

## The gracious and loving heart of God

The true nature of sin is a matter of the heart, and every sin is from the heart and against God.

1. Every sin is a matter of the heart
2. Every sin is against God

Our sin is an act of unfaithfulness or adultery

3 Characteristics of God's love that are revealed in the book of Hosea

1. God's love us limitless, steadfast, merciful, compassionate, and gracious.
2. God's love is alluring, wooing, beckoning
3. God's love is compelling, joy-giving, and motivating

God's faithful love and patience are purposed for our repentance.

Repentance precedes revival.

Hosea 6:1-3 (CSB)

*"Come, let's return to the Lord. For he has torn us, and he will heal us; he has wounded us, and he will bind up our wounds. <sup>2</sup> He will revive us after two days, and on the third day he will raise us up so we can live in his presence. <sup>3</sup> Let's strive to know the Lord. His appearance is as sure as the dawn. He will come to us like the rain, like the spring showers that water the land."*

The love of Christ compels us to faith, and to faithfulness