



Genre: Prophetic Language (prophets used poetic and narrative language to communicate their message).

Read: Hosea 1

Setting: Place – Northern Kingdom Time – 753-723 BC

Key People: Author – Hosea Audience – Israel, the Northern Kingdom

Drama: Hosea was called to experience and illustrate the anguish caused by an unfaithful wife by marrying a harlot who would cheat on him. Israel was unfaithful to the Lord by worshiping idols and rejecting the holiness in His Law.

READ {Hosea 1:1-2} Discovery: Hosea marries an unfaithful wife to illustrate Israel's unfaithfulness to God.

1 **REFLECT** – God views His people as His _____ wife _____ and expects us to be faithful to Him only.

RESPOND – Identify how you are committing spiritual adultery against God.

READ {Hosea 1:3-5} Discovery: Hosea's first child was called Jezreel, which means "God sows" or "God scatters."

2 **REFLECT** – Unfaithfulness to God leads to _____ destruction _____ by God.

RESPOND – Check yourself before you wreck yourself.

READ {Hosea 1:6-7} Discovery: Hosea's second child was named Lo-Ruhamah, which means "not loved" or "no mercy."

3 **REFLECT** – Your sin can make you feel _____ far _____ from God's love.

RESPOND – Draw near to God through prayer and obedience and He will draw near to you. James 4:17

READ {Hosea 1:8-9} Discovery: Hosea's third child is named Lo - Ammi, which means "not my people."

4 **REFLECT** – In what ways has your _____ behavior _____ disqualified you from being identified with Jesus?

RESPOND – Like Peter after he denied Jesus, repent and return to Him with a humble heart.

READ {Hosea 1:10-11} Discovery: God proclaims future restoration of His relationship with Israel.

5 **REFLECT** – God provides _____ hope _____ to the hopeless.

RESPOND – Take advantage of God's mercy and repent.

NOTES:



"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood" 1 Peter 2:9-10

Using the guidelines below, here is a daily Bible text for you to READ, REFLECT and RESPOND.

MON – Jeremiah 18:1-11

WED – Ezekiel 2-3

FRI – Ezekiel 5-6

TUE – Jeremiah 19

THU – Ezekiel 4

SAT – Isaiah 5

SUN – Micah 6



Read and discover what God communicated to the people at the time of the writing.

Read the text 2-3 times and identify either:

1. Who is the Law Enforcer (Prophet)?
When possible, identify if there is a unique God experience in the prophet's life.
2. To whom are they enforcing loyalty to the law?
3. In what ways has the nation or the individual been un-loyal to God's law?
4. Identify the curses or blessings being pronounced.
5. Identify what new behavior God is seeking through the Law Enforcer's message.



Reflect, pray and determine what God is communicating to us in the present.

Write, in your own words, a 2-3 sentence prayer or revelation summarizing how the message of the prophet has challenged you to obey God.



Respond and do something!

Do something by praying and deciding what God wants to do in and through you in the future. Identify the steps of faith you need to take in order to facilitate God's promises. What am I going to do to apply my faith to be more of who God wants me to be? Is there sin to repent of? Is there something you can praise God for? Is there someone you need to forgive, serve or speak to? How are you worshipping God in your life?

Further applications – Send a challenge to people in your acquaintance. Be bold in what the Lord is showing you as a step of faith. Use social media to spread the Word of God (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Blog, email, etc.).

Devotional necessities: A Bible, pen or pencil, notebook or journal, a quiet place, a regular time, a prayerful heart of faith

BOOK FOUR:

LAW ENFORCEMENT

LAW ENFORCEMENT: PROPHETIC LANGUAGE

{God's Prophets, or Law Enforcers, were messengers of God sent to enforce loyalty to God's law.}

GENRE – Prophetic Language (The prophets used poetic and narrative language, parables, riddles and enactments to communicate their message.)

READING RULES – Read the text 2-3 times and identify either:

1. Who is the Law Enforcer (Prophet)?
When possible, identify if there is a unique God experience in the prophet's life.
2. To whom are they enforcing loyalty to the law?
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Note: look for unique ways in which the prophets communicated their message. Real life enactments, riddles, sermons, etc...