

Hosea 11: 1-11



The text – Hosea 11: 1-11

1. Read Hosea 11:1-11. This portion of Hosea acts as a hinge between the preceding chapters and those that follow. What is God like in Hosea 11:1-11? How would you describe the LORD?
2. Throughout much of Hosea, God and Israel have been likened to husband and wife. But now their relationship is compared to that of parent (particularly mother) and son. What is Hosea referring to in 11:1 when he writes about Israel being called out of Egypt? What did God do for Israel when it was first formed as a free people?
3. The words “turn” and “return” are really important throughout the Scriptures, and particularly in the writings of prophets such as Hosea. Discuss the use of the word “turn” in Hosea 11:7. Notice other uses in Hosea 12:6 and Hosea 14:1-2.
4. What do you know about Admah and Zeboyim, referred to in Hosea 11:8? What point is Hosea making in this verse?
5. What contrast is being drawn between God and humans in Hosea 11:8-11?

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

6. What does it mean that Israel is God’s son? This is a really important theme throughout Scripture. Read and discuss the following:
 - a. Exodus 4:21-23 – these are the words of the LORD to Moses
 - b. 2 Samuel 7:12-16 – these are the words of the LORD to David, initially about David’s son Solomon who will build the Temple in Jerusalem
 - c. Psalm 2:7-12 – these are the LORD’s words concerning Israel’s King who rules from Jerusalem
 - d. Matthew 3:16-17 – these are the words spoken at Jesus’ baptism
 - e. Galatians 4:4-7 – these are Paul’s words to the churches in Galatia
7. Hosea portrays God as emotional, compassionate, and deeply concerned for the welfare of his people. Jesus is equally moved with compassion during his ministry. Read and consider, for example, the words of Jesus in Luke 13:31-35.
8. Read Ephesians 4:30. In these words, Paul commands believers in Christ not to grieve God’s Holy Spirit. What does that mean? Why does the Holy Spirit grieve?

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

9. How is God speaking to you from the portions of Scripture that we have considered?
10. What do you love about God as a result of this study? What troubles, encourages, excites you?
11. How do you need to live so that the Spirit of God is not grieved?
12. How can we pray for and encourage you in your faith?