

Hosea – God’s Relentless Love

Mercy over Sacrifice

NOTE GUIDE

SERIES GOAL

That together we would be invited to honestly examine our own hearts, recognize the idols and false hopes we are prone to trust, and grow more deeply thankful for the grace of God that redeems, restores, and leads us into fruitful life with Him.

THIS WEEK'S ANCHOR QUESTION

When we bring God our worship, what is it that He desires from us?

SCRIPTURE

Hosea 5:1-6:6

DATE

10/18/26

SPEAKER

Pastor Chris Lenhart

God sees beneath the offering. (5:1-7)

Alarm, Wound, and the call to Return (5:8-6:3)

See also: Deut. 19:14, 27:17; 2 Kings 15:19-20, Hos. 3:4-5; Deut. 4:27-31; Romans 11:25-29, Deut. 11:13-17

Hosea's turn of words: Beth-aven = _____ contrasted to Bethel = _____.

Hosea's images of judgment: m_____; d_____; l_____.

One of Hosea's Key Features: "shuv" meaning "return." 5:15 & 6:1.

God desires love that remains. (6:4-5)

God desires and delights in Mercy. (6:6)

See also: Matthew 9:9-13, 12:1-8 [7],

Return: A Love that lasts Beyond Sunday

Three Questions to Carry before the Lord:

Where might we be withholding an honest response to Him?

Who might we need to see with eyes of greater mercy?

What would it mean for this love to remain?

HOLDING TENSION: questions, convictions, prompts for further study...

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A guide for personal or family devotion time, or small group or ABF

Pray	Ask Jesus to guide your time. Pray through requests for family, church, community, career, friends, etc.
Focus	When we bring God our worship, what is it that He desires from us?
Read	Hosea 5:1-6:6 (Read in 2 different versions)
Reflect or Discuss	1. “Our offerings cannot cover our refusal to repent.” – <i>Where might I be using worship, service, or giving to quiet guilt while avoiding confession and repentance?</i> 2. “Recognizing the wound is not yet acknowledging guilt.” – <i>How might I distinguish a desire for relief from a willingness to face my own wrongdoing?</i> 3. “Does love remain when the music ends, the crisis passes, or obedience becomes inconvenient?” – <i>What do I need to notice about the places where my love endures or fades? What might God be showing me?</i> 4. “Who has become easier for us to label or classify than to care for?” – <i>What assumptions shape how I see that person? What might listening with humility help me to understand?</i> 5. “We can confess honestly because our hope rests in Him.” – <i>How does Jesus’ finished work give me courage to tell the truth about my sin? What do I need to bring to Him today?</i>
Respond	Where might I be withholding an honest response to God? Bring to the Lord what has surfaced. Where is wrongdoing clear, what does repentance and appropriate repair require? Who do I need to see with eyes of greater mercy? Consider this person(s) life and my own assumptions. How could mercy involve listening, an apology, practical care, or a wise boundary? What would it mean for this love to remain? Some responses become clear quickly. Others need prayer, counsel, and careful, patient attention. What might help us remain with faithful endurance over time?