



*The #1 catalyst for spiritual growth is reading and reflecting on the Bible.
Use these questions for personal study or as part of a community group experience.*

INTRODUCTION

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Hosea relentlessly pursues Gomer time and again. This is the story of God's love for his people. Nothing, not even our own stubbornness will dissuade God from his commitment and compassion toward us.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Write down in 2-3 sentences what has been most impactful for your understanding of God over these past two messages.
2. Read Hosea 3. These short 5 verses continue the motif of unfaithfulness. What does God command Hosea to do? Why?
3. How has the relationship between Hosea and Gomer developed since chapters 1-2? What impact does this have on the love present in chapter 3?
4. To love "again" the woman who has been unfaithful communicates something powerful and hopeful. Love is used five times in these verses. Read Psalm 139:1-18. What does this passage communicate about the value God sees in you?

5. Hosea has to redeem, or purchase Gomer. What does this act suggest about Gomer's situation? How does this compare to Paul's teaching about all of humanity in Romans 5:6-10?

6. Associating yourself with Gomer may seem a pretty daunting and discouraging exercise. Taking some of the principles of her unfaithfulness, can you identify any overlap with your relationship with God? If so, where?

7. Paul mentions the back-and-forth of his faithfulness in Romans 7:14-25. Where is God during the process of our ambivalence?

8. When someone turns or *returns* to God, how does God respond? What does this communicate about his character? (cf. John 3:17 and Romans 8:1)

9. What is the goal of his love and grace as seen in Ephesians 2:1-7? How does this love impact our life and future?

10. God promises to reverse the fortunes of Hosea's children—granting new life and significance. By responding to God, what areas in your life are you most prayerful God would redeem? How might your response look?

MOVING FORWARD

Read and reflect upon *Redeeming Love* by Francine Rivers. This book will give you a fresh and challenging perspective of love. God pursues you relentlessly, longing for a personal relationship that will dramatically alter your future and redeem your past.