



Part 3: Costly Love

Hosea 3

1. Why is nothing more harmful or helpful than how you think about God?

2. Fill in the blanks. Spiritual Principle – I _____ in God's _____ because there is no _____.
He won't _____ for _____.

3. Why does God use metaphors (images, symbols, word pictures) to reveal Himself to us throughout the Bible?

a. Why is there tremendous value in *slowing down* to reflect on them?

4. Explain what we learn about God from the following biblical metaphors:

a. God is Light –

b. God is Vine –

c. God is Shepherd –

d. God is Judge –

e. God is King –

f. God is Friend –

g. God is Father –

5. Read Isaiah 62:5 and 2 Corinthians 11:2. What metaphor is used of God here? What do we learn about Him?

a. Read Revelation 19:7, 21:2, 21:9. Why is it significant that this particular metaphor of God is the main one used to describe Heaven?

6. Read Hosea 3:1-3. What do we learn about God's love for His people through the real-life analogy of Hosea and Gomer here?

a. How do we discern when we are creating functional gods (lovers, idols)? Consider Colossians 3:5.

b. How will you grow in discerning idolatry in your own heart? Why is this valuable to do?

c. What "lovers" have you been tempted to cheat on God with this past week?

d. How will reflecting on Hosea 3:1-3 transform what you do and don't love in life?

7. Read Hosea 3:4-5. Why is God's love so incredible?

a. Who are some people in your life who most need to see God's love through you?

b. Name 3 specific ways that you will extend God's relentless love to them.
