

**MOST PEOPLE THINK THEY HAVE TO CLEAN
THEMSELVES UP AND MAKE A BUNCH OF CHANGES
AND THEN GOD WILL RECEIVE THEM.**

CHRISTCHURCH
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WEEK 1

HOSEA

VIDEO RECAP

Small Group starter videos can be found on the Christ Church website under small group resources.

SERMON RECAP

Hosea's Story

Hosea is told by God to marry a particular woman – named Gomer. Right away they conceive and she gives birth to a son. It becomes clear that Gomer returns to sleeping around. Over time she ends up with one man who beats her. Hosea pleads with her to come back, but she will not. God tells Hosea to go buy her back - which he does – and to treat her well.

What we Learn from Hosea

The way we treat God
The way God treats us
Jesus is our ransom
God forgives everything
God's love is scandalous

BIBLE EXPLORATION

ONE OF THE MOST MIND-BLOWING THINGS IN SCRIPTURE IS THAT WE SEE GOD TAKING A POSTURE OF LOVE WITH THE SINFUL HUMAN RACE

Read out loud -Hosea 11:1-11

Notes about the reading

- Verses 1 and 2 refer to both Israel coming out of Egypt and about Jesus (see Matthew 2:15).
- Ephraim is a tribe of Israel and is a way to refer to Israel
- The passage is filled with imagery of God loving people and people looking elsewhere for love

Questions

What imagery of God's love sticks out to you?

Do you experience God's love for you as a fatherly love?

What verses point out the relentlessness of God's love?

These verses highlights the doctrine of being adopted as God's children. What does it mean to be a child of God?

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

Have you ever read the book of Hosea before?

What did you hear in the sermon that surprised you?

The story of Hosea reminds us of the messiness of life and how God shows up. Where do you see God showing up in the hard parts of your life?

Why do you think God asked Hosea to use his own life as a practical example for the Israelites?

What do we learn about God's love for us?

What is the result of God's love in our lives? How do we respond?

**ADULTERY IS A PRIMARY
BIBLICAL ILLUSTRATION OF SIN.
IT IS THE ANALOGY GOD
USES TO DESCRIBE WHAT WE
DO WHEN WE LOVE SOMEONE
OR SOMETHING MORE
THAN WE LOVE HIM.**