



Day 3

Hosea 12:6; James 4:8

Hosea calls God's people to a strange combination: "So you, by the help of your God, return, hold fast to love and justice, and wait continually for your God" (Hos. 12:6). Return. Hold fast. Wait. All at once.

Waiting on God is not spiritual laziness. It is active faithfulness in the in-between. We return—repenting of sin, turning from idols, refusing to run from God when we feel like He is "slow." We hold fast to love and justice—doing what is right, loving others, seeking righteousness—even when we haven't seen the answer yet.

The word used in the Greek translation of Hosea 12:6 is the same that James uses in James 4:8 when he writes: "Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you". So Hosea could say, "Draw near continually to your God."

Waiting time is drawing-near time. When your prayers feel unanswered, you can be tempted to drift. Instead, God says, "Come closer." Come honestly into the presence of the One you are waiting on.

You are not just waiting on an event. You are waiting on a Person. And that Person invites you to Himself now.

So what do you do while you wait? Return. Hold fast. Draw near.

Pray: "Lord, by Your help, I return to You. Help me hold fast to love and justice. As I wait continually for You, draw near to me, and keep me near to You."