

The background features a dark blue grid with faint white architectural blueprints. The blueprints include various lines, curves, and text such as 'RAIL', '8'-0"', 'ION', 'C.M.W.', and 'DK.'. A prominent feature is a set of stairs on the left side. In the bottom right corner, there is a small drawing of a cross.

**GOD'S**

Plan for His  
**CHURCH**

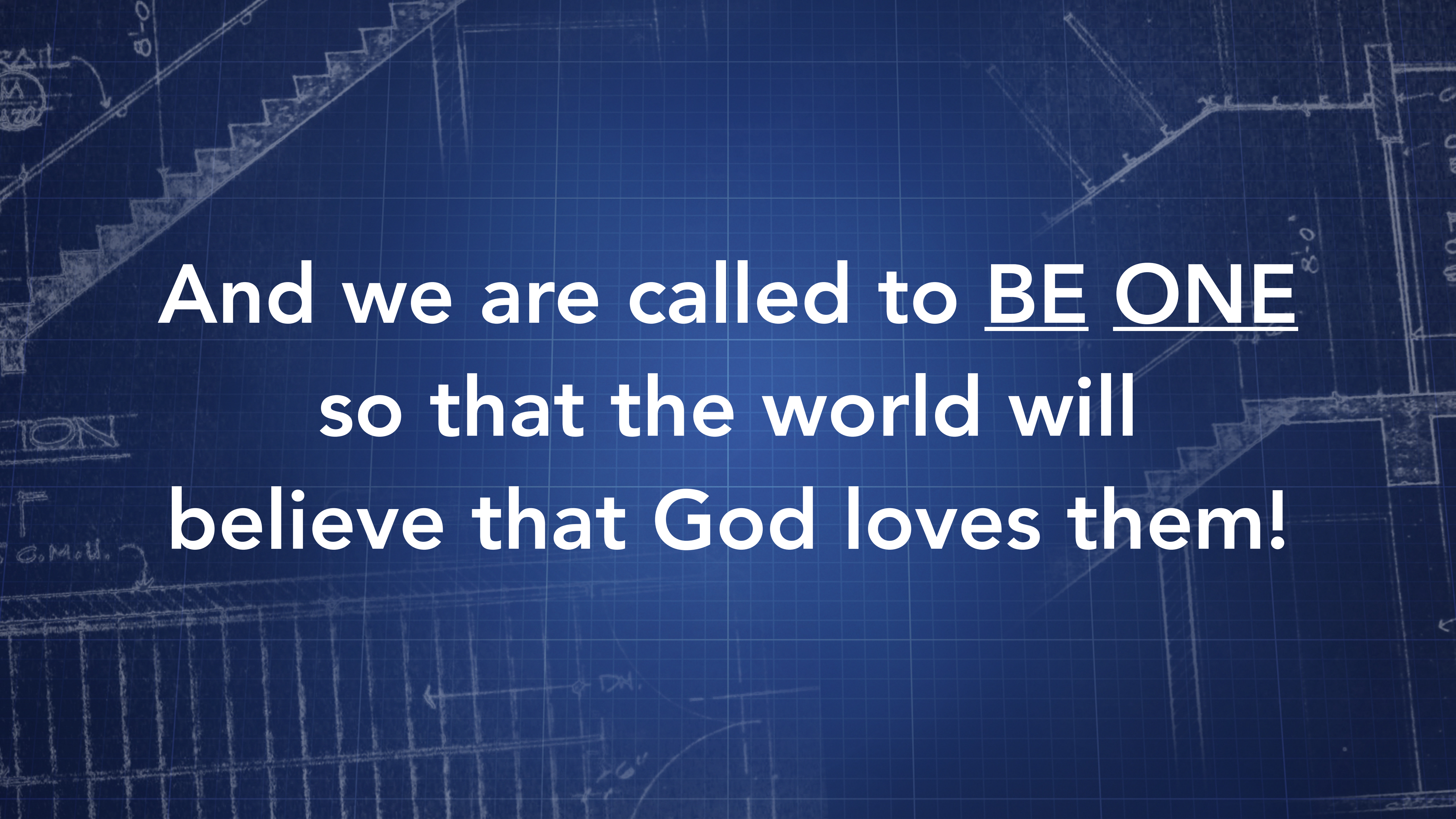
REVELATION 2-3



# The Church is...

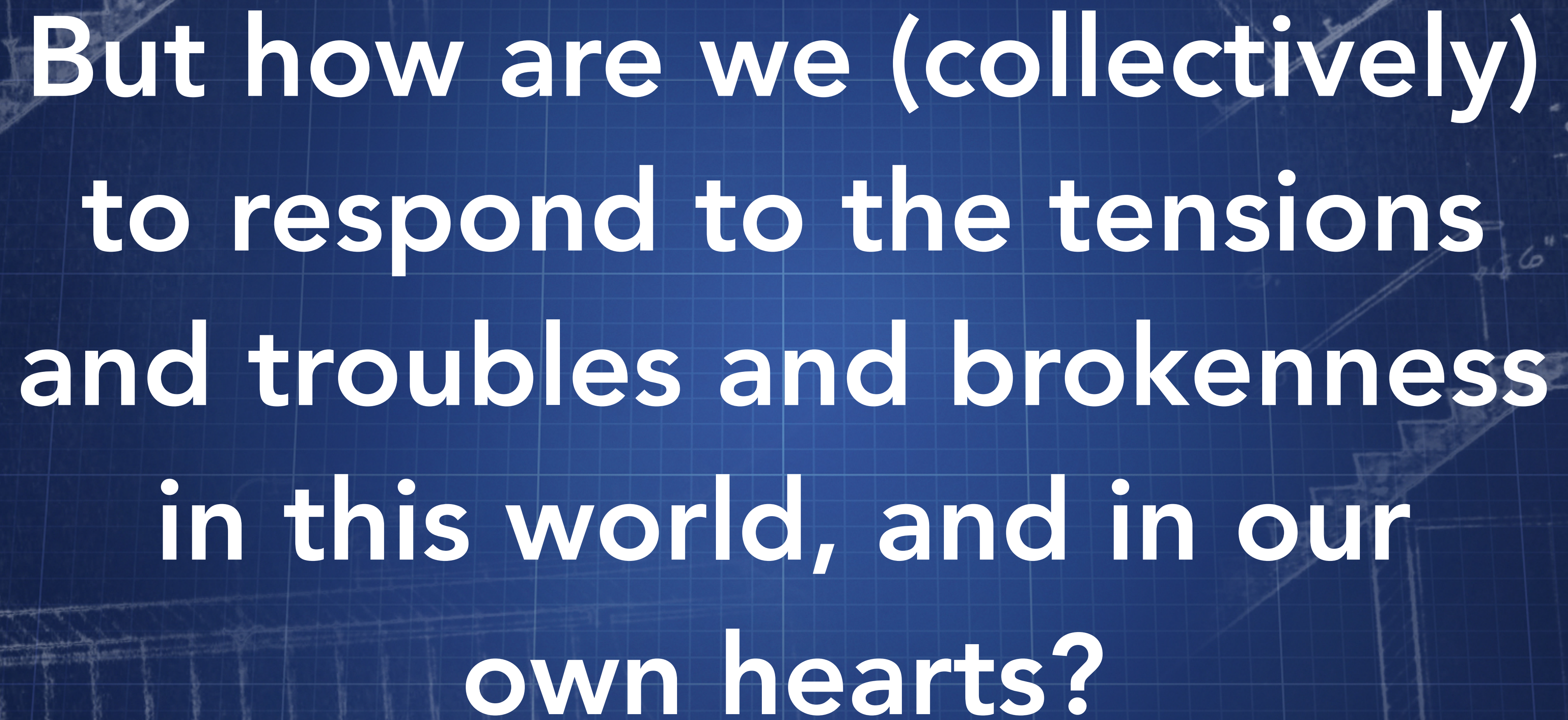
- God's PLAN to overcome Satan
- The carriers of God's MISSION to reach all people with the Gospel
- EMPOWERED by the Holy Spirit
- God's LIGHT in a dark world
- Christ's BODY on this earth



