



The Bride No One Wants, Except...

Hosea 1:1-3

A Little Bit of History

Verse 1

- Hosea:
- Israel & Judah:

When God Uses You to Give an Object Lesson

Verses 2-3

THE PROBLEM → God's people have been _____ to the Lord.

THE SYMBOLISM → "A promiscuous woman" = the _____ of _____.

THE LESSON → God wants us to understand that our own unfaithfulness to him is just like _____ ... yet he remains a faithful _____.

How to Respond to an Ever-Faithful God

(1) _____ out any _____ idols in your heart.
Psalms 26:2; 139:23

(2) _____ those idols to the Lord.
James 5:16; 1 John 1:9

(3) Rest in being _____ and _____.
Romans 7:24-25; Ephesians 1:7; Luke 15:11-24; 1 John 2:1

(4) _____ the Lord your God with all your _____.
Deuteronomy 6:5; Matthew 22:37; Mark 12:30; Luke 10:27; 1 John 2:5



The Bride No One Wants, Except... Hosea 1:1-3

A Little Bit of History

Verse 1

- Hosea:
- Israel & Judah:

When God Uses You to Give an Object Lesson

Verses 2-3

THE PROBLEM → God's people have been **UNFAITHFUL** to the Lord.

THE SYMBOLISM → "A promiscuous woman" = the **PEOPLE** of **GOD**.

THE LESSON → God wants us to understand that our own unfaithfulness to him is just like **ADULTERY...** yet he remains a faithful **HUSBAND**.

How to Respond to an Ever-Faithful God

(1) **SEARCH** out any **SUBTLE** idols in your heart.

Psalms 26:2; 139:23

(2) **CONFESS** those idols to the Lord.

James 5:16; 1 John 1:9

(3) Rest in being **FORGIVEN** and **EMBRACED**.

Romans 7:24-25; Ephesians 1:7; Luke 15:11-24; 1 John 2:1

(4) **LOVE** the Lord your God with all your **HEART**.

Deuteronomy 6:5; Matthew 22:37; Mark 12:30; Luke 10:27; 1 John 2:5

For Further Study

Getting Started

1. In what ways is the marriage between Hosea and Gomer symbolic of God's relationship to his people?

Digging Deeper

2. Read Ephesians 5:22-33. In what ways has Jesus been a good husband to the church? In what ways can the church be a good bride to Jesus?
3. Read 1 John 2:3-6. What relationship do you see between loving God and obeying him? What does this further teach you about the ways we can love God?
4. Inevitably, we sometimes struggle with our obedience to the Lord. Read 1 John 2:1. What assurance does this text give you? How does this encourage you in your daily walk with Jesus?
5. Read Luke 15:11-24. How is the younger son in Jesus' story symbolic of someone with a broken relationship with God? How is the father in the story symbolic of our heavenly Father?

Driving It Home

6. In your own relationship with the Lord, how does it encourage you to know you can rest in his forgiveness and welcoming embrace?
7. Read 1 John 4:19. Given God's great love for you, how are you encouraged this week to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart"?