

## session 11: **handout** THE STORY OF ANGIE AND MICHAEL

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Michael and Angie, both 17 years old, have been going together for about 6 months. According to Angie, they fell in love very quickly, and their relationship was a dream-come-true. At the beginning of the relationship, they were both seniors working hard to pass their exams and graduate. Angie met Michael's parents, and they liked her, and her parents also liked Michael. They enjoyed hanging out at each other's homes. They had many of the same interests, had similar dreams for their future, and really admired each other.

Then summer came. Angie got a summer job and was accepted into the local community college. Michael was interested in working in the computer field but wasn't sure what he wanted to do right away. Senior year had been very tough, and he was looking forward to a break. He went out a few times looking for a job, but he told Angie that he wanted this summer to just relax and enjoy himself before getting on with his life.

When school first let out, Michael and Angie did a lot of things together – he went to her job and had lunch with her several times a week and met her after work most days to hang out. But by the middle of summer, Angie became less interested in eating out together because she was paying most of the time. Michael called her cell phone several times a day and became frustrated if she was too busy to talk. He tried to spend as much time as possible with her and told her that he didn't like her going out with her girlfriends to the mall.

Angie started making up reasons not to spend time with Michael. Sometimes when she saw his number come up on the caller ID, she wouldn't answer the phone. When Michael told her he thought he was losing her, she told him he was imagining things. In the meantime, she found herself noticing and thinking about this cute guy on her job, Sam, who seemed very easy-going and fun.

Last Saturday Angie spent the day with Michael and his family, attending the wedding of his cousin. It was a real nice day. Michael told Angie that he wanted to marry her one day and was planning to give her a ring so everyone would know she was his woman. The image of herself in a beautiful wedding gown made her smile...but Angie had this nagging feeling in her chest...almost like she was suffocating.