The background is a dark blue architectural drawing on a grid. It features various technical sketches including a staircase on the left, a door frame at the top center, and various lines and dimensions. Some faint text like 'ION' and '8'-0"' is visible in the drawing.

And we are called to BE ONE  
so that the world will  
believe that God loves them!



The background of the image consists of a dark blue grid with faint, light-colored architectural blueprints overlaid. The blueprints include various lines, rectangles, and text, such as '8'-0"', 'ION', and 'C.M.U.'.

**But how are we (collectively)  
to respond to the tensions  
and troubles and brokenness  
in this world, and in our  
own hearts?**



The background is a dark blue architectural blueprint with white lines and text. It features a grid, various geometric shapes, and handwritten annotations such as '8'-0"', 'ION', and 'G.M.H.'. The overall appearance is that of a technical drawing or blueprint.

**Revelation chapters 2-3  
provide a blueprint  
for all churches.**

- What does God love?**
- What does God hate?**
- What does God want?**





**But before we dive in to  
our text this morning...**


**Revelation 1**




modern day  
**TURKEY**


 Pergamos


 Thyatira

 Smyrna

 Sardis

 Ephesus

 Philadelphia

 Laodicea

Isle of   
Patmos












modern day  
**TURKEY**

 Pergamos

 Smyrna


 Ephesus


Isle of   
Patmos


- ~ Christ
- ~ Commendation
- ~ Criticism
- ~ Correction
- ~ Challenge



modern day  
**TURKEY**

 Pergamos

 Smyrna

 Ephesus

Isle of   
Patmos

Each letter has a  
word of wisdom  
and application  
for all churches  
throughout history



Pergamos

Smyrna

Ephesus

Laodicea

Sardis

Ph

Mya

C. F. Powell

N O R

land

A N T I

Azores or  
Western I.

Madeira I.

Strait

of Gibraltar


Algeria

Algeria

MEDITERRANEAN







**THE  
SEVEN  
CHURCHES  
OF  
REVELATION**

# First LOVE

**Revelation 2:1-7**





# **Revelation 2:1-7 The Church in Ephesus**

- 1. Christ is Characterized by His Protection v. 1**
- 2. The Church is Commended for It's Purity vv. 2-3, 6**
- 3. The Church is Criticized for It's Passion v. 4**
- 4. The Church is Corrected with a Plan v. 5**
- 5. The Church is Challenged with a Promise v. 7**



# **1. Christ is Characterized by His Protection v. 1**

-  **Jesus cares.**
-  **Jesus is there.**



## **2. The Church is Commended for It's Purity vv. 2-3, 6**

- Jesus is pleased with our good deeds**
- Jesus is pleased with our faithful dedication**
- Jesus is pleased with our sound doctrine**



# **3. The Church is Criticized for It's Passion v. 4**

- **Jesus is HONEST with His people**
- **Jesus is JEALOUS for His people**



# **4. The Church is Corrected with a Plan v. 5**

- Remember from where you have fallen**
- Repent of your sin**
- Return to where you first fell in love**



# **5. The Church is Challenged with a Promise v. 7**

- We can conquer by perseverance**
- We will celebrate in paradise**



**Tell me what you think  
about, and I will tell  
you what you love.**



**Tell me what you talk  
about, and I will tell  
you what you love.**



**Tell me what excites  
you, and I will tell you  
what you love.**



**Show me your  
checkbook, and I will  
tell you what you love.**



**Show me your  
calendar, and I will tell  
you what you love.**



