



Discussion Questions

Hosea 2:2-23

Sermon: Threat and Promise

- ❖ **God threatens to divorce His unfaithful bride (2:2-13)**
 - It would be just for God to divorce an adulterous people (vv. 2-5).
 - God threatens His people with utter desolation to help them acknowledge His greatness (vv. 6-13).
- ❖ **God's threat is not without promise and hope (2:14-23)**
 - God promises to restore their covenantal relationship based on His steadfast love.
 - God's kindness leads to His people's confession.
- ❖ **Bottom Line: God's severe mercy is always aimed at gracious restoration.**

Understanding Scripture

1. Read the passage aloud.
 - **Question:** How would the original audience have understood this passage?
 - **Question:** What was God's desire for them?
2. Reread key verse(s) aloud.
 - **Question:** What does this teach us about the human soul, desires, or behavior?
 - **Question:** What does this teach us about the nature, desires, or behavior of God?
3. Ask if anything in the passage is difficult to understand, or point it out yourself.
 - i. Back up from the confusing verse and reread the whole section slowly—highlight the author's flow of thought.
 - ii. Ask everyone, "What are some possible interpretations?" Encourage curiosity!
 - iii. If needed, provide clarification, but admit if you don't have a satisfactory explanation, and volunteer to research answers. Share your findings over text or at the next meeting.
4. Summarize the passage in 1-3 sentences to refocus the group ("Okay, so far we've seen Hosea...")
 - **Question:** What does this say about our relationship with God and/or each other?
 - **Question:** How do the teachings, actions, or person of Jesus shed light on this passage?

Applying Scripture

5. Allow free-flowing discussion, incorporating questions focused on heart and habit transformation.
 - **Question:** Which of your plans is God disrupting, or which false securities is He stripping away, to align your heart with His?
 - **Question:** What modern idol tends to pull at your attention and allegiance?
 - **Question:** How do you destroy an idol that exists only in your soul?
 - **Question:** How does a singular allegiance to God cause you specifically to live differently from your family, friends, coworkers, or culture?
 - **Question:** As a disciple of Jesus seeking to become like Him, what one measurable step of obedience will you take in response to this passage today?