



Hosea 2:14, *Then I will win her back once again.*

Hosea 4:1, *There is no faithfulness, no kindness, no knowledge of God.*

Hosea 6:6, *I want you to show love, not offer sacrifices. I want you to know Me more than I want burnt offerings.*

Hosea 7:1-9, *“I want to heal Israel, but its sins are too great. Samaria is filled with liars. Thieves are on the inside and bandits on the outside!”² Its people don’t realize that I am watching them. Their sinful deeds are all around them, and I see them all...⁴ They are all adulterers, always aflame with lust. They are like an oven that is kept hot while the baker is kneading the dough...⁸ “The people of Israel mingle with godless foreigners, making themselves as worthless as a half-baked cake!⁹ Worshiping foreign gods has sapped their strength, but they don’t even know it... **PRAY***

Bait #1: I can live a halfway life of compromise and still be right with God. [Hosea 7:1-9](#)

Hosea 7:11-14, *“The people of Israel have become like silly, witless doves, first calling to Egypt, then flying to Assyria for help.¹² But as they fly about, I will throw my net over them and bring them down like a bird from the sky. I will punish them for all the evil they do.¹³ “What sorrow awaits those who have deserted me! Let them die, for they have rebelled against me. I wanted to redeem them, but they have told lies about me.¹⁴ They do not cry out to me with sincere hearts. Instead, they sit on their couches and wail. They cut themselves, begging foreign gods for grain and new wine, and they turn away from me.*

Bait 2: I can fix my messes without God. [Hosea 7:11-14](#)

Hosea 8:2–3, *They cry out to Me, ‘My God, we know you!’ But Israel has rejected what is good... “O Samaria, I reject this calf— this idol you have made. My fury burns against you. How long will you be incapable of innocence?⁶ This calf you worship, O Israel, was crafted by your own hands! It is not God! Therefore, it must be smashed to bits.*

Bait #3: Religion will cover my sin. [Hosea 8:1-6](#)

Hosea 8:7, *They have planted the wind and will harvest the whirlwind.*

Bait #4: *Little sins don't hurt anyone.* Hosea 8:7

Hosea 10:1, *How prosperous Israel is— a luxuriant vine loaded with fruit! But the richer the people get, the more pagan altars they build.*

Bait #5: *My success must mean God is blessing me.* Hosea 10:1

1. They were blessed—but empty.
2. Busy—but barren.
3. Successful—but sinful.
4. Success without spirituality is failure in God's eyes.

*****God has the cure when we get the hook in our jaw from biting the bait.** Hosea 10:12

Hosea 10:12, *Plant the good seeds of righteousness, and you will harvest a crop of love. Plow up the hard ground of your hearts, for now is the time to seek the Lord.*

“Come to Me... and I will give you rest.”

Hosea 14:4, *My love will know no bounds.*

Hosea 10:12, *Now is the time to seek the Lord.*