

HOSEA

Redeemed & Restored

WHEN GOD'S LOVE HURTS | HOSEA 1:1-2:1

When the LORD began to speak by Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea: "Go, take yourself a wife of harlotry and children of harlotry, for the land has committed great harlotry by departing from the LORD." Ho. 1:2 (NKJV)

1. Despite the posture of the human heart, God will not hesitate to use any _____ to _____ each generation. (v.1)
2. Because God is love, His _____ for those He loves may go _____ . (v.2; 1 Jn. 4:8)
3. When God's strategic love seems mysterious or personally hurtful, do I have the humility to consider that perhaps my:
 - a. Prideful _____ needs _____? (vv.3-5)
 - b. Posture reeks of _____ - _____ rather than seeking God's mercy? (vv.6-7)
 - c. Position has _____ so _____ that God "gives me over" to myself? (vv. 8-9; Ro. 1:28)
4. When broken humanity genuinely encounters God's pursuing love:
 - a. In the midst of hard things, God demonstrates a _____ intended for my _____. (vv.10-11; Ro. 8:28, 9:25-26)
 - b. Outrageous _____ is _____. (2:1; Ps. 136; Lam. 3:22-23)

Chew on This--Dinner Table Conversation

- The book of Hosea is a love story--real, tragic, and true. Hosea was called to love an unfaithful spouse, mirroring God's relentless love for a wandering Israel. Given how patient God is with our own flaws, what does it look like to practice this kind of "off-script" radical love in our everyday lives?
- How has a past hurt, difficult path, or detour become an unimagined canvas for God to write a greater story of redeeming grace in your life?