

XXXIX

THE OLD TESTAMENT

Leader Conversation Guide – XXXIX: Hosea

Main Idea

God’s love is not fragile, conditional, or easily withdrawn. God’s love is relentless, pursuing, and unwavering. Throughout Scripture, we see a God who loves His people even when they are unfaithful, distracted, or running in the opposite direction. The story of Hosea gives us one of the most powerful pictures of this truth: a faithful husband loving a faithless wife as a living demonstration of God’s heart for His people.

In Hosea, God doesn’t just proclaim His love, He demonstrates it under the worst possible circumstances. Through Hosea’s relationship with Gomer, we see a God who refuses to give up, who pursues what belongs to Him, and who redeems at great cost. This week’s message reminded us that like Gomer, we often chase love in the wrong places, yet God continues to seek us out with grace, goodness, and mercy. His love leads us to repentance, restoration, and awe. As we begin our discussion, let’s open our hearts to the truth that God so deeply loves us, actively pursues us, and invites us to respond to His faithful, transforming love.

**Love her as the Lord loves the Israelites,
though they turn to other gods...’**

HOSEA 3:1B

Make it Practical:

1. God Demonstrates His Love, Not Just Declares It

- God used Hosea’s marriage as a living illustration of His love for a faithless people.
- Biblical love is shown through action, sacrifice, and commitment—especially when it’s undeserved.
- Even under the worst circumstances, God continues to pursue His people.
- Hosea 3:1; Romans 5:6–8; John 3:16

2. Humanity Repeatedly Chases Love in the Wrong Places

- Israel believed love could be purchased, found in self-gratification, or discovered in created things rather than the Creator.
- Like Gomer, we often give our hearts to what cannot truly satisfy.
- We belong to God, whether we acknowledge it or not.
- Hosea 1–2; Psalm 24:1; 1 John 4:10

3. God’s Faithful Love Leads to Repentance and Restoration

- God redeems at a cost and restores with purpose.
- His goodness—not guilt or fear—draws us back to Him.
- God’s ultimate desire is relationship, renewal, and awe-filled devotion.
- Hosea 3:3–5; Romans 2:4

Talk About It

The story of Hosea and Gomer shows God pursuing His people even after repeated unfaithfulness. What are some modern-day “other loves” that can quietly pull our hearts away from God, and how can we recognize when those things are taking His place?

PC’s message emphasized that God’s goodness leads us to repentance rather than shame or force. How have you personally experienced God’s kindness drawing you back to Him, and how does that shape the way you respond to others who are struggling?

Hosea’s life was used as a public demonstration of God’s love, not just a private belief. In what practical ways can our lives reflect God’s faithful, pursuing love to the people around us, especially when love is costly or inconvenient?

God’s love is relentless and personal. He pursues us even in our unfaithfulness, pays the price for our redemption, and patiently leads us back to Himself through His goodness and grace.

Prayer

Father God, thank You for Your faithful and unchanging love. Even when we wander, You pursue us with grace, patience, and mercy. Help us to respond to Your goodness with humble hearts, true repentance, and renewed devotion. Teach us to trust You fully and to reflect Your love to others as we go. We surrender our hearts to You again today. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Next Steps

Identify and Surrender Competing Loves

- Take time this week to prayerfully ask God to reveal anything that may be competing for your devotion—whether comfort, success, relationships, or possessions—and intentionally surrender it back to Him.

Respond to God’s Goodness with Repentance

- Instead of avoiding God in moments of failure, choose to draw near. Spend time in prayer and Scripture, allowing God’s kindness and grace to lead you toward honest repentance and renewed trust.

Reflect God’s Faithful Love to Others

- Look for one practical way to demonstrate patient, pursuing love to someone in your life—especially when it requires forgiveness, sacrifice, or consistency—just as God has done for you.