

Live Action

Hosea: a return to the Lord

August 30, 2026

- Who was your first love?

Scriptures:

Hosea 1:2-3

When the Lord began to speak through Hosea, the Lord said to him, "Go, marry a promiscuous woman and have children with her, for like an adulterous wife this land is guilty of unfaithfulness to the Lord." So he married Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

Hosea 2:7

She will chase after her lovers but not catch them; she will look for them but not find them. Then she will say, 'I will go back to my husband as at first, for then I was better off than now.'

Psalm 89:32-34

I will punish their sin with the rod, their iniquity with flogging; but I will not take my **love** from him, nor will I ever betray my **faithfulness**. I will not violate my **covenant**...

Hosea 2:14-16

"Therefore, I am now going to allure her; I will lead her into the wilderness and speak tenderly to her. There I will give her back her vineyards, and will make the Valley of Achor a door of hope. There she will respond as in the days of her youth, as in the day she came up out of Egypt. "In that day," declares the Lord, "you will call me 'my husband'; you will no longer call me 'my master'.

Hosea 14:1-2; 4

Return, Israel, to the Lord your God. Your sins have been your downfall! Take words with you and return to the Lord. Say to him: "Forgive all our sins and receive us graciously that we may offer the fruit of our lips..." "I will heal their waywardness and love them freely, for my anger has turned away from them.

Discuss:

- What new insight did you gain from the telling of the story?
- Did this story bring up any new questions?
- What did you learn about God's character or the heart of God through this story?

- Hosea shows us a God whose love is bigger than our failures. What would change if you truly believed that nothing you have done is too much for God's love?
- What action is God asking you to take?

Invitation & Prayer:

Hosea's message is ultimately an invitation. No matter how far the people had wandered, God was calling them back.

- **What is one step you can take to move closer to God this week?**

How does this message lead you to pray?