



WHEN CALLS
the HEART
— FAMILY NIGHT —

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Lesson	Page	DVD
DEVOTION	1 - 4	SEASON 1 DVD 1 LOST AND FOUND
MISUNDERSTANDING	5 - 8	SEASON 1 DVD 2 A TELLING SILENCE
TRUST	9 - 12	SEASON 1 DVD 3 THE DANCE
ADVERSITY	13 - 16	SEASON 1 DVD 4 SECOND CHANCES
LOVE	17 - 20	SEASON 1 DVD 5 CHANGE OF HEART
TALENT	21 - 24	SEASON 1 DVD 6 RULES OF ENGAGEMENT
FAVORITISM	25 - 28	SEASON 2 DVD 1 TRIALS OF THE HEART
DEBT	29 - 32	SEASON 2 DVD 2 HEART AND SOUL
SERVICE	33 - 36	SEASON 2 DVD 3 HEART OF THE FAMILY
CONFLICT	37 - 40	SEASON 2 DVD 4 HEART AND HOME
FEAR	41 - 44	SEASON 2 DVD 5 FOLLOW YOUR HEART
DECEPTION	45 - 48	SEASON 3 DVD 1 IT BEGINS WITH HEART
CHANGE	49 - 52	SEASON 3 DVD 2 TROUBLED HEARTS
KINDNESS	53 - 56	SEASON 3 DVD 3 HEART OF A HERO
DIFFICULTY	57 - 60	SEASON 3 DVD 4 FOREVER IN MY HEART
GENEROSITY	61 - 64	SEASON 3 DVD 5 HEARTS IN QUESTION

Lesson	Page	DVD
GOOD DEEDS	65 - 68	SEASON 4 DVD 1 HEART OF FAITH
DECISION MAKING	69 - 72	SEASON 4 DVD 2 HEART OF TRUTH
COMMUNITY	73 - 76	SEASON 4 DVD 3 HEART OF COMMUNITY
JUSTICE	77 - 80	SEASON 4 DVD 4 HEART OF A TEACHER
BULLYING	81 - 84	SEASON 4 DVD 5 HEALING HEART
SECRETS	85 - 88	SEASON 4 DVD 6 HEART OF A SECRET
GIFTS	89 - 92	SEASON 5 DVD 1 HEART OF HOMECOMING
CHARACTER	93 - 96	SEASON 5 DVD 2 HEARTS AND MINDS
GRACE	97 - 100	SEASON 5 DVD 3 HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS
SACRIFICE	101 - 104	SEASON 5 DVD 4 MY HEART IS YOURS
INVESTMENT	105 - 108	SEASON 5 DVD 5 WEATHER THE STORM
HONESTY	109 - 112	SEASON 5 DVD 6 CLOSE TO MY HEART



EDIFY FILMS

Graphic Design - Adam Frangione
Written by David and Hester Christensen
Produced by Elliott Wallach



DEVOTION

THE HEART OF - LOST AND FOUND (SEASON 1 - DVD 1)

The story of *When Calls the Heart* unfolds as young Elizabeth Thatcher displays courage by moving west to teach in a small frontier town that has recently experienced tremendous loss. As she arrives as an outsider, she sees the devotion of the townspeople coming together to support one another in the midst of a horrible tragedy. Even though at first the community questions Elizabeth's capability as a teacher, she earns their respect and the hearts of the children, and is invited into the fold.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. Share a time when you have seen a display of devotion.
2. What is the greatest tragedy you have faced? How did you deal it? How did others support you?
3. What are the benefits of facing a serious problem together versus handling things on our own?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Ruth 1:1-18. After tragically losing her husband and two sons, Naomi plans to head back to the land of Judah. She urges her two daughters-in-law to return to their mother's home, but Ruth's devotion to Naomi causes her to remain and support her mother-in-law.

