



## Your Cheating Heart (Hosea)

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### 1. God tells Hosea to marry a prostitute

### 2. Hosea's children of prostitution

- Jezreel: God plants
- Lo-ruhamah: Not loved
- Lo-ammi: Not my people

<sup>2</sup> When the LORD first began speaking to Israel through Hosea, he said to him, "Go and marry a prostitute, so that some of her children will be conceived in prostitution. This will illustrate how Israel has acted like a prostitute by turning against the LORD and worshiping other gods."<sup>3</sup> So Hosea married Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim, and she became pregnant and gave Hosea a son. <sup>4</sup> And the LORD said, "Name the child Jezreel, for I am about to punish King Jehu's dynasty to avenge the murders he committed at Jezreel. In fact, I will bring an end to Israel's independence. <sup>5</sup> I will break its military power in the Jezreel Valley."<sup>6</sup> Soon Gomer became pregnant again and gave birth to a daughter. And the LORD said to Hosea, "Name your daughter Lo-ruhamah - 'Not loved' - for I will no longer show love to the people of Israel or forgive them..."<sup>8</sup> After Gomer had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she again became pregnant and gave birth to a second son. <sup>9</sup> And the LORD said, "Name him Lo-ammi - 'Not my people' - for Israel is not my people, and I am not their God. **Hosea 1:2-6, 8-9 NLT**

### 3. Days of love and peace are ahead

- God still loves his children
  - Jezreel: God plants a crop of Israelites
  - Not loved => Loved
  - Not my people => You are my people
- God loves his people even when we sin

<sup>21</sup> "In that day, I will answer," says the LORD. "I will answer the sky as it pleads for clouds. And the sky will answer the earth with rain. <sup>22</sup> Then the earth will answer the thirsty cries of the grain, the grapevines, and the olive trees. And they in turn will answer, 'Jezreel' - 'God plants!'"<sup>23</sup> At that time I will plant a crop of Israelites and raise them for myself. I will show love to those I called 'Not loved.' And to those I called 'Not my people,' I will say, 'Now you are my people.' And they will reply, 'You are our God!'" **Hosea 2:21-23 NLT**

<sup>1</sup> Then the LORD said to me, "Go and love your wife again, even though she commits adultery with another lover. This will illustrate that the LORD still loves Israel, even though the people have turned to other gods and love to worship them."

**Hosea 3:1 NLT**

### Next Steps:

- Spend time in personal reflection to look at my relationship with God and evaluate my faithfulness
- In response to God's unconditional love, I commit to turn from my sins and faithfully follow God
- Rest in the knowledge that God loves me and considers me his child even when I struggle with sin
- Read Hosea chapters 1-3 this week
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