



LOVE  
BECKONS,  
MERCY  
PURSUES

*The Book of Hosea*





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*Hymns Project*



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# Turn & Talk:

What were your first impressions of God's warning of oncoming judgment & why?

Did you see mercy, discipline, divine punishment, love or something else?



**Mercy Hedges**

<sup>2</sup> Say to your brothers, “You are my people,”  
and to your sisters, “You have received mercy.”

***Hosea 2:1***



<sup>2</sup> **Plead** with your mother, **plead**—  
for she is not my wife,  
and I am not her husband—  
that she put away her **whoring** from her face,  
and her **adultery** from between her breasts;

<sup>3</sup> **lest** I **strip her naked**  
and **make her** as in the **day she was born,**  
and **make her** like a **wilderness,**  
and **make her** like a **parched land,**  
and **kill her** with **thirst.**

**Hosea 2:2-3**

<sup>2</sup> **Plead** with your mother, **plead**—  
for she is not **my** wife,  
and **I** am not her **husband**—  
that she put away her whoring from her face,  
and her adultery from between her breasts;

<sup>3</sup> **lest I** **strip her naked**  
and **make her** as in the **day she was born**, [naked]  
and **make her** like a **wilderness**, [exposed/unprotected]  
and **make her** like a **parched land**, [barren/wasting  
away]

and **kill her** with **thirst**. [poor/lacking]

**Hosea 2:2-3**

<sup>4</sup>Upon **her** children also **I** will have *no mercy*,  
because they are children of *whoredom*.

**Hosea 2:4**

<sup>5</sup> For their **mother** has *played the whore*;  
**she** who conceived them has *acted shamefully*.  
For she said, '*I* will *go after my lovers*,  
who give **me** *my bread* and *my water*,  
*my wool* and *my flax*,  
*my oil* and *my drink*.'

***Hosea 2:5***

5 For their mother has played the whore; [adultery]

she who conceived them has acted shamefully.

For she said, 'I will go after my lovers, [idols]

who give me my bread and my water,

[provision]

my wool and my flax,

[protection/covering]

my oil and my drink.'

[pleasure/prosperity]5

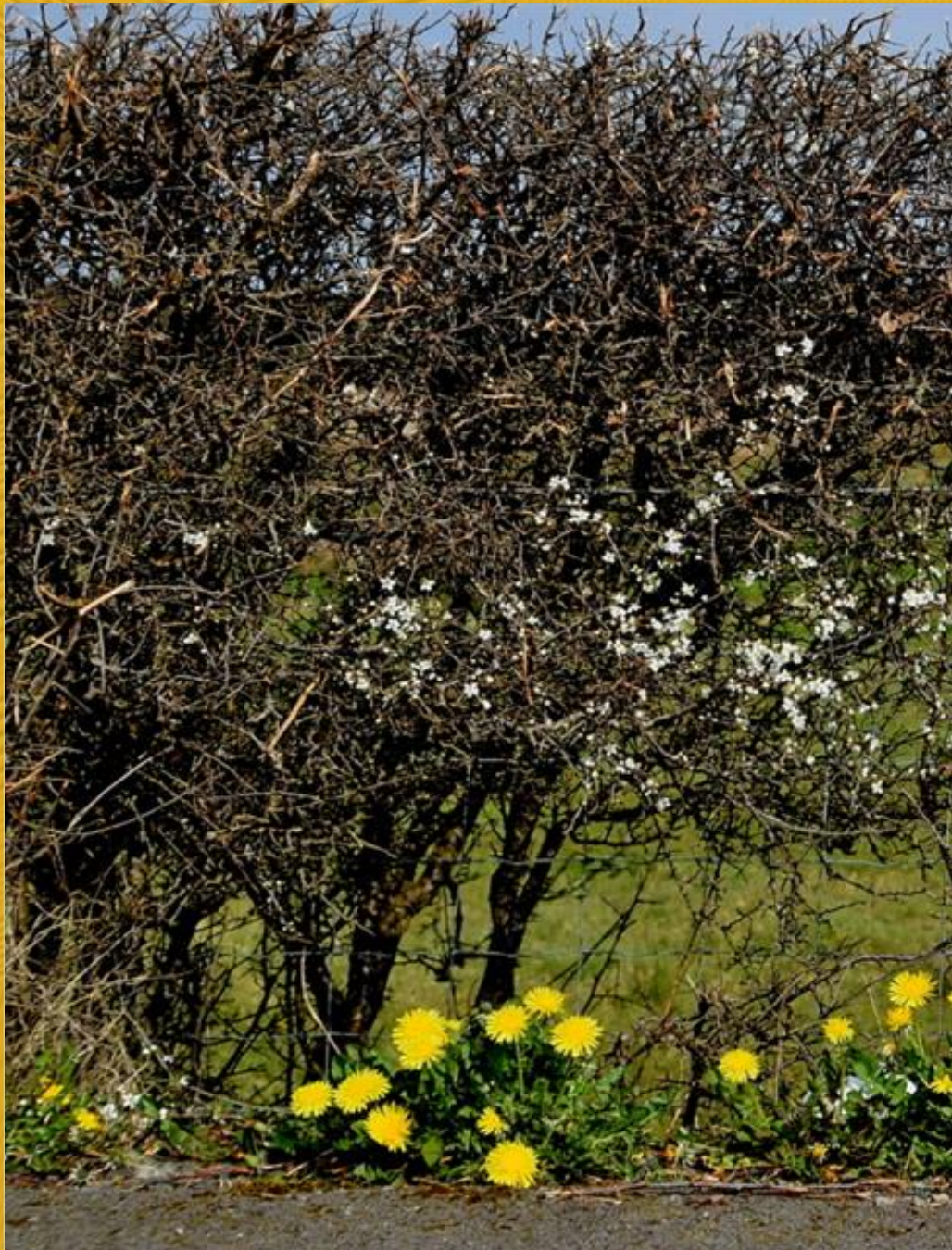
# Turn & Talk:

When someone you **love** (a friend, spouse child, etc) is doing something **harmful** to themselves and/or others, how do you **warn them** or try to **bring them back?**

<sup>6</sup> Therefore I will hedge up her way with thorns,  
and I will build a wall against her,  
so that she cannot find her paths.

**Hosea 2:6**

# Hedges of Protection





7 *She* shall pursue her lovers  
but not overtake them,

and *she* shall seek them  
but shall not find them.

Then *she* shall say,

'I will go and return to *my* first husband,  
for it was better for *me* then than now.'

**Hosea 2:7**

8 And **she** *did not know*

that it was **I** who gave her

the grain, the wine, and the oil,

and **who** lavished on her silver and gold,

which *they used for Baal.*

***Hosea 2:8***

# Pause & Pray:

Are there good things in your life that you're attributing to others instead of God?

Are you valuing the gift itself more than the Giver?

Are you using the gifts from God in ways that **honor or defame** His name?

9 **Therefore** **I will** take back

**my** grain in its time,  
and **my** wine in its season,  
and **I will** take away  
**my** wool and my flax,  
which were to cover *her nakedness*.

10 Now **I will** uncover *her lewdness*

in the sight of *her lovers*,  
and **no one** shall rescue *her* out of **my hand**.

***Hosea 2:9-10***

<sup>11</sup> And **I will** put an end

to all her mirth,

her feasts, her new moons, her

Sabbaths,

and all her appointed feasts.

<sup>12</sup> And **I will** lay waste her vines and her fig trees,

of which she said,

‘These are my wages, which my lovers have given me.’

**I will** make them a forest,

and the beasts of the field shall devour them.

***Hosea 2:11-12***

<sup>13</sup> And **I** will **punish** her for

**the feast days of the Baals**

**when she burned offerings to them**

**and adorned herself with her ring and jewelry,**

**and went after her lovers**

**and forgot me,**

**declares the LORD.**

***Hosea 2:13***

<sup>14</sup> “Therefore, **behold**, **I will** *allure her*,  
and bring her into the wilderness,  
and *speak tenderly* to her.

<sup>15</sup> And there **I will** *give her her vineyards*  
and make the **Valley of Achor** a **door of hope**.

And there she shall answer as in the days of her youth,  
as at the time when she came out  
of the land of Egypt.