1. Who in your life would you say is most devoted to you, even in the most difficult times? Who is someone you are very committed to supporting?
2. Why is it important to give and receive support to and from others? (*Proverbs 17:17, Ecclesiastes 4:9-10*)



MISUNDERSTANDING

THE HEART OF - A TELLING SILENCE (SEASON 1 - DVD 2)

False accusations and misunderstandings find their way into Coal Valley. The mystery begins when it is discovered that arson is the likely cause of the church burning down. A missing girl, an expensive necklace, and an unkind man only serve to heighten the worst fears and suspicions of the small town.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. How do misunderstandings happen?
2. Share a time when you jumped to a conclusion before knowing the whole story?
3. When have you been misjudged or falsely accused?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read John 9:1-12. The disciples ask Jesus about a man born blind. They are under the impression this man's blindness is due to his sin or the sin of his parents, but Jesus corrects this misunderstanding. The man's blindness happened so that God could work a miracle in his life.

1. Have you ever felt misunderstood by your friends or family?
2. How has your relationship with Jesus provided perspective? (*Hebrews 4:13*)



TRUST

THE HEART OF - THE DANCE (SEASON 1 - DVD 3)

New miners move into Coal Valley and for some people the initial reaction is distrust. Caleb is particularly wary of Mr. Graves, who seems to be more interested in his mother than he would like. Meanwhile, Elizabeth chooses to see the best in Billy despite the cautions of Mountie Jack Thorton. Eventually, time reveals everyone for who they really are: Caleb begins to see Mr. Graves for his intent and welcomes him into their company while Elizabeth realizes that Billy's motives are tied to her potential inheritance more than her.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. How do you treat new people?
2. Who do you relate to in this movie: Billy, Caleb, Mr. Graves, Mrs. Dunbar or Jack? Why?
3. Do you tend to trust or distrust people? Explain.
4. What are the downsides of trusting too quickly? What are the downsides of trusting too slowly?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Acts 9:1-28. The disciples struggle to trust the genuineness of Saul's conversion. Barnabas defends Saul whom he had seen preach the name of Jesus without fear. The disciples eventually realize Saul's faith in Jesus was authentic.

1. Has anyone ever stood up for you? How did that make you feel?
2. Has anyone ever betrayed your trust?
3. Who can you always trust? (*Proverbs 3:5-6*)



ADVERSITY

THE HEART OF - SECOND CHANCES (SEASON 1 - DVD 4)

Adversity and the fear of the unknown can challenge us. Although brilliant, Bo cannot read and initially, his father doesn't support his desire to learn. Five months after the mining accident, one of the men returns home with a missing leg. He struggles to engage with life and how he feels others may view him. Ultimately, these obstacles grow their faith, courage and strength.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. How do you respond when the odds are against you?
2. In what ways have you let your limitations hinder you?
3. What is one of your biggest fears?
4. How have adversities in life helped you grow stronger?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. The Apostle Paul faced many hardships in his life. He was given a "thorn" in his flesh to keep him humble. The Lord affirmed that His grace was enough and that His "power is made perfect in weakness." Paul came to the realization that he was strong when he was weak.

1. What has God allowed in your life in order to keep you humble?
2. How have your weaknesses made you stronger?
3. How have you seen the Lord demonstrate His power through your weakness?



LOVE

THE HEART OF - CHANGE OF HEART (SEASON 1 - DVD 5)

The investigation of the coal mine accident continues and Abigail's love for Coal Valley compels her to find the truth. Julie's desire to be loved leads her to danger and Jack, in his pursuit of love, is willing to concede his conviction that Mounties don't get married when he extends an act of courtship to Elizabeth.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. Name some things you love.
2. How would you define love?
3. What's the difference between worldly love and godly love?
4. When can love become misguided?
5. When do you feel most loved?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13. In this passage Paul describes the characteristics and vital nature of godly love.

1. Which characteristic do you find most challenging and why?
2. Why do you think Paul elevates love over faith and hope?
3. What are some ways God has demonstrated His love for us?
4. How do you tend to demonstrate your love for God and others?



TALENT

THE HEART OF - RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (SEASON 1 - DVD 6)

Elizabeth's dad has found her a job teaching in Hamilton, however, she would much rather use her talents to help the children of Coal Valley. In this episode, her influence is clearly seen as she draws out the potential of a bright student named Wyatt. His intelligence inspires others and his giftedness is revealed through an invention that could save the lives of future miners.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. Who do you know that is seemingly good at everything?
2. What would you say are some of your talents?
3. What abilities do you wish you had and why?
4. When have you used your time, talent and/or resources for the good of others?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Matthew 25:14-30. In the Parable of the Talents Jesus likens His return to that of a landowner who entrusts his property and various amounts of money to his servants while he is away on a journey. Upon his return, the landowner settles accounts with his servants, judging their faithfulness with and usage of what he had entrusted to them.

