

Hosea 1:1-11



The text – Hosea 1:1-11

1. Read Hosea 1:1-11. Nearly all of the chapters of Hosea contain words that Hosea preached. The text is poetic. However, Hosea 1:1-11 and then Hosea 3:1-5 tell the story of Hosea's family. Discuss the characteristics of the text of Hosea 1:1-11. What do you notice about it? What are some of the features of the language?
2. What does the name "Hosea" mean?
3. What do you know about the kings of Judah (Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah) and Israel (Jeroboam) that are named in Hosea 1:1? Hosea preached to the people of Israel, where Jeroboam reigned for over 40 years. Read about Jeroboam in 2 Kings 14:23-29.
4. Why did the LORD tell Hosea to marry Gomer? (Hosea 1:2-3)
5. Discuss the names of the three children – Jezreel, Lo-Ruhamah, and Lo-Ammi. What do these names mean? What is the message carried by the names of these children?

The Scriptures – Hosea 1: 1-11 as a portion of the Scriptures

6. Hosea is one of the OT prophets. Read Luke 24:25-32. In this passage the resurrected Jesus tells two of the disciples that the writings of the OT prophets were about him. What does he mean by that? How does Jesus fulfill the writings of OT prophets such as Hosea?
7. Hosea assumes his readers know about events in the history of Israel. What happened in Jezreel? This was a place of great violence and bloodshed. Read about and then discuss one event that occurred there in 2 Kings 9:30-37.
8. In Hosea two of the children are given the names "not loved" or "no mercy" (Hosea 1:6) and "not my people" (Hosea 1:9). These names are reused, and then changed, in 1 Peter 2:9-10. Discuss the relationship between what Hosea says to the people of Israel and what 1 Peter says to the 1st century Christians.

Our lives – walking the way of Jesus in response to Hosea 1:1-11 as a portion of the Scriptures

9. How do you find the story of Hosea and his family so far? What does it teach you about the life and work of an OT prophet? What does it teach you about God?
10. Does this passage of the Bible challenge you? Trouble you? Comfort you? Discuss your responses.
11. How can we pray for you as you seek to serve God in your life, work and home?