

A Parable of Love

NOTE GUIDE

SERIES GOAL

That together we would be invited to honestly examine our own hearts, recognize the idols and false hopes we are prone to trust, and grow more deeply thankful for the grace of God that redeems, restores, and leads us into fruitful life with Him.

THIS WEEK'S ANCHOR QUESTION

When our lives are marked by sin and shame, how does God’s relentless love give us hope?

SCRIPTURE

Hosea 1:1-11

DATE

9/6/26

SPEAKER

Pastor Chris Lenhart

Why Hosea for us, here, now?

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)

God’s love comes looking for us (1)

God’s love tells us the whole truth (2-9)

See also: *Gen. 17:7, Ex. 6:7*

Jezreel –

Lo-Ruhamah –

Lo-Ammi –

God’s love refuses to let judgment be the end of the story (10-11)

See also: *Gen. 13:16, 22:17, 32:12, 1 Pet. 2:10, John 1:12-13*



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A guide for personal or family devotion time, or small group or ABF

Pray	Ask Jesus to guide your time. Pray through requests for family, church, community, career, friends, etc.
Focus	When our lives are marked by sin and shame, how does God’s relentless love give us hope?
Read	Hosea 1:1-11 (Read in 2 different versions)
Reflect or Discuss	1. “Outward success can coexist with inward faithfulness.” – <i>Where might your life look healthy, successful, or spiritually active on the outside while your heart is quietly drifting from intimacy and dependence on God?</i> 2. “Idolatry goes beyond breaking rules, idolatry breaks God’s heart.” – <i>What good gift, desire, relationship, achievement, or source of security are you most tempted to love, trust, or depend upon in a way that competes with your love for God?</i> 3. “When anxiety rises, what do my hands reach for almost automatically?” – <i>When you feel anxious, uncertain, disappointed, or out of control, where do you instinctively turn for comfort, reassurance, distraction, or security, and what might that reveal about who or what you are trusting?</i> 4. “God’s good gifts can slowly become identities we have to protect.” – <i>What role, accomplishment, relationship, reputation, ability, or label has become too closely connected to your sense of who you are? What would it look like to receive that as a gift without asking it to define you?</i> 5. “The name of judgment is not the final name.” – <i>What name connected to your past, your failures, wounds, or someone else’s words have you continued to carry? How might life change if you increasingly lived from the identity God gives you in Jesus: Beloved, Forgiven, Redeemed, Child of the Living God?</i>
Apply	Write or journal a prayer to pray daily this week What posture is this text inviting me to practice? (i.e. waiting, listening, courage, generosity, humility, surrender) Write or journal a person or place to intentionally engage