1. Why should we be good managers of the resources and abilities God has entrusted to us?
2. What's at stake if we mismanage our God-given resources and abilities?



FAVORITISM

THE HEART OF - TRIALS OF THE HEART (SEASON 2 - DVD 1)

Season two opens with several new twists. As the mine closes, a new source of primary employment opens and a new town name, "Hope Valley," shapes the future of this community. Jack remains true to himself when it seems Elizabeth favors another man over him, while a different man attempts dishonest gain with a shameful bribe.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. Take some time to share what makes your list of favorite things.
2. What does it mean to show favoritism? Give some examples of favoritism from this episode.
3. What are some common forms of favoritism in our world today?
4. What forms of favoritism have you experienced?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read James 2:1-9. Discrimination was a problem in the first-century just like it is today. James forbids favoritism because it means we have shown partiality and placed ourselves as judge and jury against other people based on appearance, wealth, position, or the like.

1. When have you struggled to remain impartial?
2. How does it make you feel to know God does not show favoritism?



DEBT

THE HEART OF - HEART AND SOUL (SEASON 2 - DVD 2)

The people of Hope Valley come together to rebuild their church/schoolhouse. Yet, some are confronted with the harsh realities of past debts that have come due. Meanwhile, Jack and Charles are both determined to win Elizabeth's heart, while she is willing to leave the comforts of Hamilton in order to pursue something of greater value.

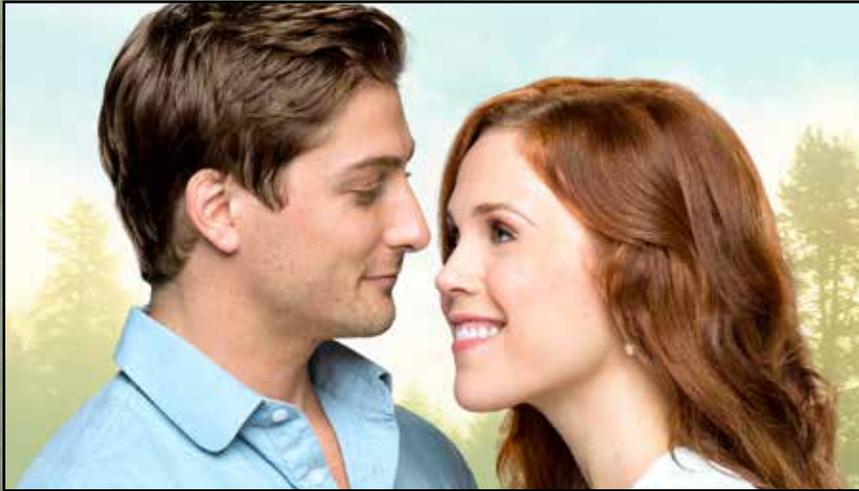
MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. What would you do with 10 million dollars?
2. What are some comforts you can and can't live without?
3. Where do you struggle with contentment?
4. How can discontentment lead to debt?
5. How did the issue of debt come in to play in this episode?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Matthew 18:21-35. Those who have been forgiven should freely forgive. The parable of the unmerciful servant serves as a warning against receiving, but not extending, mercy.

1. What has been your experience with debt? Share a time when you forgave a debt or had a debt forgiven? How did it make you feel?
2. Why do you think God would want us to avoid debt? What are some things a person can do to avoid or get out of debt? (*Proverbs 22:7; Romans 13:8*)



SERVICE

THE HEART OF - HEART OF THE FAMILY (SEASON 2 - DVD 3)

The people of Hope Valley continually demonstrate their desire to be of service to one another. Elizabeth has barely returned from Hamilton when she offers to care for a few students on their farm while the kids' dad is out of town. As a lawyer, Bill Avery has committed his life to service, currently confronting counterfeiters on the Canadian Frontier.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. Would you rather serve or be served? Explain.
2. What are some characteristics of a servant?
3. Give some examples of selfish and unselfish acts from this episode.
4. How do you serve others without being taken advantage of?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Mark 10:35-45. The greatest in the kingdom will be the servant of all.

