

LESSON 7 - Hosea 11 & 12



Hosea 11:4
I drew them with gentle cords,
With bands of love,
And I was to them
as those who take the yoke from their neck.
I stooped and fed them.

Day 1 *Begin your study with time in prayer. Ask God to show you His truth.*

Step 1 God's Word- Read the passage given below from your Bible. As you read, highlight or underline a verse that stood out to you the most and write it below.

Hosea 11:1-7

Step 2 Comprehend the Word- What does the verse mean?

Step 3 Connect It To You - What does the verse mean to me?

Step 4 Cross Thoughts- Record cross reference verse(s) or other verses that came to mind.

Step 5 Call to Action- How will I respond and what will I do differently?

Theme: _____

Digging Deeper

In these last four chapters Hosea shifts the focus of the message to God's intense, deep love for Israel. God has always loved Israel, they are His chosen people (Deut 7:6) they are the apple of His eye (Deuteronomy 32:9-11). The *church* has not replaced Israel, Gentiles have been grafted into His family (Romans 11:17). All through their history God has repeatedly offered to restore the nation of Israel if it would only turn to Him. He has not, even now given up on them.

In love God called Israel out of Egypt (Exodus 12) 500 years before the time of Hosea and prophetically He called His Son, the child Jesus out of Egypt (see Matthew 2:15) after escaping the night before Herod's bloody massacre of the children in Bethlehem.

1. God is like what? (Psalm 103:13)
 - a. What did God do for Israel (Ephraim) (v3-4)
2. How did Israel respond to God's repeated calling? (v2, 5b)
3. Reflect on your own life, did you respond to God's call quickly or not? What finally opened your eyes to your need for Him?
4. What will happen to the plans of false prophets? (v6)

Day 2 Pray for our church, Pastors and their wives.

Step 1 God's Word- Read the passage given below from your Bible. As you read, highlight or underline a verse that stood out to you the most and write it below.

Hosea 11:8-12

Step 2 Comprehend the Word- What does the verse mean?

Step 3 Connect It To You - What does the verse mean to me?

Step 4 Cross Thoughts- Record cross reference verse(s) or other verses that came to mind.

Step 5 Call to Action- How will I respond and what will I do differently?

Theme: _____

Digging Deeper

This chapter graphically depicts the love of the Heavenly Father and a loving husband, God cannot let Israel be utterly destroyed by the Assyrians.

God desires to forgive those who come to Him with childlike faith and repentance. He judges the sin, but shows mercy and grace to the sinner. Don't ever be afraid to come to Him and ask forgiveness. He wants to give you a new start and make you a new creation.

1. Read Genesis 10:19 and Deuteronomy 29:23. What do we know about Admah and Zeboyim (Zeboiim)?

2. God will not carry out His fierce anger or bring devastation, why? What does God say about Himself? (v8-9)

3. List some of the ways God's forgiveness is different than man's forgiveness.

God's Forgiveness	Man's forgiveness

4. Find and list one verse in Hosea 11 which expresses God's feelings when we are unfaithful, and one verse which expresses His attitude toward us.

Day 3 Pray for our Nation, State and City Officials.

Step 1 God's Word- Read the passage given below from your Bible. As you read, highlight or underline a verse that stood out to you the most and write it below.

Hosea 12:1-6

Step 2 Comprehend the Word- What does the verse mean?

Step 3 Connect It To You - What does the verse mean to me?

Step 4 Cross Thoughts- Record cross reference verse(s) or other verses that came to mind.

Step 5 Call to Action- How will I respond and what will I do differently?

Theme: _____

Digging Deeper

Israel was trusting in useless alliances, there was nothing they could hold or feed on, it was like feeding on the wind all day. Adam Clarke says *"He [Israel] forms and follows empty and unstable counsels. Follows after the east wind - They are not only empty, but dangerous and destructive. The east wind was, and still is, in all countries, a parching, wasting, injurious wind."* ⁷

Note in verse 1 the mention of oil being carried to Egypt. This was most likely olive oil, which is common in that region and had monetary value. It was probably given to Egypt in exchange for military support. Some commentators say it could have been used in a ritual to ratify a treaty with Egypt or given to them as a sign of loyalty.

The rest of the prophecy is directed to both Judah and Israel. He reproaches both with their ingratitude, and threatens them with God's anger. Jacob, who God later renamed Israel, practiced deceit; however, unlike the nations of Israel and Judah, Jacob was eventually broken by the Lord (Genesis chapters 25, 28 and 32 & 35) and he returned to the Lord and was blessed by God.

1. What did Ephraim do with Assyria and Egypt?

2. What consequences might we encounter when we align ourselves with those who choose to live against God's ways?
 - a. What are we to always be doing on behalf of those who live against God?

3. What message do we find in verses 3-6?

4. To whom should we turn and what should we keep? (v6)

Day 4 Pray for Missionaries

Step 1 God's Word- Read the passage given below from your Bible. As you read, highlight or underline a verse that stood out to you the most and write it below.

Hosea 12:7-11

Step 2 Comprehend the Word- What does the verse mean?

Step 3 Connect It To You - What does the verse mean to me?

Step 4 Cross Thoughts- Record cross reference verse(s) or other verses that came to mind.

Step 5 Call to Action- How will I respond and what will I do differently?

Theme: _____

Digging Deeper

The stories and pictures God paints for us in the book of Hosea sound so familiar to us in the 21st century don't they? CEOs of big corporations, individual men and women who seek after wealth at any cost, and boast about their wealth believing that they 'deserve' all this abundance *they* have attained and some obtained the wealth dishonestly. Let's look at the opposite of dishonesty.

Definition: *Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*

Honest, Honestly, Honesty: being good, admirable, becoming, also has the ethical meaning of what is "fair, right, honorable, conduct that deserves esteem.

1. What is said about the merchant/trader? (v7)

2. Using your concordance find one scripture dealing with honesty or being honorable. Write it out below and share why you chose that verse.

3. What did Ephraim boast about?

4. What does Psalm 49:6-8 say about those who trust in their wealth?

5. How has the Lord spoken? (v10, 13)

6. What will happen in these last days according to Acts 2:17-21?

Day 5 Pray for your Bible teacher and small group**Read Hosea 11 or 12 to complete today's homework**

We are approaching today's lesson using the S.O.A.P method. "S.O.A.P. stands for Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer. It's a great way to delve more deeply into your Bible reading, and record your thoughts, emotions and observations when studying Scripture. S.O.A.P. is meant to be a journal you create with your regular Bible reading, but it can also be an effective tool to help you connect with particular passages."

Scripture: What verse from the entire chapter stood out for you today?

Observation: What did you notice today that you had not seen before?

Application: What do you have to do or change to apply what you learned today?

Prayer: Write a prayer of repentance, praise, thanksgiving...whatever the Spirit is leading you to do.