

Hosea 11-14 Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. From Hosea 12:6-11 what should Ephraim's response have been (v6), but what was it (v7, 8, 11)? What had God done for them that made this so wrong (v9, 10)?

5. Using 12:12-14 how had God treated current Israel better than even Jacob (v12-13)? How had reacted to this (14) and what would happen to them (v14)?

6. Looking at 13:1-3 what was Ephraim's status at one time (v1) and why did this change (v1, 2)? What would their status become (v3)? Apply.

7. According to 13:4-11 what had God done for Ephraim (v4, 5, 11) and how did they treat Him (v6, 9, 10)? What would be the result (v7-8, 9, 10, 11)?

8. From 13:12-16 what was stored up for Ephraim (v12) and how did this relate to their ultimate destiny (v14, compare 1 Cor 15:55)? How would God judge them (v15-16)?

9. Read 14:1-3. What was Israel told to do (v1) and how (v2)? What did they have to believe (v3) and how can you apply that to your life?

10. In 14:4-9 how would God respond to Israel (v4, 5) and what would result (v5-7)? How does 14:8-9 summarize Hosea's prophecy?

11. Review all the ways God showed His love in the book of Hosea. How has He done that in your life, and how are you responding to that today?

Scripture to Remember

"Therefore, return to your God, observe kindness and justice, and wait for your God continually."

Hosea 12:6 (NASV)

Celebration Fellowship

Help—Hope—Healing

We're on the web

www.thehospitalchurch.com

Life Group Questions—Watch Your Life (1 Timothy 4:16)

(Using questions based on today's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. Think back to the days following 9-11. What were some of the changes in your life—thoughts and actions? Why? Does it affect you today personally? Why or why not?
2. Read 1 Timothy 4:16. What are we told to do, and how are we encouraged? How would you define "keep a close watch" and why is this important?
3. Who or what are some of the "terrorists" that can destroy us if we don't keep a close watch on our life and teaching?
4. Discuss how we can keep a close watch on our lives spiritually, and what areas this actually involves.
5. What "teachings" do we have to take a close look at? What have you been taught in your life (past or present) that keeps you from abiding in the truth of God's word?
6. Talk about why applying this principle to your life will insure that you "save both yourself and your hearers". Specifically share how you can apply this principle.
7. If there is time bring up anything else from the message that you would like to talk about.



IN YOUR FACE

Studies in the Minor Prophets

May 18, 2008

Growing in Spirit & Truth

Volume 6, Issue 29



I Will Always Love You

Introduction to Hosea 11-14



It is good for God to get in our face and straighten us up through His Word.

The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God’s pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God’s family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

In 1992 Whitney Houston recorded the hit song, “I Will Always Love You”, which told the story of one who would never stop loving another. This is God’s story about Israel; no matter what she would do, or had done, He would never stop loving her. As a picture of this unending love He had instructed His prophet, Hosea, to marry an unfaithful woman, and then to take her back after she committed adultery on him. This week’s study is the final picture in Hosea of just how much God really loves His people. As Hosea 11 begins God’s grace on Israel is revisited. He had called them from Egypt, their place of bondage, but the more He called to them the more they ran the other way. He had taught them to walk, had healed them, had led them and liber-

ated them. Yet they refused to return to Him so He promised a sword would whirl against their cities. When God thought about giving them up, though, it stirred up His compassion for them instead. Because He is the Holy One who lives with Him people He would not come in wrath, although he would roar at them to bring them back. Even then, Israel would lie to Him and be unruly in their behavior. In Hosea 12-13 the consequences of their disobedience were reviewed. Their pursuit of foreign alliances, their deceit, and their pride would lead God to turn them over to their evil. Instead of acknowledging their guilt they decided to take credit for God’s blessings and to “act” like they were faithful. As a result they would dissipate like morning

clouds, and God, instead of being their Savior, would become like a lion to them; His compassion towards them would be hidden. Finally, though, Israel was called to return to God. He would take them back, heal their apostasy, and love them freely. They would blossom like the lily, they would be beautiful and fragrant, and would raise grain once again. All of this would come from Him, and not their idols; the wise person would understand this and walk in the Lord’s ways. He had shown that he would always love them.

Daily Study Questions for Hosea 11-14

(For answers to questions attend an ABF or go to www.celebrationnet.com, small groups, abf)

<p>1. Read Hosea 11:1-7. What had God done for Israel (v1, 3, 4) and how had they responded (v2, 5, 7)? What would happen to them (v5, 6)?</p>	
<p>2. Using 11:8-12 what was God’s attitude to Ephraim/Israel (v8) and why (v8, 9)? How did they act towards God (v12) and what would He do (v10-11)?</p>	
<p>3. Looking at 12:1-5 what did Ephraim/Jacob do wrong (v1)? How had he done this from the beginning (v3), but how had he turned this into good at one time (v4-5; compare Gen 32:24-32)?</p>	

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