1. What were the disciples trying to attain?
2. How does Jesus flip the script on what it means to be great?
3. Why would Jesus elevate servanthood?
4. Who have you met that is generous yet always seems to have plenty? (*Isaiah 58:10*)



CONFLICT

THE HEART OF - HEART AND HOME (SEASON 2 - DVD 4)

Conflict is no stranger to the citizens of Hope Valley. Lee and Henry oppose each other over the railway proposition. Charles and Jack disagree over Elizabeth and Mr. Thornton and Jack also don't see eye-to-eye which impairs his relationship with the Thatcher family. Personal conflicts are a challenge for everyone, but quite often the solutions can be as well.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. Do you like to argue? Why or why not?
2. What usually causes quarrels with your family or friends?
3. How do you tend to handle conflict?
4. When was the last time you had a disagreement and how was it resolved?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Matthew 18:15-17. This passage gives an outline for dealing with conflict.

1. Why is conflict resolution important?
2. What conflict(s), if any, are you currently facing?
3. What tends to keep you from dealing with disagreements?



FEAR

THE HEART OF - FOLLOW YOUR HEART (SEASON 2 - DVD 5)

As season two closes, a variety of fears and doubts are addressed in *Follow Your Heart*. Jack continues to pursue the counterfeiters as he questions Bill Avery's involvement. Pastor Hogan fears the people of Hope Valley finding out about his past life. Rose Marie searches the fears in her heart and the commitment of a relationship as Lee attempts to pursue her. Jack is unsure of Elizabeth's commitment to Hope Valley, feeling she is different and torn between two worlds. She seeks to reassure him of her love for the community, the children, and ultimately him as she expresses her fears of his life as a Mountie.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. What are some of your biggest fears?
2. Why is it important to address our fears?
3. When have you given into your fears?
4. How have your fears influenced your behavior?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Judges 7:8-15. Gideon was going up against an army so large that even their camels could not be counted.

1. What do you think Gideon was afraid of?
2. What gave him courage?
3. What do you do when you are afraid?
4. How does your relationship with God help you face your fears?



DECEPTION

THE HEART OF - IT BEGINS WITH HEART (SEASON 3 - DVD 1)

Season three begins as Rose Marie struggles to live truthfully, thinking it's okay to pretend to be someone she's not. Not only does she deceive herself, but the newspaper reporter from San Francisco, as well. Meanwhile, the counterfeit scandal reveals deception within the ranks of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police as a dishonest officer threatens the lives of Bill and Jack. This episode reminds us that we can easily be deceived by ourselves, by others or by both.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. Who's your favorite actor and why?
2. When have you pretended to be someone you're not?
3. Who has deceived you?
4. When is it wrong to pretend to be someone you are not?
5. What are some examples of deception from this episode?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Acts 5:1-10. Ananias and Sapphira tried to deceive the apostles regarding the money they had received from selling a piece of their property. In return, they paid the ultimate price.

1. Why is honesty the best policy?
2. How has honesty paid off for you?



CHANGE

THE HEART OF - TROUBLED HEARTS (SEASON 3 - DVD 2)

New beginnings and fresh starts begin to emerge for just about everyone at Hope Valley. Elizabeth moves into a new home, Abigail welcomes her new business partner, Bill Avery, at the café and Jesse pursues a new courtship with Clara. Rose Marie changes her mind by letting go of her theater plans and Pastor Hogan has left behind his old life of crime and has embraced a new life in Jesus.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. How do you like change?
2. When have you experienced a new beginning?
3. How is your heart toward others who need to make a change?
4. Share one way you have made a fresh start in the past year.

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read 2 Corinthians 5:11-21. God made a way, through Jesus, for us to be in relationship with Him. Christ gives us a second chance--a second chance to leave our old life and be made new.

1. Have you been reconciled to God? If so, how has your life changed because of Christ? If not, what's your next step?
2. Why is it important to give other people a second chance?



KINDNESS

THE HEART OF - HEART OF A HERO (SEASON 3 - DVD 3)

The community of Hope Valley has its kindness put to the test as it responds to challenges from within and without yet reacts to their problems with kindness. Bill Avery takes flowers to Mary Benson's grave. Abigail and Bill deliver food to the settlers, and the girls at school do their best to welcome Maddie, the new girl who has been unkind to them. Their welcoming embrace succeeds in opening her heart towards them.

