

# the SCENE

Viewing the latest news through the lens of Scripture

The day of reckoning is coming. The day when all is revealed. The day when people find out whether the decisions they’ve made will make them or break them . . . up.

Yep, Valentine’s Day is on the way. For young couples who’ve been dating all of a minute, it can be a trying time. Do I buy her a gift? Do I not? What should I give him? Something nice, but not too nice. Personal, but not too personal. Something that says, “I might, maybe, sort of like you a little bit.”

For older couples who’ve been together for decades, the day might just be a blip on the screen—not even something that registers, except that they notice an abundance of pink and red in that one grocery aisle.

Then for some, it’s a day of doom. The day they find out for sure what that special someone actually thinks about them. And sadly, for many, the answer to that question is . . . not much. Or even worse—not at all.

It seems strange to have too much riding on just one day on the calendar. A day the greeting card companies and florists and candy makers have all managed to succeed in whipping up sufficient consumer interest to have us spending around \$20 billion on things that are here for a minute and gone tomorrow—not all that unlike many of the relationships being celebrated on the day.

I don’t know. Maybe that’s just a tad too negative. What do you think? Is Valentine’s Day worth all the hype? Or is it the worst day ever? You decide. But pass me the chocolates first, will ya?

*As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the above to read. After all teens have had the opportunity to read the article, discuss it in this way:*

**What does Valentine’s Day mean to you?**

**Has Valentine’s Day ever ended up badly for you? How so?**

**If you don’t have a bad Valentine’s Day story, imagine what you think would be the worst Valentine’s Day ever. What would that be like?**

**Everyone has bad days. And sometimes those bad days even fall on holidays meant to be happy and joyful. We might question whether anyone really understands what we are going through at times. But Jesus understands our bad days. Jesus has walked where we walk. Let’s see what the Bible says about His trials and troubles.**