

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: September 13, 2023
Hosea 2

1. What is the word given from God in 2:2?
 - A. Say “Rebuke your mother...”
 - B. Tell her to remove the adulterous look from her face.

2. Wow, 2:3-5 seems pretty intense and over the top. Why is God speaking like this?
 - A. Well, first of all, it seems over the top because we have normalized sexual promiscuity and unfaithfulness in our culture. There was a time when it was a major big deal...and it probably still should be to us, because it is to God.
 - B. Keeping in mind Leviticus 20:10, “If a man commits adultery with another man’s wife—with the wife of his neighbor—both the adulterer and the adulteress are to be put to death,” I’m not sure this is far out of line.
 - C. Well, the beginning of this text does not specifically say that it is “the Word of the Lord.” It appears to be coming from the mouth of Hosea and we are assuming, since he is a prophet, that this is the Word of the Lord. God specifically instructed Hosea to marry her for the purpose of Hosea being able to share with Israel, from a place of understanding, how God feels about unfaithfulness. What would you say? If Hosea is truly feeling the way God feels about unfaithfulness, aren’t his words the heart of God? What God actually does after He has felt this way, might be different, but let’s not forget how he feels.

3. What does Hosea say in 2:5-8?
 - A. He says he will block her path with thornbushes so she can’t go after her lovers.
 - B. He says he will wall her in so she cannot find her way.
 - C. He is devising plans to keep her from finding the lovers she goes after.
 - D. He is trying to get her to say: “I will go back to my husband as at first for then I was better off than now.”

4. What do you think God does when we are running after everything and everyone but Him?
 - A. He just let’s us go.
 - B. Huh. Maybe that explains why I’ve sometimes felt like I was banging my head against a wall trying to get somewhere and I knew it wasn’t where God wanted me to go (See also the book of Jonah).

5. What is 2:8 talking about? _____

6. Do we remember who our provider is or are we looking around for other provisions? _____

7. What is the response in 2:9-13? _____

8. What does 2:14-15 suggest is Hosea’s (and God’s) goal, even after all this unfaithfulness? _____

9. Verse 16 says “...declares the Lord.” Now we have clearly God’s word. What is the story that God tells in 16-23? _____