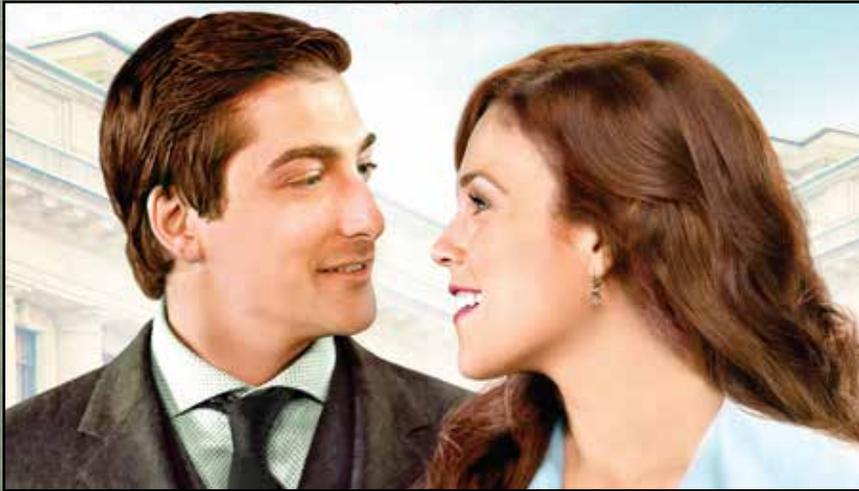
MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. What stands out to you about the people of Hope Valley?
2. What attributes/characteristics would you use to describe the community you live in?
3. When was the last time someone did something kind for you?
4. What are some practical ways to be kind to others?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read 2 Samuel 9:1-13. King David shows kindness to the household of Saul by welcoming Mephibosheth, a crippled relative of King Saul's, to his table for life. David also restores all of Saul's property to Mephibosheth.

1. What does David's relationship with Mephibosheth teach about kindness?
2. When have you performed an act of kindness for someone else?



DIFFICULTY

THE HEART OF - FOREVER IN MY HEART (SEASON 3 - DVD 4)

Things have been difficult in Hope Valley. Abigail is blindsided when an unknown aunt comes to take Cody and Becky away, threatening to destroy the new family they've created. Lee Coulter's mill experiences multiple mishaps. Roy wrestles with taking responsibility as a father and husband, eventually choosing to reunite with his family. Rose Marie faces a tough decision, whether to pursue an acting career or stay in Hope Valley. Becky must decide how comfortable her wheelchair really is, and she like others, ultimately rise to the difficulties they encounter.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. Describe a difficult time in your life.
2. How do life's difficulties make us stronger?
3. How do you handle trying times?
4. What good can come out of struggle?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read John 16:33. Jesus implies that as His followers we can expect to face difficulties, but to take courage since He has overcome the things of this world.

1. What does Jesus' acknowledgement of the reality of trouble in this world say to you?
2. In what ways does Christ's victory over this world encourage you?



GENEROSITY

THE HEART OF - HEARTS IN QUESTION (SEASON 3 - DVD 5)

Generosity has never been more needed when a flooding river comes to Hope Valley. The townspeople convert the schoolhouse to a hospital with men and woman assisting where needed and Jack nearly dies trying to rescue a girl from a raging river. Even Rose Marie's plans for a perfect wedding become less significant as she sacrifices her ideal ceremony to save the people of the town.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. What does it mean to be generous?
2. Give some examples of generosity from When Calls the Heart?
3. In what ways have you witnessed others value people over possessions?
4. When have you been on the receiving end of someone else's generosity? How did it make you feel?
5. What makes giving to others difficult or easy for you to do?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Proverbs 11:24-25. Generosity can be just as much of a gift to the giver as it is to the one who is on the receiving end.

1. How is it that the one who gives freely gets richer (Hint: Don't just think in terms of money or possessions)?
2. Why is it important to not let your money or possessions get so much of a hold on you that you have a hard time letting go of them?



