

2018-2019

prone  
TO  
wander  
Left

*Calvary Chapel Miami Ladies' Bible Study*  
through the minor prophets, **Hosea & Joel**,  
adapted from Proverbs 31 Ministries experience guide.

*"I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness,  
And you shall know the LORD."  
Hosea 2:20*

## 2018–2019 CALENDAR

Date	Lesson	Details
September 11	Welcome & Introduction	Special Event   7 pm
September 25	Lesson 1	Hosea 1 & 2
October 9	Lesson 2	Hosea 3 & 4
October 23	Lesson 3	Hosea 5 & 6
November 13	Lesson 4	Hosea 7 & 8
November 27	Lesson 5	Hosea 9 & 10
December 11	Christmas Dinner	Special Event   7 pm
January 8	Lesson 6	Hosea 11 & 12
January 22	Lesson 7	Hosea 13 & 14
February 12	Introduction	Overview of Joel
February 26	Lesson 8	Joel 1
March 12	Lesson 9	Joel 2
March 26	Lesson 10	Joel 3
April 9	Closing Dinner	Special Event   7 pm

## Dear Sisters!

It is with great joy that we welcome you to our ladies' Bible study, *Prone to Wander*. In an age when so many things are competing for our hearts' attention, we need to be constantly reminded of what is essential: a personal, deep relationship with Jesus Christ. Nothing is more important than your walk with the Lord. Knowing this truth isn't enough, we must live it out. As we study Hosea and Joel, we will hear many warnings, receive many teachings, share many lessons, seize many promises, and take in much correction, thereby we will reap many blessings. May it not stop there; as we receive may we also pour out, refreshing others whom the world has left dry and thirsty.

The writings of Hosea and Joel are dated thousands of years ago, yet as with the whole Word of God, the teachings and the applications found are meaningful and needful today. The voice of the Lord does not change. He is ready and willing to speak to us—to you—personally. Devote your time and your heart to Lord as you follow this study, and you will grow. He is willing. Are you ready? Let's grow together!

fellow servants,

Ladies' Ministry  
Calvary Chapel Miami

## Why the minor prophets?

### Prophecy

Strong's Concordance defines the New Testament word for prophecy as "a discourse emanating from divine inspiration and declaring the purposes of God, whether by reproving and admonishing the wicked, or comforting the afflicted, or revealing things hidden; especially by foretelling future events." Both the Old and New Testament scriptures are filled with prophecies concerning Christ, the books of Hosea and Joel are no different. Within their chapters,

### Introductions

The English Standard Version (ESV) of the Bible provided the following introductions for the books of Hosea and Joel.

#### The name Hosea means "salvation"

Hosea has been called the "death-bed prophet of Israel" because he was the last to prophesy before the northern kingdom fell to Assyria (about 722 b.c.). His ministry followed a golden age in the northern kingdom, with a peace and prosperity not seen since the days of Solomon.

Unfortunately, with this prosperity came moral decay, and Israel forsook God to worship idols. So God instructed Hosea to marry a "wife of whoredom" (1:2), whose unfaithfulness to her husband would serve as an example of Israel's unfaithfulness to God. Hosea then explained God's complaint against Israel and warned of the punishment that would come unless the people returned to the Lord and remained faithful to him. The book shows the depth of God's love for his people, a love that tolerates no rivals.

#### The name Joel means "Yahweh is God"

Little is known about the prophet Joel, although his concern for Judah and Jerusalem suggests that he ministered in Judah. Joel told of a locust plague that had struck Israel and which, he said, foreshadowed the "day of the Lord." The day of the Lord was a time greatly anticipated by the Israelites because they believed that God would then judge the nations and restore Israel to her former glory. Yet, said Joel, God would punish not only the nations but unfaithful Israel as well. Joel urged everyone to repent, and told of a day when God would "pour out [his] Spirit on all flesh" (2:28). That day arrived on the first Christian Pentecost (Acts 2:17). While the date of the book is uncertain (ninth to sixth century b.c.), its message is valid for all time.

## LESSON 1

**Part A** Read Hosea 1 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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**MAJOR MOMENT:** God instructs Hosea to marry an unfaithful woman.

Hosea's story is one of immense obedience and reliance on God. In Hosea 1:1, we see that he ministered to God's people throughout many kingships. As we read through Hosea, reflect on his obedience and trust in the midst of great calamity – both nationally and personally.

