

OCTOBER 19, 2025

HOSEA, PROPHET TO ISRAEL

HOSEA

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.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Why do Christians continue to sin? Christians continue to sin because we still have a sin nature, but when Jesus returns, He will make us sinless like Him.

MEMORY VERSE

Deuteronomy 13:4

PREPARE



Take time to reflect on today's lesson.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Although God had been faithful to the people of Israel, they were not faithful to God. The Israelites continued to disobey God, following worthless idols and acting wickedly. Israel even turned to other nations during times of trouble, trusting in the power of men over God. God warned Israel of their unfaithfulness and showed His faithful love through the prophet Hosea.

Though Israel was far from Him, God wanted to show a picture of His great love and relentless pursuit of His people through Hosea's life. God instructed Hosea to marry a prostitute named Gomer, explaining that she would not be faithful to him. Yet, God told Hosea to remain committed to her.

Hosea obeyed God and married Gomer. As God said, she was unfaithful to Hosea and left their family. In the same way, the Israelites were unfaithful to God, worshiping idols, acting corruptly, and loving violence. However, God's love did not relent, and He promised a day when He would forgive and restore them (Hosea 14:4-9).

To show the Israelites the depth of His love, God told Hosea to show love to Gomer, even though she had chosen a life of adultery (Hosea 3:1). Again, Hosea obeyed God. He paid the debts Gomer owed and brought her back home to their family.

On the cross, Jesus paid our debt of sin, restoring our relationship with God so we might be with Him forever. When we repent and turn to Jesus, He brings us into His family. Even when believers act unfaithfully, Jesus continues to be faithful and show unending love.

Encourage boys and girls to ask Jesus for forgiveness and praise Him for His unfailing love. God promised to be faithful to Israel, and He continues to be faithful to us. Point children to God's promises to Israel and the way these words of hope echo into Jesus' promises to followers of Christ to heal them, love them, and not be angry with them (Hosea 14:4).

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OPENING ACTIVITIES

Greet each kid as they arrive. Use this time to build relationships and help new kids connect to your group. Before heading to Large Group, you can play a game, chat with kids, or do the Memory Verse Activity below as a group!

MEMORY VERSE

You shall walk after the Lord your God and fear him and keep his commandments and obey his voice, and you shall serve him and hold fast to him.

Deuteronomy 13:4, ESV

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Each month, we'll have a new memory verse that goes with the lessons we're learning from the Bible. Choose one of the provided activities in your room's Memory Verse bin to review the verse with the kids. A hand motion video is also available to learn and review on your room's TV.

Note: Our next Bible Bucks Day will be on October 26!



LARGE GROUP LESSON



Review what we're learning in Large Group.

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.

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ACTIVITIES



Do crafts and games with kids after Large Group.

MAIN ACTIVITY

Give each kid a blank piece of paper and one of the provided heart templates. Have kids color the hearts and cut them into random-sized pieces.

On the blank piece of paper, have kids glue the heart back together and write, "God is faithful" and the verse reference *1 Corinthians 1:9* at the top.

CONNECT THE DOTS

Today we learned how
Hosea continued to love
Gomer even though she was
unfaithful to him. The same
is true for us and God! Even
when we are unfaithful to
Him, God is faithful to us and

CONNECT THE DOTS

The Bible is so important because it is the Word of God! It's a big book that can be hard to understand sometimes, which is why we want to grow in our Bible skills! By growing in these skills, we can better understand God's Word and learn to know where to turn to find the truth of who God is and how much He loves us.

BIBLE SKILLS ACTIVITY

Either on the TV in your room or using the buckets and ping pong balls in the cabinet, play Old or New Testament. The instruction sheets can be found in your bin!

Have kids work together as one big group or in smaller teams—whichever will get them excited and engaged!

If you play as one group with the buckets and ping pong balls, use a timer and challenge kids to beat their time to finish sorting them.

BIBLE STORY REVIEW

Ask the following questions and lead your small group to discuss.

- 1. Hosea warned about God's judgment on sin. How did this warning show God's love?
- 2. What does it mean that God is faithful?
- 3. If God remains faithful to Christians no matter what, why do you think it's good to obey God?
- 4. Is every person unfaithful to God? Why?
- 5. How has God shown faithfulness to you, even when you've sinned?

HAVE EXTRA TIME?

If you have extra time or your group needs to get out some energy, play one of the games/activities in your extra time bin in the cabinet or the "extra time" folder on the TV.

If there's a new game or activity you want to have available for your group in the future, let Taylor know!

BEFORE YOU GO...

Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:

- 1. Put all extra supplies and binders back in the curriculum bins.
- 2. Clean all trash off the tables.
- 3. Put all crayons, markers, etc. back in the appropriate containers and cubbies.
- 4. Erase the whiteboards and put markers/erasers back in the holder.
- 5. Turn off the TVs as you leave.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!

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