GOOD DEEDS

THE HEART OF - HEART OF FAITH (SEASON 4 - DVD 1)

Christmas time finds Hope Valley coming together. Pastor Hogan is determined to find the widowed Nancy Tucker and encourage her to not move from the community, but rather stay where she can receive the support she needs. When the train derails with the shipment of gifts, the townspeople coordinate efforts to make gifts for all the children – a daunting task so close to Christmas Eve. As acting Mayor, Abigail is tenacious in her efforts to build a bridge of peace and friendship with Henry Gowen, convincing him that he needs Hope Valley as much as Hope Valley needs him. Fortunately, good deeds abound especially with the arrival of a gentle and kind peddler who inspires several people to kindness with his insight and his perfectly timed merchandise.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. When you think of good deeds, what comes to mind?
2. What examples of good deeds do you see in this episode?
3. When have you received more by helping others than by being helped?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Galatians 6:9-10. Doing good can get tiresome, but if we persist there is a pay-off in the end.

1. What are some opportunities you have had to do good to others?
2. What happened when you took advantage of the opportunity?
3. What happened when you didn't seize the chance to do good to others?



DECISION MAKING

THE HEART OF - HEART OF TRUTH (SEASON 4 - DVD 2)

The people of Hope Valley are faced with several hard decisions. Abigail is faced with bringing in the railroad and the many challenges it presents. Jack is offered a job in the Northern Territories, but ultimately decides against accepting the position. Cyrus, the new boy at school, overcomes his fear and opts to play in the school baseball game despite having to wear a leg brace.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. Would you consider yourself decisive or indecisive?
2. Share a tough decision you have had to make?
3. What do you do when faced with a difficult decision?
4. What are the tough decisions you are currently facing?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Matthew 19:16-22. The rich young man had a decision to make and it wasn't an easy one for him.

1. What was the young man's struggle?
2. Which decision do you think would have ultimately brought him the most happiness? Why?



COMMUNITY

THE HEART OF - HEART OF COMMUNITY (SEASON 4 - DVD 3)

The importance of community is clearly seen in Hope Valley. Abigail seeks to balance progress and prosperity with the railroad, while they and Henry Gowen, only have profits, position and money in mind. A carnival takes place to help raise funds for the school. Doing what is honest and best for the people of Hope Valley is revealed in the hearts of the community truly devoted to the town, despite those that are only there for themselves.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. How would you describe the community where you live?
2. What do you like most about your community? What needs improved?
3. Community is more than just where you live. Look up the word community and read the definition.
4. What else does the word community imply?
5. Why is community important?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Acts 2:42-47. The early church experienced a deep sense of unity. They were devoted to one another and had everything in common.

1. What do you appreciate most about your church?
2. When have you experienced a true sense of community?



JUSTICE

THE HEART OF - HEART OF A TEACHER (SEASON 4 - DVD 4)

Justice prevails in Hope Valley because so many are unwilling to stand by and do nothing. Elizabeth is unjustly fired because of false accusations and her replacement, Mr. Stoneman, is less than cordial, and even expels one student who is academically behind because he will lower the class scores. Cody defends Emily by standing up for what is right when Mr. Stoneman breaks her pencils. Francine overcomes her fears and vindicates Elizabeth by testifying to the truth. Elizabeth's reputation is restored as a woman committed to the truth and to the children in her care.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. When have you been treated unfairly? How did you respond?
2. How do you react when other people aren't being treated justly?
3. Who do you reach out to when you need help standing up for what is right?
4. Why is justice important?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Esther 4:4-16; 7:1-10. Haman had conspired to have all the Jews, including Mordecai, put to death but Mordecai convinces Queen Esther to take a stand for the Jews. This leads to Haman's ultimate demise.

1. When have you taken a stand against wrongdoing?
2. Why is it important to stand up for others or for what is right?



BULLYING

THE HEART OF - HEALING HEART (SEASON 4 - DVD 5)

The impact of one bully in Hope Valley affects several people's lives. Mr. Wyatt mistreats his own brother and threatens the life of AJ's mother if she doesn't change her testimony. He tries to intimidate Elizabeth, manipulate Henry Gowen, and sweet-talk Abigail. Mr. Wyatt also attempts to get rid of Bill Avery and AJ in the woods, and even at the end, is willing to take their lives. But the people of Hope Valley are strong; and they refuse to allow one bully to dictate their future.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. There are several instances of bullying in this episode. What are some factors that can lead people to bully others?
2. When have you seen or experienced bullying?
3. Have you ever been guilty of bullying?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Acts 4:1-22. The Sanhedrin threaten Peter and John for speaking and teaching about Jesus, but they know their first responsibility is to God, so they refuse.