2. What reasoning did God give Hosea when instructing him to marry an unfaithful woman? (Hosea 1:2)

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3. According to verse 4, why is Israel going to be punished? (2 Kings 9:14-28)  
Why was this wrong? (1 Samuel 24:6)?

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4. What are the names of Hosea's three children? What do their names mean?  
How are they contrasted to the meaning of Hosea's name— salvation?  
(Hosea 1:4-9)

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5. Christ Jesus used the life of His servant as a tangible message for His people. How are we instructed to live as Christ's tangible message? Read the verses in the chart, then write how each scripture instructs believers to live.

John 13:34-35	
Romans 8:29	
2 Corinthians 3:18	
Ephesians 4:24	
Hebrews 1:3	
1 Peter 4:11	

**Part B** Read Hosea 2 and pray that the Lord would open your heart to hear from Him.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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MAJOR MOMENT: Israel's punishment and restoration is foretold.

2. The metaphor of Israel as an unfaithful wife is used many times throughout the Old Testament. (Ezekiel 16, 23; Jeremiah 2-3; Isaiah 1:21) How is marriage a reflection of Jesus Christ and His people? (2 Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:22-32)

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3. Read Hosea 2:5.

- a) What does it mean that God's people went to other lovers instead of to God? \_\_\_\_\_

- b) What were they trusting their "other lovers" to provide?

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- c) What could these provisions represent?

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4. What was the primary cause that led Israel (the unfaithful wife) to go looking for someone other than God (her husband). (Hosea 2:7-8)

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5. What were the consequences of Israel's unfaithfulness (Hosea 2:9-13)?

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6. What was is the Lord's desire for those whom He chastens?

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**Personal Application** Israel did not know that it was the Lord who was providing for her all along. She grew dissatisfied and did not trust Christ—His provision, His timing, His will, His heart for her. This inward sin took place long before her outward rebellion and wayward idolatry. When has dissatisfaction caused you to wander from God? Confess to the Lord. Allow Him to change your heart. Write a prayer below asking Christ to change you inwardly and outwardly. Begin once again to trust Him wholeheartedly. Repent and receive His forgiveness.

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**Part C** Read Hosea 1-2 again. Pray that He would reveal Himself to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading. (You may rewrite previous verses if they best summarize both chapters.)

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2. Write the facts (events, directions, instructions) of chapters 1-2.

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3. Looking back at Parts A-B for Lesson 1, which correlating scripture (Bible verse not found in Hosea 1-2), spoke most to your mind and/or heart? Why?

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4. What do your answers to questions 2-3 reveal about the human heart? What do they reveal about God's character?

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5. How should the believer allow the Lord to shape her life (thoughts, emotions, words, actions) based on God's character as revealed in these chapters?

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## LESSON 2

**Part A** Read Hosea 3 and pray that the Lord would open your heart to hear from Him.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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MAJOR MOMENT: Hosea reconciles with his wife

2. Based on Hosea 2, why is it significant that Hosea reconciles with his wife?

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3. Hosea purchased back his wife, just as Jesus purchased back His people. What was Gomer's responsibility after Hosea redeemed her? (2:2-3)

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What should our responsibilities be?

- a) 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Galatians 3:13-14 \_\_\_\_\_
- c) Titus 2:14 \_\_\_\_\_
- d) 1 Peter 1:18-21 \_\_\_\_\_

4. The "last days" or "end of days" is often used as a reference to the end of time as is known in human history. It is then that Christ will judge all the sin of the world, heal all wounds, right all wrongs, and spend eternity with all the saints. Knowing this, what is God's ultimate plan for His people? (3:5)

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**Part B** Read Hosea 4 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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**MAJOR MOMENT:** Hosea proclaims God's judgment on Israel.

2. It wasn't just God's people who were affected by the consequences for breaking covenant, but their land and animals as well. Why was this? (Hosea 4:2-3; Deuteronomy 28:18-24)

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3. The people were stumbling and the prophets and priest were stumbling right along with them (4:5-9). Because of their calling, position, and example, the prophets and priests led God's people further into sin and wickedness. What were they forgetting that allowed this to happen?

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4. Some of the Israelites's consequences were not direct punishment, but stemmed from a general unwillingness to be shepherd by God ( 4:16). How can a believer allow themselves to be shepherd by Christ? How can they reject shepherding?

