

# Relentless Love: Forgiveness

## ICE BREAKER QUESTIONS

Do you have favourites? Do you have a favourite child, sibling, or teacher?  
Why?

## WORD

### ***Hosea 1:1-3***

*1 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's Wife and Children 2 When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, "Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the Lord." 3 So he went and took Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.*

The story of the prophet Hosea is an incredible illustration of God's relationship with His people. The four major themes of the Old Testament book of Hosea reveal that God's relentless love is truly boundless. His sovereignty is boundless. His compassion is boundless. His promises are not bound by the actions of His people. And the means by which He will go to to bring His people back to Him are not boundless.

There is a pattern of unfaithfulness from the people of Israel to God. God is faithful to the people of Israel in delivering them from Egypt. We can also see a pattern of sin when looking at the specific kings mentioned in the scripture infecting the nation of Israel through their rule

The meaning of Relentless love is not giving up. It is strongly impressed love. Also it means, transformative love or assertive love

Hosea's action of taking on a prostitute as a wife symbolizes the covenant relationship that God has with the people of Israel. Hosea represents God, and Gomer represents the people of Israel

This symbolism focuses more so on the unity between two people and therefore the promise of faithfulness and loyalty and devotion. But also represents God relentless love towards the people of Israel. Hosea's unity with a prostitute represents God's relationship with a nation that has been unfaithful to the covenant they created

## DISCUSSION

Have you experienced the Relentless love of God in your life? Please share your experience.

## WORD

### THREE THINGS TO UNDERSTAND THE TRUE SCOPE OF GOD`S RELENTLESS LOVE AND HIS ABILITY T FORGIVE

#### 1. God`s forgiveness is unconditional

The reflection of God's love through Hosea reminds us of the scripture where husband are commanded to love their wives as Christ loved the church (Ephesians 5:25) which is essentially a promise that we as man will vow to love our wives through thick and thin, sickness or health, we will make the active choice to love them no matter what

Hosea in this situation knows that by getting into this type of relationship it would take a lot of trust, patience, and compassion. Especially since at any moment Gomer could fall back into her old ways.

In the same way God loves us sinful or not, holy or not, regardless he will make the active choice to forgive us and give us that opportunity to meet His standard. And he never requires us to be perfect in order to enter his presence, rather he invites us into his presence and to therefore be transformed by it

### **1 John 1:9 (ESV)**

*"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

### **2 .God's forgiveness is not limited**

God's Forgiveness is not limited to a set number of times, as long as we truly repent in our hearts and humble ourselves to the Lord. And in doing so He will be faithful to forgive us. This is important because in life we have a tendency to make mistakes. Whether the mistake be as big as Gomers or small like lying, at the end of the day we are sinners.

But God will give us as many tries as we need, to walk with him and pursue righteousness

### **Micah 7:18-19 (ESV)**

*"Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea."*

### **3. God's forgiveness is an intentional gift.**

#### **John 3:16**

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

## **DISCUSSION**

Do you honestly believe that God forgives your sins simply because you read the Bible more, go to church, or help others? Why or Why not?

## **LIFE APPLICATION**

God looks at us and sees that we are lost without him, that on our own we are incapable of experiencing the blessings of his creation to its truest form. And he sees that we are blinded by our knowledge of good and evil and how we keep choosing the wrong choices

And in order to properly understand how badly we need this specific gift we must understand the state we are in without this gift.

God`s love is relentless to us and so with sin is relentless to our lives. Let us pursue God`s love. As sin is relentless, the more we go closer to Him and receive His relentless love. We cannot resist sin on our own, we need Him in our lives as we receive God`s forgiveness.

Without forgiveness and the ability to be in right standing with God through that forgiveness. we would be in a constant fight for our lives with sin and the lies of the enemy.

We would be left vulnerable against attacks of anxiety and depression and worry. And left without a sense of direction these things would cause us to rely on vices like porn, drugs, alcohol.

We would be no different to the Israelite people worshiping their idols because instead in this modern day these vices would become our idols.

## DISCUSSION

What is your take away on this weeks message? Please share.

## VERSE TO MEDITATE ON

*Psalm 103:8 NIV*

*The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.*

## PRAYER

Share your prayer request and answered prayer. Pray for one another and throughout this week.



All rights reserved. This material maybe copied for personal use, but may not republished, modified, or sold in any manner without written consent of Every Nation Church East Calgary

