50:2; 52:10; 53:1 ........................................ b. arms
3. Read Isaiah 40:5; 45:23; 55:11 ................................................................. c. mouth
4. Read Isaiah 54:8 ....................................................................................... d. face

Match these groups of scriptures with the Lord’s human emotions:

5. Read Isaiah 42:25; 48:9 ........................................................................ a. anger/wrath
6. Read Isaiah 42:13 .................................................................................. b. zeal/passion
7. Read Isaiah 41:8; 43:4 ............................................................................. c. friendship/love
8. Read Isaiah 49:10, 13; 54:7–8 ............................................................... d. compassion/mercy

Match these groups of Scripture references to find that the LORD performs human-like actions:

9. Read Isaiah 40:22 .................................................................................. a. sits
10. Read Isaiah 41:13; 42:6; 45:1 ............................................................... b. holds people’s hand
11. Read Isaiah 42:13 .................................................................................. c. shouts aloud
12. Read Isaiah 42:14 .................................................................................. d. gasps

Match these groups of Scripture references to determine similes and metaphors Isaiah uses to describe the LORD:

13. Read Isaiah 40:11 .................................................................................. a. Shepherd
15. Read Isaiah 42:13 .................................................................................. c. Warrior
16. Read Isaiah 54:5 .................................................................................... d. Husband
17. Read Isaiah 45:10 .................................................................................. e. Father
18. Read Isaiah 45:9 .................................................................................... f. Potter

And in Isaiah 43:3, for the first time in the book, the LORD is identified as your Savior. This is the One who says: I only have eyes for you.

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CONCLUSIONS

Martin Luther provides these comments on Isaiah 43:4, “Although in supreme trials we seem nothing in our own eyes and are condemned as one cast off by the world, in God’s eyes we are glorious. Therefore we may be vile in our own eyes, in the eyes of the world, and even in those of our brothers. Fear not. In God’s eyes we are regarded as a precious jewel” (Luther’s Works, 17:88). But there is more. In the baptismal flood God claimed you as His own and on a hill called Calvary He paid for you with His Son Jesus. And this means the LORD has more than just eyes for you. The LORD has a heart for you; read John 15:9. The LORD has ears for you; read Matthew 7:7. And the LORD has true body and true blood for you; read 1 Corinthians 11:23–29.

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The LORD loves these lyrics:
“The moon may be high, but I can’t see a thing in the sky. ‘Cause I only have eyes for you.”
What great love!