

Hosea 1:1–3 Love Pursues the Wandering Heart  
Calvary Chapel Titusville 8/23/26  
Pastor Paul Andris

Hosea is not an abstract book about religious failure. Nor a prophetic lecture on national decline. It's the story of a faithful God pursuing an unfaithful people.

***Our unfaithfulness reveals the astonishing depth of God's faithful love.***

*The word of the LORD that came to Hosea the son of Beeri, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, [and] Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel. (Hosea 1:1 NKJV)*

Hosea begins where ministry must begin: ***With the Word of the Lord.***

***Prosperity is not the same thing as spiritual health.***

*"Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'--and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked-- (Revelation 3:17 NKJV)*

God's Word gets the final word on our condition.

*The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever." (Isaiah 40:8 NKJV)*

***God's confrontation is an expression of His mercy.***

*When the LORD began to speak by Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea: "Go, take yourself a wife of harlotry And children of harlotry, For the land has committed great harlotry [By departing] from the LORD." (Hosea 1:2 NKJV)*

Idolatry is adultery because God's people belong to Him.

***Sin is not only lawbreaking; it is love-breaking.***

Israel's adultery was expressed through idolatry.

*"For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, [And] hewn themselves cisterns--broken cisterns that can hold no water. (Jeremiah 2:13 NKJV)*

Hosea says Israel has not just broken rules; they betrayed love.

***This is Sin: The heart leaves first, and everything else follows.***

*"'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' "This is [the] first and great commandment. (Matthew 22:37-38 NKJV)*

Whatever captures the heart will direct the life.

*So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son. (Hosea 1:3 NKJV)*

Faith acts on what God has said.

God calls every believer to costly obedience.

*Then He said to [them] all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. (Luke 9:23 NKJV)*

Jesus came full of grace and truth. We need both.

***God sometimes forms the messenger through the message.***

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*who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. (2 Corinthians 1:4 NKJV)*

The deepest ministry often comes from those God has met in their pain.

Jesus is the greater Bridegroom.

*Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. (Ephesians 5:25-27 NKJV)*

Jesus does not find a flawless bride and then decide to love her.

***The gospel is not an unfaithful bride making herself worthy; It is a faithful Bridegroom pursuing, redeeming, cleansing, and preparing her for Himself.***

*If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself. (2 Timothy 2:13 NKJV)*

That does not minimize sin. It magnifies grace.

Respond to God's pursuit with repentance and faith.

*But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8 NKJV)*

The cross is proof: our sin is serious.

Yet His love is greater than our rebellion.

The faithful Bridegroom has gone all the way to Calvary for His bride.

He died. He rose. He saves.

His Word calls: come home to faithful love.