

Hosea is the earliest of the Minor Prophets who prophesied to the Northern Kingdom of Israel through the reign of 6 kings in the middle of the 8th Century B.C..

The Love of God Enacted by Hosea's Marriage to Gomer

Chapters 1-3

Ch 1	Hosea commanded to marry Gomer Israel's unfaithfulness Hosea buys Gomer back
Ch 2	
Ch 3	

The Love of God Expressed in Israel's Judgment & Eventual Restoration

Chapters 4-14

Ch 4 - 5	Israel's unfaithfulness Israel's discipline The Lord's unfailing love
Ch 6 -10	
Ch 11-14	

A ROAD TRIP ACROSS THE BIBLE

Hosea | March 8, 2015



Hosea, the first of the Minor Prophets, is unique in several ways. But arguably the most striking thing about Hosea is how it expresses the love of the Lord for His people. This love which Hosea shows us is embodied, fulfilled and most fully expressed in Jesus . . .

1. The Love of the Lord is _____ (Hos. 11:8, 9)
2. The Love of the Lord is _____ (Hos. 3:1-5)
3. The Love of the Lord is _____ (Hos. 4:1-6)
4. The Love of the Lord is _____ (Hos. 6:1-2)

How ought we to respond to the love of the Lord in Jesus?

1. Make sure the love of the Lord in Jesus is _____. (Jn. 1:12)
2. Pray you might better _____ the love of the Lord. (Eph. 3:14-19)
3. _____ and _____ to the love of the Lord in Jesus. (Hos. 14)
4. _____ in response to and _____ the love of the Lord in Jesus in _____ and _____. (1 Jn. 4:7-21)

A ROAD TRIP ACROSS THE BIBLE

Questions for Growth Groups



CONNECTING TOGETHER

In this 9th week of Growth Groups, spend time connecting and sharing life together. If it's helpful, use this question to get you talking . . .

What's the most daring thing you've ever done?

STUDYING GOD'S WORD TOGETHER

1. What was new or challenging for you in our study of the book of Hosea? What are some of the things that are distinctive/unique about the book of Hosea?
2. Read Hosea 1 together. What is Hosea commanded to do and why? Who is Hosea called to symbolize? Who does Gomer symbolize?
3. Read Hosea 3 together. What is Hosea commanded to do and what is this meant to symbolize? How are these Hosea 3 promises fulfilled in light of the fact that Israel, the Northern Kingdom, has never been restored in history?
4. Describe how the world sees love and give some real life examples. Look at the 4 qualities of the love of the Lord for His people seen throughout the book of Hosea. How do these qualities compare and contrast with the world's view of love?

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Questions for Growth Groups



5. If you've read the book of Hosea, did you think first and foremost about the love of the Lord? When you think of God do you think of His love? When you think of God and His love, do you think of His love as passionate, unfailing, disciplining and resurrecting (restoring, life-giving)? Which qualities are missing in your conception of God's love and why?
6. Read Hosea 11:1-9. What are these verses recalling? When Matthew 2:15 picks up the last phrase of 11:1 and says that Jesus fulfills this passage, what is Matthew saying? In other words, who is Matthew telling us Jesus is in relation to Israel the nation?
7. How and in what ways is this same love that Hosea described demonstrated by Hosea, embodied, fulfilled and fully expressed in Jesus?
8. Just as kids live out of the love (or lack of love) of their parents, we are called to live out of the love of the Lord. What does that mean and what does that look like? Where are you at in the process of internalizing the Lord's love for you?

PRAYING TOGETHER

As you pray for one another's needs, use Paul's request in Ephesians 3:14-19 to pray for one another that you may grow in your grasp of the Lord's love.