



## Discussion Guide for “Lying in Our Shame”

### *Black Sheep Week 3*

Everyone knows that God loves us. So... why is it so hard to receive that love? What is the path to freedom from the guilt, shame and fear that keep us trapped in idolatrous ways of life?

#### **Passage for Sacred Reading:**

Sacred Reading is a way of reading Scripture with an eye toward transformation, not just information. Get a [step-by-step guide here](#). The passage for this week’s sacred reading is [Jeremiah 3:1-4:2](#).

#### **Questions for Discussion**

1. When you hear someone say, “God loves you,” how do you react?
2. Why does Jeremiah use Deuteronomy 24 in his message? How does the marriage metaphor work to affirm God’s love here?
3. How does the idea that God’s love is reckless or illegal (?!) strike you? Why would Jeremiah use this metaphor?
4. The people respond with shame and guilt. Does this look like your response to God’s love? Discuss.
5. Are you surprised that God isn’t interested in shame or guilt in 4:1-2? What is God calling the people to here?
6. What does it look like for you to receive God’s love this week?