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**Personal Application** Israel did not realize how her rebellion would devastate her life, her family, and her nation. As a wise person once said, “Sin will take you further than you want to go, keep you longer than you want to stay, and cost you more than you want to pay.” Another aspect of this truth is that sin will hurt more people than you can ever expect. The fallout of sin affects so many because we are members of the body of Christ. ( 1 Corinthians 12: 12-22) Have you experienced consequences of someone else’s sin? Have your sins caused others to experience consequences? How did these different situations impact your relationship with Christ?

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Read Romans 12:3-5 and 1 Corinthians 12:12-27. How does knowing that we are the body of Christ keep us from sin? How does knowing this truth encourage us to help others overcome sin in their lives?

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Write a prayer to the Lord asking Him to strengthen you against any compromise that can lead to sin in your life. Then, intercede for someone else who is struggling with compromise.

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**Part C** Read Hosea 3-4 again. Pray that He would reveal Himself to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading. (You may rewrite previous verses if they best summarize both chapters.)

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2. Write the facts (events, directions, instructions) of chapters 3-4.

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3. Looking back at Parts A-B for Lesson 2, which correlating scripture (Bible verse not found in Hosea 3-4), spoke most to your mind and/or heart? Why?

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4. What do your answers to questions 2-3 reveal about the human heart? What do they reveal about God's character?

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5. How should the believer allow the Lord to shape her life (thoughts, emotions, words, actions) based on God's character as revealed in these chapters?

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## LESSON 3

**Part A** Read Hosea 5 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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**MAJOR MOMENT:** The priests and kings of Israel lead Israel further into lawlessness.

2. What three groups of people is Hosea addressing? Why might the priests be listed first? (5:1)

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3. The Israelites were trapped and ensnared by their sin; at the same time, their priest led them into worshipping other gods at Mizpah and Tabor. How does this relate to 1 John 4:1-6 and Acts 17:11?

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4. Read Hosea 5:4. Sin keeps us focused on ourselves and keeps us away from God. Our hearts begin to harbor spirits of sin and idolatry. How have your sins keep you or someone you know away from Jesus?

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5. What is the purpose of the judgement of the divine “Lion” in Hosea 5:14-15?

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**Part B** Read Hosea 6 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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MAJOR MOMENT: Israel is called to repentance.

2. How does Hosea 6:1-3 point to Christ’s redeeming sacrifice?

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3. How does God desire for His people to truly worship (6:6)?

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**Personal Application** In the prophets we see God repeatedly reiterate that He desires our hearts, but our hearts are prone to wander from Him, even from the very beginning (6:7). Have you seen this pattern in your life? Explain.

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**Part C** Read Hosea 5-6 again. Pray that He would reveal Himself to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading. (You may rewrite previous verses if they best summarize both chapters.)

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2. Write the facts (events, directions, instructions) of chapters 5-6.

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3. Looking back at Parts A-B for Lesson 3, which correlating scripture (Bible verse not found in Hosea 5-6), spoke most to your mind and/or heart? Why?

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4. What do your answers to questions 2-3 reveal about the human heart? What do they reveal about God's character?

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5. How should the believer allow the Lord to shape her life (thoughts, emotions, words, actions) based on God's character as revealed in these chapters?

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## LESSON 4

**Part A** Read Hosea 7 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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MAJOR MOMENT: The sins of Israel are listed.

Biblical prophecies are often warnings and commands. Because God's will is eternal and perfect, He gives us the opportunity to work within it. Our obedience and trust in Him determines the extent to which we participate in His kingdom.

2. Hosea 7 begins with God's intent to restore and to heal His people. What delays the healing and restoration?

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3. "Israel was inflamed with desire and passion after idols like the coals of a freshly stoked fire, ready to bake bread." -David Guzik

How does this comparison of sin to a hot fire express the heart condition of Israel?

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4. What evidence does this chapter present to God's patience and love for His people despite their condition?

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**Part B** Read Hosea 8 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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MAJOR MOMENT: Israel is to reap the whirlwind of God's judgment.

2. Israel called out to God to save them, but they refuse to change their actions. What does it mean to truly repent? What could Israel have done differently to walk in true repentance?

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3. What idol (god) did the Israelites choose over the one true God (8:4-6)?

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4. The concept of "sowing and reaping" is a theme seen throughout Scripture. Read the following Bible verses and write what each teaches concerning sowing and/or reaping.

"Sow the Wind"	Scripture	Explain
	Ecclesiastes 1:16-17	
	Hosea 8:7	
"Reap the Whirlwind"	Isaiah 66:15	
	Hosea 8:7	
	Nahum 1:3	



**Part C** Read Hosea 7-8 again. Pray that He would reveal Himself to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading. (You may rewrite previous verses if they best summarize both chapters.)

