

Large Group Leader:

Time	What to Do	Materials
10 minutes	Set up Computer with songs on Youtube, google slides powerpoint for today	
3 minutes	Start timer. Invite classes to join	Timer video
2 minutes	Welcome kids Collect the offering: For wells in Africa	Offering bag
	Birthdays: Diedrick Carmichael - 7years old Bennett DeJong - 3 years old	
2 minutes	Leader: Who is always with us? Kids: God is always with us! Leader: Who keeps His promises? Kids: God keeps His promises! Leader: Does God ever forget about us? Kids: No! God never forgets us! Leader: Does God ever stop loving us? Kids: No! God's love never ends! Leader: When things are easy, is God faithful? Kids: Yes! God is faithful! Leader: When things are hard, is God faithful? Kids: Yes! God is faithful! Leader: So what can we do today? Kids: Trust God because He is faithful! Leader: Let's worship our faithful God! Kids: Yes! Let's worship Him!	
10 minutes singing	Great is Thy Faithfulness - Lifetree Kids	Video
	Jesus, Strong and Kind	Video

	What does it mean to be faithful? Ask this to the kids (gr. 1-3 just spent time thinking about this). You could talk about the geyser named "Old Faithful" Show this video: https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=b8c7a0b4c4f85b93&rlz=1C1CHBD_en-GBCA1165CA1167&sxsrf=APpeQnhtlntEd2Pi0sLXFm4DR-Ybx0-EQ:1788232842106&udm=7&fbs=ABfTbFVyMZGZf1hfvX9uKjN_-G8cqu7ocb7U6ah0xpklrGMK4LpKPoHZrc4HVz9uOAATjT2YNhlffH8_El3sjv29QUM5ncLocu7BDRljT4DA77V3-npMVRsIYI67GHAEq_hhmRaJH5zBmyMlpjtxY1nn8MceEI6V14L6-QwaLKPXKdnXdruCrCOJbWN_figz6lxBX3KvgRfkvkyAEq24OQQryNVNAzwmvf3Q&q=kids+video+about+old+faithful+geyser&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj17dC6tsyWAXVmMzQIHSjvOQoQtKgLegQIFhAB&biw=1536&bih=791&dpr=1.25#fpstate=ive&ip=1&vid=cid:f6b84042.vid:TufhUeQTU9Q.st:0 (stop earlier: 1:43)	
	Tell the story – Page 71 or use "Who is God" book, story called 'God is like a faithful husband' pg. 117	
3 minutes	Watch the video of the story	powerpoint
	Questions pg. 72 1. Have you noticed how God's people were unfaithful to Him throughout the Old Testament? 2. Why do you think Israel kept turning away from God? 3. How did Hosea display God's love for Israel?	
	Questions from kids video: 1. Why does God forgive us even though we don't deserve it? 2. How does Jesus' perfect, sinless life get credited (or given) to us?	Video
2 minutes	Heavenly Father, thank You for being faithful even when we're not. Help us trust You and to be faithful to You in everything we do. Thank You for loving us so much that You sent Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. Amen.	

1 minute	Do the blessing with them: May the Lord Bless You and Keep you. May he make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you His favour and give you peace."	



INTRODUCE the Bible Story

1 INTRODUCE THE SESSION (3 minutes)

Show the countdown video as you transition to introduce the Bible story. Set it to end as the session begins.

SAY “Welcome, kids! My name is [your name], and I’m happy you are here today to study God’s Word. Today, we will be in a book called Hosea. If you have a Bible with you, will you take it out? [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one. Assist kids in finding Hosea.]

God loved His people, but they didn’t always love Him. Even though God took care of them and saved them from their enemies, Israel turned away from God and worshiped idols. Today, we will learn about a prophet named Hosea. **GOD WARNED AND SHOWED HIS LOVE TO ISRAEL THROUGH THE PROPHET HOSEA.** [Display the Story Point Poster.] Let’s pray and ask God to help us receive His truth: ‘Dear God, thank you for loving us even though we sin and don’t always show love to You. Help us know and trust in Your love for us and give us the desire to love You always. Amen.’ ”

2 BIG PICTURE QUESTION (1 minute)

Display the Big Picture Question Poster.

SAY “What is our big picture question? [Allow responses.] **Why do Christians continue to sin?** What is the answer? [Allow responses.] The answer is, **Christians continue to sin because we still have a sin nature, but when Jesus returns, He will make us sinless like Him.** Let’s say that together one more time: **Christians continue to sin because we still have a sin nature, but when Jesus returns, He will make us sinless like Him.**

God’s people, Israel, continued to sin against God. God provided for Israel, cared for them, and displayed great patience, but Israel continued to turn away from Him. They had a sin nature and needed new hearts to be able to love God rightly. Through Jesus, God has showed us His perfect love and how people can receive new hearts. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives us of our sin and changes our hearts so we can love God and worship Him alone. One day, God will make Christians sinless like Jesus. ”

3 REVIEW THE TIMELINE (1 minute)

Show the Giant Timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review.

