

Sermon Notes

Faithful God
Hosea 1 - 3

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Big Idea: God's grace is big enough to forgive you no matter how unfaithful you have been.

Disobedience brings distance between us and God, but it doesn't change his promises.

Pattern of Unfaithfulness

- Forget how God has blessed us
- Doubt his love or ability to care for us
- Attribute the blessings of God to others
- Seek blessing outside of God
- Use God's blessings to chase other lovers

Failure to recognize and appreciate the blessings of God can lead us to discontent and unfaithfulness.

God will not abandon us when we run from him. He will take drastic steps to get us back.

- He blocks our path to false lovers
- He removes his blessings from our lives
- He shames us by revealing our sin to others

Even in our unfaithfulness God desperately wants to be back in right relationship with us.

- He pursues us a lover
- He restores relationship with us
- He restores his blessing to us

Questions for Reflection/Discussion:

As always feel free to tweak, skip, or add questions to focus on areas you think most relevant to your group.

1. How did your parents come up with your name? What is the meaning behind it? If you have kids, where did their names come from?
2. Read 1:2-3, what would be going through your head if God gave you a calling like Hosea's?
3. The names God tells Hosea to give Gomer's children indicate that there is distance between God and his people, what are some indications that God might be distant from you at a given time?
4. Read 2:5,2:8, and 2:13, what is wrong with Israel's theology of blessing? How can it spiral and lead to distancing ourselves from God?
5. It's become cliché to say, "count your blessings", but we still might need to hear it. What are some ways you have done this in your life? Do you feel like it helps your connection to God?
6. God's actions to get us back can be seen as pretty harsh. Why do we see these actions as harsh? How can we see them as an act of love?
7. How does a relationship with God look different when we shift from a master-servant model to a husband-wife model? Why would God prefer the second?
8. Read chapter 3, what can we learn about the nature of God's love for us by looking at Hosea's love for Gomer?
9. What stood out to you most about this passage?

