

HOSEA
FIERCE
love

SCANDALOUS | STUBBORN | INTOLERANT | TENACIOUS | RELENTLESS

RECAP

- God is faithful—I'm a recovering Gomer
- Jesus is everything I'm looking for
- Jesus redeemed us and is lovingly transforming us everyday
- Say yes to Jesus and I will say no more easily when I need to
- God's opinion of me and my spiritual condition is all that matters—but it REALLY matters!
- A deep heart diagnosis is needed to push me out of idolatry



- God doesn't love people, he loves PERSONS
- We want to reorder our loves
 - By seeing beauty of God; specifically through the love of Christ



- Hosea should be understood on 3 levels:
 - Lower: a man who marries and loves a prostitute
 - Middle: God's historical struggle for Israel's loyalty
 - Upper: Jesus purchases us to know, trust and be like God
- Lower: Life Is review



Hosea 3:1-5

1 Then the Lord said to me, "Go again, love a woman who is loved by her husband, yet an adulteress, even as the Lord loves the sons of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love raisin cakes." 2 So I bought her for myself for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a half of barley. 3 Then I said to her, "You shall stay with me for many days. You shall not play the harlot, nor shall you have a man; so I will also be toward you." 4 For the sons of Israel will remain for many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar and without ephod or household idols. 5 Afterward the sons of Israel will return and seek the Lord their God and David their king; and they will come trembling to the Lord and to His goodness in the last days.



- There's something hard about accepting God's love the way we see it in Hosea
 - We are natural idolators and spiritual do-it-yourself-ers (Pharisees)
- It would be easier if God would come after our sense of morality
 - Instead he comes with grace, forgiveness and love



- God's love is counter-instinctual
- Once we see God's love, it forever changes us!
- The beauty of God is most clearly seen in his love for us through Jesus
- 2 Christians in here:
 1. Religionists
 2. Overwhelmed



Hosea 11:1-4

1 When Israel was a youth I loved him,
And out of Egypt I called My son.

2 The more they called them,
The more they went from them;
They kept sacrificing to the Baals
And burning incense to idols.

3 Yet it is I who taught Ephraim to walk,
I took them in My arms;
But they did not know that I healed them.

4 I led them with cords of a man, with bonds of love,
And I became to them as one who lifts the yoke from their jaws;
And I bent down and fed them.



- Being a parent is hard!
- God is portrayed as a good, good Father (and Mother!)
- Where have you forgotten that God made, called, and developed you and gave you everything for LIFE?



Hosea 11:5-7

5 They will not return to the land of Egypt;
But Assyria—he will be their king
Because they refused to return to Me.

6 The sword will whirl against their cities,
And will demolish their gate bars
And consume them because of their counsels.

7 So My people are bent on turning from Me.
Though they call them to the One on high,
None at all exalts Him.



Hosea 11:8-11

8 How can I give you up, O Ephraim?

How can I surrender you, O Israel?

How can I make you like Admah?

How can I treat you like Zeboiim?

My heart is turned over within Me,

All My compassions are kindled.

9 I will not execute My fierce anger;

I will not destroy Ephraim again.

For I am God and not man, the Holy One in your midst,

And I will not come in wrath.

10 They will walk after the Lord,

He will roar like a lion;

Indeed He will roar

And His sons will come trembling from the west.

11 They will come trembling like birds from Egypt

And like doves from the land of Assyria;

And I will settle them in their houses, declares the Lord.



- Aren't you glad that God's heart turns over in his chest for us?
- God controls all things
 - Not the cold hands of power
 - The loving hands of an all-powerful Father/Husband to rescue us!



Hosea 14:1-4

1 Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God,
For you have stumbled because of your iniquity.

2 Take words with you and return to the Lord.

Say to Him, "Take away all iniquity

And receive us graciously,

That we may present the fruit of our lips.

3 "Assyria will not save us,

We will not ride on horses;

Nor will we say again, 'Our god,'

To the work of our hands;

For in You the orphan finds mercy."

4 I will heal their apostasy,

I will love them freely,

For My anger has turned away from them.



- "I want to return to God, but I don't know what to say"
 1. Take these words and return!
 2. Take away my sin
 3. No other power will save me
 4. I cannot save me
 5. This is not a god
 6. Heal my apostasy
 7. God looks after me/takes care of me



- The entire book/story of Hosea points us to Jesus!
- Jesus has come to purchase you—to bring you to himself!
 - Respond to the love of Jesus today—repent!
 - Return to him from loving and serving and trusting idols





OFFERINGS

Giving back
to God!



Hi5 Bounce Day

April 30th

Sanctus at



Carter's Kids

April 26th

6:45–8:00 PM

