

Introduction and Chapter 1

October 1, 2025

H O S E A

God's Faithful Love For An Unfaithful People

Leo Loughmiller • October 5, 2025 • Intro & Chapter 1

Big Idea: Hosea 1 introduces us to the weight of our unfaithfulness, and a glimpse of the hope of God's mercy.

1. God Calls Hosea to Live His Message *"The word of the Lord that came to Hosea son of Beeri during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and during the reign of Jeroboam son of Jehoash king of Israel: When the Lord began to speak through Hosea, the Lord said to him, 'Go, marry a promiscuous woman and have children with her, for like an adulterous wife this land is guilty of unfaithfulness to the Lord.'"* (**Hosea 1:1-2**)

When life gets easier, it's easier to live like we don't need God.

2. God Speaks Through the Names of Hosea's Children

Child #1: Jezreel ("Scattered")- *"Then the Lord said to Hosea, 'Call him Jezreel, because I will soon punish the house of Jehu for the massacre at Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of Israel. In that day I will break Israel's bow in the Valley of Jezreel.'"* (**Hosea 1:4-5**)

Child #2: Lo-Ruhamah ("No Mercy")- *"Gomer conceived again and gave birth to a daughter. Then the Lord said to Hosea, 'Call her*

Lo-Ruhamah (which means “not loved”), for I will no longer show love to Israel, that I should at all forgive them. Yet I will show love to Judah; and I will save them—not by bow, sword or battle, or by horses and horsemen, but I, the Lord their God, will save them.” (Hosea 1:6-7)

Child #3: Lo-Ammi (“Not My People”)- *“After she had weaned Lo-Ruhamah, Gomer had another son. Then the Lord said, ‘Call him Lo-Ammi (which means “not my people”), for you are not my people, and I am not your God.’” (Hosea 1:8-9)*

Sin doesn’t just break rules; it breaks relationship.

3. God Promises Restoration Beyond Judgment - *“Yet the Israelites will be like the sand on the seashore, which cannot be measured or counted. In the place where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’ they will be called ‘children of the living God.’ The people of Judah and the people of Israel will come together; they will appoint one leader and will come up out of the land, for great will be the day of Jezreel.” (Hosea 1:10-11)*

God’s justice exposes our sin, but His mercy gives us hope.

Three Big Takeaways

1. Our Idolatry is Personal to God. Israel’s idolatry wasn’t neutral—it was betrayal. Idols don’t just take time; they steal your heart.
2. God’s Judgment is Real. A God who never judges is a God who never loves, because love always confronts what destroys us.
3. God Always Leaves Room for Hope. His justice may be the sentence, but His mercy is the final word.

Through Jesus, the names are reversed:

“Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.” (1 Peter 2:10)

Reflection Question:

Where in your life are you most tempted to treat God as optional—and what would it look like to invite Him back to the center?