SAY “Although the Northern Kingdom of Israel continued to worship idols, God provided prophets to warn His people—and even Nineveh—to turn away from their sin. God sent Elisha to speak His words and perform miracles, proving that God is the one true God. Then God sent to Jonah to Nineveh to preach against their sin. While Nineveh repented and didn’t experience God’s judgment, the nation of Israel refused to worship God alone. Today, we will see how God sent Hosea to warn Israel of their unfaithfulness to Him and remind them of His faithful love. ”



LEARN the Bible Story

1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Hosea. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “Hosea, Prophet to Israel.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

HOSEA, PROPHET TO ISRAEL

“Israel was not faithful to God. They worshiped other gods, sinned by disobeying Him, and looked to other nations to help them in times of trouble.”

God wanted to show His people a picture of how much He loved and wanted to be with them, even though they had been unfaithful to Him. He spoke to His prophet Hosea, saying, “Go and marry a woman who will not be faithful to you, and be committed to her.”

Hosea followed God’s direction and married a woman named Gomer. They had three children together. Sadly, Gomer was not faithful to Hosea and left the family.

Gomer’s unfaithfulness to Hosea was like Israel’s unfaithfulness to God. Israel had taken the grain, oil, silver, and wine that God had given to them, and had used it to worship Baal. They pursued false gods and looked to other nations to save them. But God still loved Israel and forgave them for their lack of faithfulness.

To show Israel how much He loved them, **God told Hosea to go get Gomer back. “Show love to Gomer, even though she hasn’t shown love to you, just as I have loved the Israelites.”**

Hosea obeyed God. He paid back what Gomer owed others and brought her back to live with him, and she agreed.

Hosea pled with the Israelites to come back to God, just as Gomer had come back to Hosea. Hosea reminded Israel of how God had loved Israel like a child, providing and caring for their every need. But he also told the people that there would be consequences for their sin. He said, “Come, Israel, return to the LORD, for you have stumbled in sin. Repent and turn away and return to the LORD. Ask him for forgiveness and praise him. No one else can save us but God.”

Through Hosea, God promised to be faithful to Israel. God also said that one day His people would seek the Lord their God. “I will heal them,” said God, “I will love them. I will not be angry with them anymore.”

Christ Connection: Israel was not faithful to God, but God was faithful to Israel, just as Hosea loved his wife even when she didn’t love him. God is faithful to save all sinners who repent and trust in Jesus. ”

STORYTELLING TIPS

Active listening:

Tell kids that when they hear the word “unfaithful,” they should give a thumbs down. When they hear the word “faithful,” they should give a thumbs up.

Use movement: Move about the room and act out the motions of the action words in the story.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY “Have you noticed how God’s people were unfaithful to Him throughout the Old Testament? There are so many stories where Israel disobeyed God and turned away from Him. Today’s story is no different. Israel had sinned, worshiped other gods, and turned to other nations for help instead of asking God for help. Why do you think Israel kept turning away from God? [Allow responses.] Like our big picture question teaches us, all people are born with a sin nature. We want to do things our way. Israel was impatient, unfaithful to God, and wanted to do things their way instead of God’s way. Their hearts were broken because of sin, and they weren’t able to fully obey Him.

But God had always been faithful to His people. He never gave up on them and continued to show them His love. **GOD WARNED AND SHOWED HIS LOVE TO ISRAEL THROUGH THE PROPHET HOSEA.** How did Hosea display God’s love for Israel? [Allow responses.] God told Hosea to go find Gomer and show her love, even though she had left him. Hosea paid Gomer’s debt and brought her back to live with him. Hosea didn’t give up on Gomer, even when she turned away from him. God had shown even greater love toward His people. He rescued them from their enemies, took care of them, and gave them good gifts. But God’s people still turned away. So, in His love, God warned the people of their sin so they could repent.

Like Israel and Gomer, we are all unfaithful to God. We sin and disobey. But God is faithful to save anyone who repents and trusts in Jesus. When Jesus died on the cross, He paid the debt we owe because of our sin. Anyone who trusts in Jesus is forgiven and safe with God forever.”

3 GOSPEL DISCUSSION

SAY “God loves us so much that He warns us of our sin. The Bible reminds us that we are all sinners. But God has made the way for us to be forgiven. Through faith in Jesus, God will forgive our sin and give us eternal life.”

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Create an environment where kids are welcome to ask questions about what it means to follow Jesus.)

4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the “Unit 14, Session 3” Questions from Kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. Why does God forgive us even though we don’t deserve it?
2. How does Jesus’ perfect, sinless life get credited (or given) to us?

5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

SAY “Dr. George and Joan Braswell were missionaries in Iran from 1968 to 1974. Dr. Braswell was the only Christian professor at a Muslim university. This opportunity to teach at the university opened up doors for Dr. Braswell to build relationships with many Muslim people and share the good news about Jesus.”



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

Explain that women in Iran often work with looms to weave beautiful carpets. Tell kids that carpets from Iran are known as Persian rugs. Share how these looms can be quite large because they make carpets to fill a room.

