

The marriage of Hosea and Gomer

Talking through the message during the week helps you put what God is saying to you into action. These talking points, questions, and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step.

Read Hosea 1:1-11 and Hosea 2:1-15.

These passages tell the story of Hosea. God told Hosea to marry Gomer. Unfortunately, Gomer cheated on Hosea and bore children with other men. In chapter 2, God responds to Gomer's unfaithfulness first with righteous anger and then with unfailing love and forgiveness.

- In what ways does our society train people towards divorce?
- The most common marriage misconception is thinking what I'm missing is better than what I have. How have you experienced that misconception in your own relationships and what were the results?
- The story of Hosea and Gomer is a picture of what spiritual adultery looks like. What are some ways you have been unfaithful to God? What will be your next steps towards restoring that relationship?

Read Hosea 3:1 and 10:12.

God tells Hosea in these verses to forgive his wife and show her the same faithfulness that God shows towards us.

- How have you seen God demonstrate His unfailing love towards you when you have been unfaithful to Him?
- How do you tend to deal with a loved one who has wronged you in some way?
- Describe how you can better model God's faithfulness and forgiveness in your own relationships.

NEXT STEPS

Spend some time this week praying about someone that you need to forgive and model God's faithfulness towards. Begin the process of healing that relationship. Start by praying and allowing God to guide you on how best to work towards reconciliation.

If you are married, take time to openly discuss with your spouse specific ways you can work together to prevent unfaithfulness and create more accountability within your marriage. Look for ways you can guard against things that could come between you. If you are single, list some steps to implement now that will help you work towards preventing unfaithfulness in your marriage in the future.

- Ask God to help you remain faithful in all of your relationships—starting with your relationship with Him.
- Confess those areas of your life where you have been unfaithful to God. Pray and ask Him for His wonderful forgiveness.
- Pray and ask God to help you model His faithfulness and forgiveness in all of your relationships.
- Thank God in prayer for His unfailing love, faithfulness, and forgiveness that He has given you throughout your life.