

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 3: Cost of Redemption

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 focus on how we continue to be “Gomers”, yet God continues to love us with his unending faithfulness.

Mercy: compassion or kindness and forgiveness shown toward someone - whom it is within one’s power to punish or harm

Redeem: to gain or regain possessions; to buy back

As was not uncommon in OT times, Gomer appears to have become “someone else’s possession”, thus requiring Hosea to buy her back. This redemption price for Gomer is often equated to about 30 silver pieces - the same payment Judas infamously received many years later...!

LOOK *What do we see around us in our lives?*

When did you save up to buy something?

How do people make things right when they've wronged someone?

Note: You may consider ignoring, revenge, settling with money, forgiveness, etc.

BOOK *What does scripture say about this?*

Hosea 3:1-5

The Lord said to me, “Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another man and is an adulteress. Love her as the Lord loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes.”² So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley.³ Then I told her, “You are to live with me many days; you must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man, and I will behave the same way toward you.”⁴ For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or household gods.⁵ Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the Lord their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the Lord and to his blessings in the last days.

What is going on here?

Potential answers: Hosea’s wife is continuing in her unfaithfulness, yet God tells Hosea to remain with her and love her.

How does Hosea get Gomer back?

Possible answers: He has to go get her and pay to get her back. He didn’t wait for Gomer to ask, beg, or even try to be redeemed.

What did Gomer do to get Hosea to buy her back?

Possible answers: Nothing!

How does Hosea look like God here?

Possible answers: He pursues us, is faithful and forgiving toward us

Hosea

Gospel Story:

- Creation
- Fall
- Redemption
- Restoration

Which is quickest for you to grasp? Toughest?

What questions come to mind with each chapter of this 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?

*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?

How does Gomer look like God's people here?

Possible answers: They continue to turn away from God, can't do anything to save themselves

We continue to be people who serve the creations vs. the Creator (Romans 1:25).

We need to be redeemed too! Thankfully, there are many places in scripture where we can be encouraged.

John 15:9,15

⁹ "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

Romans 3:23-24

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Romans 5: 6-8

⁶ You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

What is the price Jesus paid for us?

Which of these truths do you need to be reminded of today?

TOOK *Questions for accountability*

How can you remind yourself of the price Jesus paid for you this week?

Is there something God may be asking you to stop, start or change? How can we come alongside you?