

Group/Individual Study

Series: "This is Us" - Gomer

Passages: Hosea 1:2-8, 2:14-15, 3:1-3; James 5:17

REFLECT on the message heard Sunday, 6/25

1. Read James 5:17. How does it impact your understanding of Bible heroes to understand that they were people just like us? How does it impact your understanding of your own life and of how God can move in and through you?
2. Read Hosea 1:2-8. Why did God tell Hosea to marry a promiscuous woman? Explain how the relationship between Hosea and Gomer was a "mirror" for the people of Israel to see the dynamics of their relationship with God lived out?
3. Gomer lived out her unfaithfulness to Hosea with many lovers. What are the most common "lovers" that woo God's people to unfaithfulness today? If you could have a new freedom from something that lures you away from God, what would you want to be delivered from?
4. Read Hosea 2:14-15. God's relationship with His people was often strained because they kept forgetting Him and following other gods. Why does God sometimes have to take us into a "desert" to call us back to Him? Have you ever felt God "alluring" you and "speaking tenderly to you" after you've blown it?
5. Read Hosea 3:1-3. How does Hosea buying back Gomer from one of her lovers mirror what God does for us? How does the Cross figure into this? Thank God for buying you back from all that your life would have become otherwise.
6. Though we all have wandered like Gomer, God still sees us as beloved sons and daughters. How does accepting your identity as a fully loved and accepted son or daughter of the King impact your faith? Is it easy or hard for you to embrace this identity and live from it?