1. Describe a time when you were threatened with a consequence for standing up for what was right?
2. How can your faith help you overcome your fear?



SECRETS

THE HEART OF - HEART OF A SECRET (SEASON 4 - DVD 6)

Carson Shepherd came to Hope Valley to start over, hoping to keep his prior life a secret. The people have warmly welcomed him although some have questioned his past. When Cody's life is on the line, Carson faces a decision, continue to be overcome by his past or to embrace a new future; one that is optimistic, courageous and true to himself. His decision saves Cody's life and now the townspeople are grateful there's a new doctor in town.

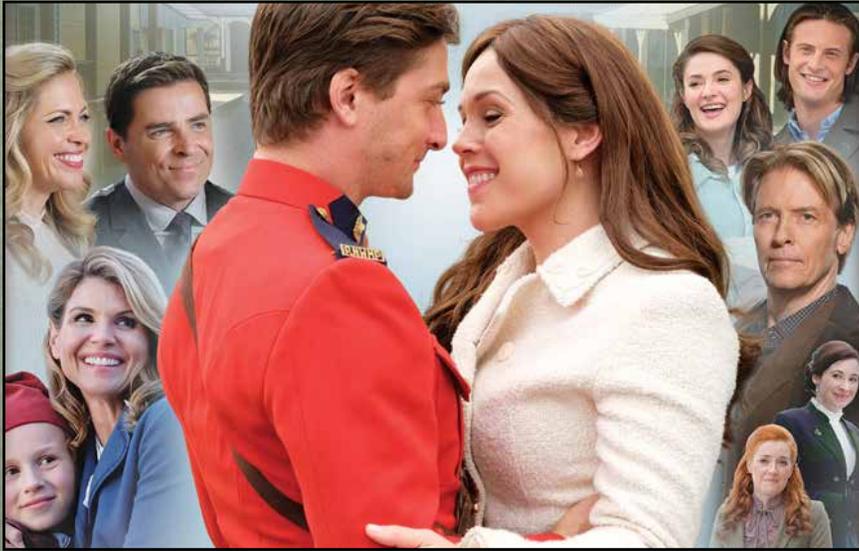
MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. How good are you at keeping secrets?
2. When is keeping a secret a good thing? When is it a bad thing?
3. Name one person you know you can trust to keep a secret.
4. What from your past do you try to keep hidden and why?
5. How has your past kept you from being all that you could be in your present and future?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Matthew 26:67-75. Peter could not imagine denying Jesus. However, when Jesus was taken prisoner and beaten in front of Peter, he kept his love for Jesus a secret. A few days later, an encounter with Jesus radically changed Peter into a bold and fearless witness for Christ.

1. How have you been able to move on from your past?
2. In what ways has Jesus used your past to prepare you for your present and future?



GIFTS

THE HEART OF - HEART OF HOMECOMING (SEASON 5 - DVD 1)

Gifts are a big part of the Christmas season, especially for the people of Hope Valley. Jesse hopes to buy a special gift for Clara. Abigail's dream of having her family all together and Elizabeth's desire for Jack to come home are both the best presents they could ever receive. Being attentive to the hopes and wishes of those around us is important as we consider ways to bless others at Christmastime, and all throughout the year.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. If you got to make a wish, what would it be and why?
2. How aware are you of the hopes and dreams of those around you?
3. Name a meaningful gift you either gave or received.

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Jesus taught His disciples the following principle: "It is more blessed to give than receive" (Acts 20:35).

1. Why do you think Jesus wanted His disciples to understand this truth?
2. In what ways do you think it is better to give than receive?
3. When have you experienced this truth for yourself?



