RE:TUNED

Unavoidable. Pervasive. Inescapable. Secular pop music is everywhere. Even if you can get your young Christian friends to switch their listening habits from secular to sacred, they are still going to hear the top popular songs everywhere they go. In this section we provide you some

ideas to take advantage of some of the most popular secular songs. Use the opening questions, the thematic concepts and discussion ideas to spice up your Bible study, Sunday School lesson, camp/retreat meeting or outreach event message.

Artist

Lady Gaga

Song: Perfect Illusion **Album:** Joanne

By: Eric Gargus, e4christ@aol.com Marie Baptist Church – Dublin, Georgia

Theme

Love

Teaching Point

Students will examine the difference between love and infatuation.

Opening Question

Have you ever seen a movie or a show on Netflix in which two characters seemed so in love, and then in a shocking turn they broke up? Tell us about it.

Discussion

Love and infatuation are very real things. Sometimes people let themselves get so wrapped up in emotions that the outcome of the relationship is not even considered. Relationships can be rewarding when based on the right things. Otherwise they lead to hurt. Lady Gaga's new song Perfect Illusion is about a shallow relationship. Let's listen to it.

Whether or not Lady Gaga wanted more than a physical relationship may be in question. But her male suitor may have hurt her by seemingly using her for physical pleasure.

Consider these questions:

- What are some unhealthy things a relationship can be built on?
- What are some healthy things a relationship can be built on?

Let's look at **Matthew 6:33**. God tells us to seek Him in everything. That includes relationships! A relationship almost always fails because of a failure to build it based on God's love and plan for romance. Often God just gets totally left out of the relationship!

Now let's examine 1 Corinthians 13:4-6. Does this deep definition of what it means to love someone seem easy to or difficult to live up to? Few if any people your age are ready for this. Few young adults are ready for this.

Often the "perfect illusion" in relationships now involves one wanting deep emotional intimacy and another wanting shallow sexual intimacy. Be careful to guard your heart. **Proverbs 4:23** reminds us that everything we do flows from our hearts.

Conclusion

Don't get burned by a relationship not based on God's love. And don't get into a relationship until you are ready to truly love—to put the other person above yourself in every way.