



# DISCUSSION GUIDE

## Hosea - God's History Lessons

### GETTING STARTED

What is one lesson from your past is a reminder of God's mercy to you as a sinner in need of a Savior? How can this keep us oriented towards depending on God, and not ourselves?

### QUICK REACTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?  
What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?

God reveals three negative types or "shadows" from Israel's history...

1. Jacob's deceitfulness and his blessing
2. Israel's wilderness rebellion
3. Israe's choice of King Saul

Dave said, if you refuse to deal with your past, often your past will deal with you. In what way is this true of Israel?

How can this be true of us?

In what way does Christ life, death and resurrection break the cycle of God's faithfulness and our unfaithfulness?

What does it mean that "in Christ" we have been given a new name, a new identity and a new mission? How can we lose sight of this reality?

What do you think Dave meant when he said, Your history is a good reference, but a terrible residence?

What would it mean for you to pay attention to Hosea at the end of chapter 14..."let those who are wise understand these things, let those with discernment listen carefully"?

### EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [Hosea 12-14]

(Yes, these questions can seem silly, however, good discussion and interpretation of the Bible begins with having a proper understanding of the basic facts; who, what, when, and where in the text.) Work through this quickly, the answers are fairly obvious.

What lessons from history did God mention? (12:3-6, 12-13)

What fierce doom did Israel face? (13:1-16)

How could Israel avoid the fire of judgment? (14:1-3)

What was the promise of restoration? (14:4-6)

How would the Lord protect and prosper His people? (14:7-8)

What was Hosea's concluding word of wisdom? (14:9)

What final challenge did Hosea leave the people? (14:9)

## QUESTIONS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TEXT

How have past events affected your present walk with the Lord?

When has godly discipline been a blessing in your life?

What parts of Israel's history was forgotten by Hosea's time? In what ways is it important to remember our history (without living in it) to keep us receptive to God's love?

In what way does the cross of Jesus reconcile God's anger or wrath in the OT?

Why is God's "loving kindness" and justice an important part of being a Christian?

What does God "require" most from His people?

## APPLY THE PASSAGE

What do we learn about God and about ourselves in this passage?

What do you need to stop, start or do differently as a result of reading this passage?

How can we pray for each other?