CHARACTER

THE HEART OF - HEARTS AND MINDS (SEASON 5 - DVD 2)

Many positive character traits are seen in Hope Valley's townspeople. In her grief, Clara seeks to honor her first husband by taking a break with Jesse. Rose Marie's thoughtfulness turns a disappointing situation into an opportunity to bless someone less fortunate. Carson holds an out-of-town doctor accountable for selling a harmful tonic. When the railroad, who had previously agreed to build a depot in town, decides to back out of the deal, Cody challenges the railroad to have integrity and, thankfully, they do.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. Where did you notice people's character being revealed in *Hearts and Minds*?
2. Why is having character important?
3. What character qualities matter most to you and why?
4. What are some ways your character has been tested?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Daniel 6:1-10. Daniel was of such high character that those who tried to get him in trouble could find no wrong in him.

1. When has your character protected you from harm?
2. How has God used your character as a witness for Him?



GRACE

THE HEART OF - HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS (SEASON 5 - DVD 3)

Jack returns from the North and wedding plans are quickly underway. Mr. Thatcher puts away his concerns and graciously extends his blessing for Jack to marry his daughter, Elizabeth. Despite Henry Gowen's past, Lee Coulter kindly hires him at the mill, while Abigail respectfully asks for Henry's advice. Harper is merciful towards Haddie even though she wronged him. Carson understands Sophie's desire to pursue her architectural dreams, and although he finds interest in her, he helps her find a job that would separate them.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. How gracious are you to others?
2. Why is extending grace to others vital?
3. Who has given you a second chance?
4. What has failure and forgiveness taught you?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Ephesians 2:8-9. We don't deserve salvation, it is a grace of God that comes by faith.

1. Why is this important to understand?
2. How has God's grace changed your life?



SACRIFICE

THE HEART OF - MY HEART IS YOURS (SEASON 5 - DVD 4)

The excitement and anticipation of Jack and Elizabeth's wedding is building. When an accidental fire burns the inside of the church, all of the wedding decorations are destroyed, but the people of Hope Valley waste no time in repairing the church and sacrificing their possessions to replace the wedding décor. Bill Avery sacrifices his time by taking Jack's place at work and escorting a prisoner to jail. This act nearly costs him his life.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. How have you benefited from someone else's sacrifice?
2. Have you ever made a sacrifice, that looking back, didn't seem like much of a sacrifice compared to the benefit it gave to do it?
3. What does it mean to you to go the extra mile? When have you seen someone do it?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Luke 10:25-37. The Good Samaritan went above and beyond in his care for the man who fell into the hands of robbers.

1. What might it look like for you to care for your "neighbors"?
2. Who has gone the extra mile and treated you like a neighbor?



INVESTMENT

THE HEART OF - WEATHER THE STORM (SEASON 5 - DVD 5)

Investment comes in many forms in Hope Valley. In the traditional sense, Jenkins must decide who will be the wisest choice as a bank investor for Hope Valley, while Lee Coulter's investment of his time is building a friendship with Cody. Carson invests his skills saving a woman's life. A mother and son struggle to rebuild their relationship since so little time was invested into it before. Thankfully, mother and son make amends and Jenkins chooses the best investor for Hope Valley.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. What's the most expensive purchase you have made?
2. Who has invested time and/or money into you?
3. Where do you spend most of your time and money?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read Matthew 6:19-21. The Bible tells us that our treasure is where our heart will be.

1. What are some of your treasures?
2. Give some other examples of earthly treasures and heavenly treasures.



HONESTY

THE HEART OF - CLOSE TO MY HEART (SEASON 5 - DVD 6)

Rose Marie doesn't trust Eleanor, a widow who visits Hope Valley asking questions of Lee Coulter about his mill. Her instincts prove to be right when they find out the widow had tried to convince Henry Gowen to participate in a theft, however, Henry's honesty is surprising when he turns in the widow. Cody and Robert tell the truth about their cake debacle, and Jesse overcomes his fears by admitting to Clara his lack of education. Jack's death has shocked and shaken the whole town. Elizabeth is devastated and struggles to accept his passing. In a gathering with other town widows, she shares her true feelings.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

1. Why is honesty the best policy?
2. When are you most tempted to tell a lie?
3. How are honesty and confession connected?
4. What role did honesty play in this episode?

HIDING GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEART

Read 1 Chronicles 29:10-20. David confesses in his prayer that God tests the heart and is pleased with integrity. David also acknowledges that all the gifts given for the building of the temple were given with honest intent.

1. When you think of honesty, who comes to mind?
2. When do you find it most difficult to be honest? Why?

