



# SMALL GROUP STUDY

## Hosea the Prophet

Hosea delivered a heartfelt message from a heartsick prophet on behalf of a heartbroken God. Hosea gives God's message to the 10 northern tribes of Israel. He was unique in that he lived out God's message in his life and marriage.

### A Faithless Wife (1-3)

God used the marriage of Hosea to the unfaithful Gomer to demonstrate how He feels when His people turn their backs on Him. Hosea and Gomer had several children that God names. Each child is given an unlikely name that spells out the relationship between God and the people. Hosea portrays God's restoring love by loving, forgiving and restoring his faithless wife.

#### *Discussion Questions:*

- a. What is a prophet?
- b. What is the difference between proclamation, prediction, and demonstration types of prophecy.
- c. What is your testimony, how has God changed you? "I used to \_\_\_\_\_, But God did this: \_\_\_\_\_ and now \_\_\_\_\_."
- d. What faithful, romantic words does God use to describe His relationship with His people, after the temporary abandonment?
- e. What characteristics of God do you find in chapter 2?
- f. Examine your heart: How is your relationship with God?

### A Fickle Nation (4-10)

Hosea is God's holy prosecuting attorney as he charges the people with their sins against the Lord. Hosea predicts Israel's judgement.

#### *Discussion Questions:*

- a. What are the 3 charges that Hosea brought against the people?
- b. Learn or Feel? Which is more reliable?

### A Faithful God (11-14)

Hosea uses the illustration of a run-away child, a rebellious teenager and a restored adult to deliver God's message to the people. The more God pursued the people, the more they were bent on going in the opposite direction.

#### *Discussion Questions:*

- a. Which parental characteristics does God display to His people?
- b. How were the people behaving like children? How were they behaving like rebellious teenagers?
- c. Hosea 14: What are the steps to restoration with God?