

Sunday, January 23, 2022 - "Ancient Prophets - Week 2 - Hosea: An Epic Love Story" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Hosea 1:2, 2 Kings 14-17, Hosea 1:10-11, Hosea 4:6, Hosea 6:4, Hosea 13:6, Hosea 14:9

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

#### Main Ideas

- 2 Kings 14-17 for historical context of Hosea
  - Hosea speaking to the northern Kingdom = Israel/Ephraim/Jacob
  - Nations split → sin matters
    - Solomon's sin (taking multiple wives)
    - False religion → Part of the way of life for the people → Synchronism (blending faith systems)
    - "Sin never reaps a profit and it always has a cost" - Doug Kempton
- Hosea = an epic love story...not an allegory but historical fact
  - Hosea and his wife Gomer
  - God and his people
- Hosea 1:2
  - The people of Israel were an adulterous people
  - Originally there was a mutual affection between Hosea and Gomer
  - Prophetic children's names: Jezreel (Israel would lose to Assyria), No Mercy (God won't show mercy), Not My People (they turned away from God)
- The recurring theme of judgement and then mercy/hope/compassion
- Hosea 1:10-11
  - Messianic prophecy (salvation is coming through Jesus)
  - We are recipients of this prophecy
- Ch 2: God and his people (They forgot God and didn't trust that he would provide)
- Ch 3: Gomer leaves Hosea, but Hosea redeems her from slavery (foreshadowing of Jesus paying ransom for our sin)
- Hosea represents God in this story and Gomer represents us
  - We've gone our own way
  - We are all Gomers
- God calls us into relationship with Him
  - To actually know him
  - Yada = Not just knowing about, but knowing and experiencing God in an intimate way
- Hosea 4:6-7 - Our prosperity causes us to arrogant and we forget all we have is a gift from God
- Hosea 6:4, Hosea 13:6
  - We are prone to forget
  - It is God who gives us breath
  - Without Jesus we have nothing
- Israel betrays the one who loves them most...we have to ask **How am I just like them?**
- Too often God is blamed for pain and suffering in the world
  - Sin and Satan
  - Turning from God has a cost
  - The cry of the prophets over and over is..**RETURN TO GOD WITH YOUR WHOLE HEART**
- Hosea 14:6

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. How have you experienced the cost of sin?
2. When was a time that you felt like you forgot the provision and Grace of God? What did you learn?
3. When was a time that you went your own way and how did God draw you back to Him and His ways?
4. What does it mean to not just know God but be in an intimate relationship with Him?
5. How are you or how have you been just like the people of Israel?
6. How is God calling you to return to Him?
7. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

**\*\*15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

**Mon: Proverbs 6 Tues: Proverbs 7 Wed: Proverbs 8 Thurs: Proverbs 9 Fri: Proverbs 10**

**Songs from the weekend: [Joy of the Lord - *Grace Worship*] - [I Speak Jesus - *Charity Gayle*] - [Jesus We Love You - *Bethel Music*] - [Graves Into Gardens - *Elevation Worship*]**