***Hosea 2:14-15***



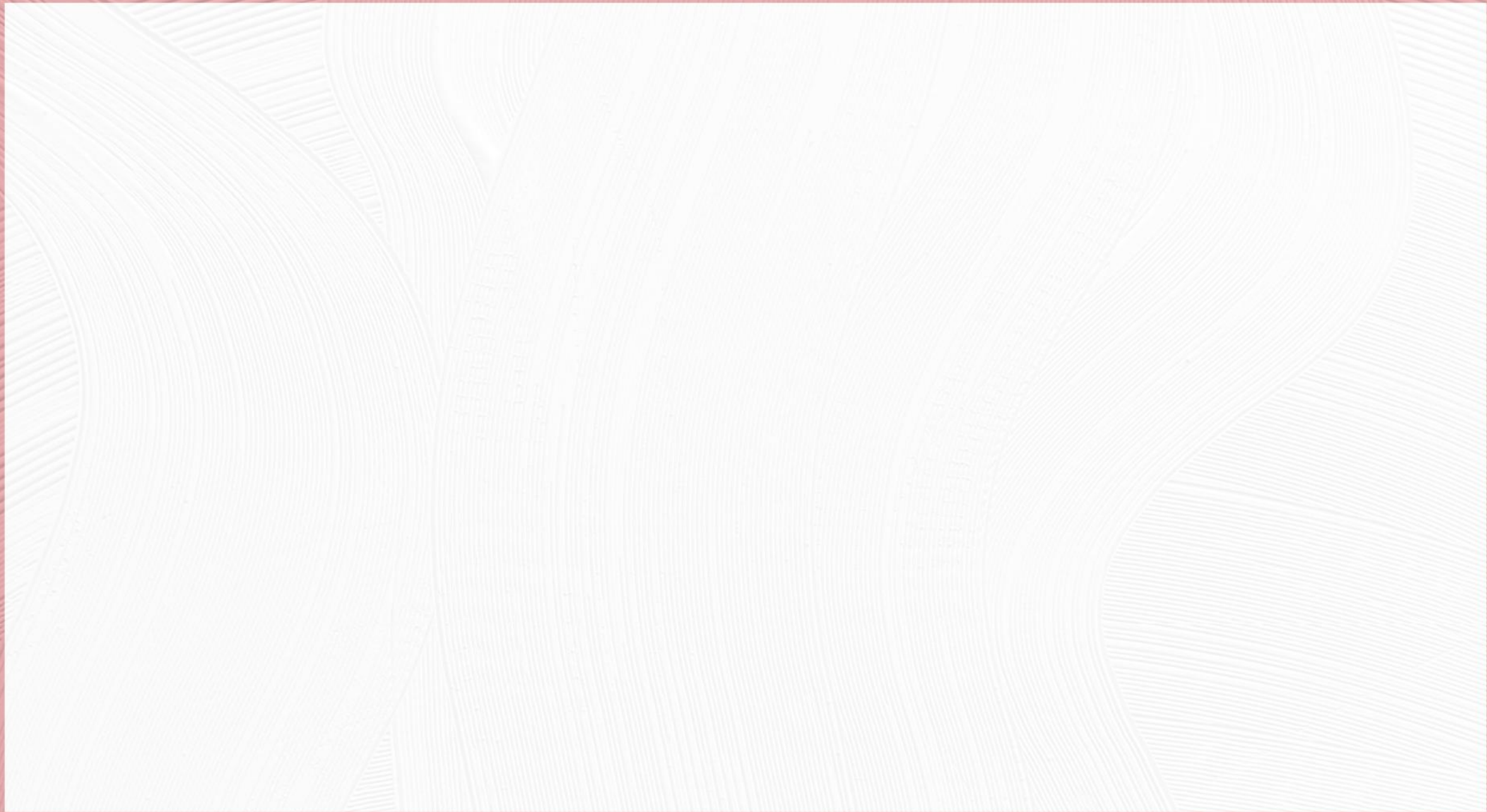
***Love Beckons***

***Mercy Pursues***





vevo



The background is a light pink color with a subtle, repeating pattern of fine, concentric lines. Several thick, colorful lines in shades of yellow, orange, red, teal, blue, purple, and green are drawn across the image, creating a dynamic, abstract border. The text 'Group Time' is centered in a dark purple, cursive font.

*Group Time*