

# Hosea

*Hosea is a short book about betrayal, heartbreak, a broken marriage, and the surprising grace of God. The bigger message involves our place in the story and the unexpected love of God.*

## Week 2: The Power of a Name

### SERIES OVERVIEW HOSEA

1. What God Thinks About Us
2. **The Power of a Name**
3. Cost of Redemption
4. He Knows His People
5. The Ways of the Lord are Right

### DISCUSSION NOTES:

This discussion will get us thinking about the names God gave to Hosea and Gomer's children:

Jezreel = no/without mercy  
Lo-Ruhamah = not loved  
Lo-Ammi = not my people

**LOOK** *What do we see around us in our lives?*  
**What was a nickname you had as a child?**  
**Where did it come from and how did you feel about it?**

**Do you know the meaning of your given name?**

**BOOK** *What does scripture say about this?*

### Hosea 1:3-9

<sup>3</sup> So he married Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son. <sup>4</sup> Then the Lord said to Hosea, "Call him Jezreel, because I will soon punish the house of Jehu for the massacre at Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of Israel. <sup>5</sup> In that day I will break Israel's bow in the Valley of Jezreel." <sup>6</sup> Gomer conceived again and gave birth to a daughter. Then the Lord said to Hosea, "Call her Lo-Ruhamah (which means "not loved"), for I will no longer show love to Israel, that I should at all forgive them. <sup>7</sup> Yet I will show love to Judah; and I will save them—not by bow, sword or battle, or by horses and horsemen, but I, the Lord their God, will save them." <sup>8</sup> After she had weaned Lo-Ruhamah, Gomer had another son. <sup>9</sup> Then the Lord said, "Call him Lo-Ammi (which means "not my people"), for you are not my people, and I am not your God.

**Look at the names given to the children. Why are these names so significant?**

*Possible answers: they very clearly show God's frustration with his people; they show separation between God & people; Hosea is commanded to call his children these names.*

# Hosea

## Gospel Story:

- Creation
- Fall
- Redemption
- Restoration

**Which is quickest for you to grasp? Toughest?**

**What questions come to mind with each chapter of the story?**

**How do you see Jesus in each of these?**

**What is the threat or downfall to you in each one?**

**What is the promise or opportunity for you in each one?**

**Further questions to consider:**

**\*What truth about God is hard for you to hear or believe?**

**\*How can we remind you of this truth this week?**

**\*What gospel truths are we being pointed to this week?**

**\*Where do we see a Jesus/gospel connection?**

**\*When do you most easily believe God's faithfulness?**

**\*When is it tougher?**

**\*What reminder do you need to put into place (phone, mirror, car, etc.) to help you remember this week?**

## Hosea 1:10 - 2:1

<sup>10</sup> "Yet the Israelites will be like the sand on the seashore, which cannot be measured or counted. In the place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people,' they will be called 'children of the living God.' 2 "Say of your brothers, 'My people,' and of your sisters, 'My loved one.'"

## Why is this a big deal?

*Possible answer: This is a huge shift from not being his people to being called his children! Only God could have made that possible.*

## 1 Peter 1:3-4

<sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.

## 1 John 3:1

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

**Because of Jesus's work we are loved, given mercy and claimed as God's children. Which of these passages most encourages you today?**

## TOOK *Questions for accountability*

**Of mercy, love or God's people (family), which is hardest for you to believe?**

**Is there something keeping you from fully embracing God's love or mercy?**

**How can we help you with that this week?**