Invite kids to practice weaving by creating a “loom” from a 5-by-5-inch piece of cardboard. Cut slits at the top and bottom of the cardboard equal distance apart. Then lead kids to take yarn and tape the end of the yarn to the back of the “loom.” Kids will then bring the yarn through the first slit, turn the “loom” over, and bring the yarn down to the matching slit at the bottom. Repeat, wrapping the yarn through all the slits. Next, weave 7 inch long strips of ribbon in an under-and-over pattern across the “loom.” Repeat, weaving multiple ribbon strips, each in a new row, until the desired length is achieved.

6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Show the Key Passage Poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Deuteronomy 13:4 together.

SAY 🗣️ God is loving, faithful, kind, and gracious. He deserves our worship and our obedience. He is worth following. 🙏

Guide kids to sit in a large circle. Play music and direct the kids to pass the ball around a circle. When the music stops, lead the kid with the ball to say the key passage. Kids may use the Key Passage Poster for help. Continue until all have had an opportunity to say the verse on their own.

Lead kids to sing “Faithful to Him (Deuteronomy 13:4).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to Love.

SAY 🗣️ Heavenly Father, thank You for being faithful even when we’re not. Help us trust You and to be faithful to You in everything we do. Thank You for loving us so much that You sent Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. Amen. 🙏

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





GOD IS LIKE A FAITHFUL HUSBAND

"I will betroth you to me forever; I will betroth you in righteousness and justice, in love and compassion. I will betroth you in faithfulness, and you will acknowledge the Lord."

HOSEA 2 19-20



Have you ever noticed that the Bible begins and ends with a wedding? Well, we don't know if Adam and Eve had an actual wedding, but their marriage is the first one mentioned in the Bible. And at the end of the Bible, we see the marriage supper of the Lamb—a wedding feast! The Lamb, Jesus, is united with his bride, the church. Marriage is an important theme in the Bible.

Genesis 1 and 2 outline the guidelines for marriage. Marriage is between one man and one woman. One male and one female are united together until death

separates them. With God's help and by his Spirit, these two people, created in God's image, can care for each other, complement each other, and enjoy each other's company. It's a very special relationship that differs from a friendship. A bride and groom make promises to each other to be faithful and to be united forever.

God uses marriage in the Bible as a picture of his relationship with his people. When Isaiah is speaking to Israel about their relationship to God, he says, "Your Maker is your husband" (Isaiah 54:5). The idea is that God and Israel were in a covenant, made at Mount

Sinai. They made promises to each other like a husband and wife do at a wedding. God was committed to Israel. He loved Israel. He would guide her and protect her, and he would always be faithful.

But Israel was an unfaithful wife.

Sometimes God gave prophets the job of acting out a message for his people. This time God used Hosea's marriage to portray his relationship with his people. God told Hosea to marry a woman named Gomer—a sinful, unfaithful woman who ran off with other men. She broke her marriage vows and left Hosea to care for their three children.

God's people were acting like Gomer. Instead of worshiping God, they were chasing after idols. They had turned their backs on God and run away from his loving arms like Gomer ran away from Hosea. Gomer's children each had a name that showed how far the people had turned and how God felt about it. The first child's name meant "he scatters" because the people would be judged for their sins. The second meant "not loved," and the third meant "not my people." God's heart was grieved by the sins and rejection of Israel, just as Hosea was grieved by Gomer.

Hosea had every right to disown Gomer, but he did not. God commanded Hosea to love Gomer as he loved Israel (Hosea 3:1). Hosea sought out Gomer, now a slave, and he bought her back. She was unworthy of Hosea's love, but he chose to love her anyway. God treated the Israelites the same way—with compassion and tenderness that they didn't deserve.

What a beautiful picture! If we're honest, we are much like Israel. We chase after other gods. Anything in our life that we treasure more than God can be an idol—money, toys, popularity, sports, or even ease and comfort. We chase after these things more than we cling to God. But God, like Hosea, tenderly calls us back. He is faithful, even when we are not. He loves us even when we are completely unworthy.

And God forgives. When God told Hosea the strange names for their children, they came with a promise. The unloved would once again be saved and loved (Hosea 1:7), just like Gomer. And God's people would once again be called "children of the living God" (1:10).

The story of Hosea's love for Gomer and his rescue of her is surprising and even shocking. It's meant to be shocking. Why would anyone love someone so undeserving and unlovable? But so too is God's love for us. We don't deserve it, and yet he lavishes it upon us. God was a faithful husband to Israel, and he is faithful to you too.



REFLECT

1. The garden of Eden was created for Adam and his bride, Eve.
What bride and groom will inhabit the new heavens and the new earth?
See Revelation 19:6-9; 21:1-3.
2. How did God "buy us back" as Hosea bought back Gomer? See 1 Peter 1:18-19.
3. Like Gomer, we aren't always lovable. Yet God loves us very much! Read
Isaiah 62:5 for a picture of God's love for you. What is your response?
4. What does God give us as a wedding gift? See Isaiah 61:10.
5. How can faithful Christian marriages reflect the relationship
between Christ and the church? See Ephesians 5:22-32.

BIBLE REFERENCE HOSEA 1:2-11; 3:1-5

KEY VERSE HOSEA 2:19-20

