



June 18, 2023 – Sermon Discussion Questions

ICEBREAKER

1. What was the high/low point of your week?
2. Has there ever been a time in your life when you got something *good* that you didn't deserve?

DIG A LITTLE DEEPER

1. Review the message
 - a. God asks Hosea to marry a woman he knows will be unfaithful to him. This marriage is a picture of Israel's unfaithfulness to God.
 - b. We are not Hosea in this story; we are the adulterous wife who has turned away from God.
 - c. Eric said, "In any relationship, we have to see ourselves clearly. And the more clearly we see ourselves, the more meaningful and fulfilling our relationship with that person will be."
 - d. When we understand who we are in relation to God, it makes the gift of his love for us all the more miraculous.
2. Was there anything that stuck out with you from the message on Sunday?
3. Read Hosea 1:2-8
 - a. Put yourself, for a moment, in the shoes of Hosea. What kind of emotions would you be feeling if God asked you to be with someone you knew would be unfaithful?
 - b. Is it difficult to see yourself as the adulterous woman in this passage? Why or why not?
 - c. Read 1 Timothy 1:15. Why do you think Paul was so ready to admit his sinful nature to Timothy?
 - d. Why does it matter in our relationship with God to understand our sinfulness towards him?
4. Read Hosea 2 and then 1 John 4:19
 - a. There is tension in Hosea 2. It starts with God expressing his hurt at Israel's disobedience but ends with his plan for restoration and reconciliation between him and his people. If God came and said to you the very things he's saying about Israel, what emotions would you feel?
 - b. Why is God faithful to us even when we aren't faithful to him?
 - c. Is it easy for you to receive love? Why or why not?
 - d. What role does shame play, if any, in your acceptance of God's love?
 - e. God's love is freely given to us. What one thing you can do to practice receiving it and/or one thing you can do to practice giving it to others?

CLOSING

1. Is there any area of your life where you need to practice confession? Do you have a safe place where you can practice it?
2. If you're struggling with a hurt, habit, or hang-up, our church wants to come alongside you. We have a great ministry called celebrate recovery, where you can safely work on sin-struggle or shame that is preventing you from receiving the love God has for you. To learn more, go to gracebible.church/recovery
3. Take time to close the group with prayer!