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2. Write the facts (events, directions, instructions) of chapters 7-8.

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3. Looking back at Parts A-B for Lesson 4, which correlating scripture (Bible verse not found in Hosea 7-8), spoke most to your mind and/or heart? Why?

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4. What do your answers to questions 2-3 reveal about the human heart? What do they reveal about God's character?

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5. How should the believer allow the Lord to shape her life (thoughts, emotions, words, actions) based on God's character as revealed in these chapters?

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## LESSON 5

**Part A** Read Hosea 9 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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**MAJOR MOMENT:** Hosea prophesies about the punishment of Israel.

Hosea continues to proclaim the impending exile of Israel. Not only will they be separate from their land, but they will be unable to keep their prescribed feasts and sacrifices (9:3-5). Because they were negligent, their opportunities to commune with God through these activities were to be temporarily revoked.

2. Although Israel may have been in a time of temporary earthly success, this was not a reason to rejoice. What would have been a reason to rejoice (9:1)?

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**Personal Application** Israel became more and more like what she loved. What do you love? How are you becoming like it?

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3. Read John 15:4. How does this scripture relate to verse 16?

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**Part B** Read Hosea 10 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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2. It can be easy to look at Israel and accuse her after reading of her ongoing sin. However, the Lord records her continued unfaithfulness to show that the same relentless mercy He offers Israel is also available to us. Why must we not lose sight of God's mercy when we see others in continued sin?

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3. It is likely that the high places mentioned in Hosea 10:8 originate from the ones set up in 1 Kings 12:28-30. Why do the high places hold the root of their wandering?

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4. How does a follower of Jesus "sow righteousness"?

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**Personal Application** To reap unfailing love, the Israelites would have to "break up their fallow ground." Define "fallow ground." What might it look like to break up your fallow ground?

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**Part C** Read Hosea 9-10 again. Pray that He would reveal Himself to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading. (You may rewrite previous verses if they best summarize both chapters.)

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2. Write the facts (events, directions, instructions) of chapters 9-10.

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3. Looking back at Parts A-B for Lesson 5, which correlating scripture (Bible verse not found in Hosea 9-10), spoke most to your mind and/or heart? Why?

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4. What do your answers to questions 2-3 reveal about the human heart? What do they reveal about God's character?

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5. How should the believer allow the Lord to shape her life (thoughts, emotions, words, actions) based on God's character as revealed in these chapters?

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## LESSON 6

**Part A** Read Hosea 11 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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MAJOR MOMENT: God reminds Israel of His love for them.

2. This chapter depicts God as the Father leading and caring for His child, Israel—specifically during their exodus from Egypt (Exodus 1-15). What does imagery bring to your mind (Hosea 11:1-4)?

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3. Keep in mind that the human relationships God uses to identify Himself through are just glimpses of His fullness for us to better understand who He is. Remember He is God and not man (11:9). Why is it important to know that God is different from humankind? How does this realization deepen our worship of Jesus as fully God and fully man?

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4. Israel had a devastating tendency to backslide. Using a dictionary, write the definition. What are some synonyms to *backslide*? (A thesaurus may be helpful.)

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5. God reminds Israel that He is *the Holy One who is Faithful*. How do God's holiness and faithfulness go hand in hand? How had Hosea expressed both God holiness and faithfulness working together in dealing with Israel's unfaithfulness?

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**Personal Application** How have you seen the Lord's holiness and His faithfulness working together in your life?

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Believers are called to walk in the "fear of the Lord." How does recognizing His holiness and His faithfulness ready our hearts and minds to "fear Him"?

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**Part B** Read Hosea 12 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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2. Jacob is one of the forefathers of Israel. God changed his name to Israel. Read Genesis 35:2-3. How did Jacob begin a new relationship with God at Bethel?

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3. In Hosea 12:6 *returning* to God is connected to *waiting* upon God. How does not waiting upon the Lord lead to going astray?

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4. Hosea, led by the Holy Spirit, calls Israel to remember how God's presence dwelt with them in the past. Why?

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5. In the verse of chapter 12, God declares Ephraim's choices and behaviors result in reproach. Looking back through chapter, why was Ephraim guilty?

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**Part C** Read Hosea 11-12 again. Pray that He would reveal Himself to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading. (You may rewrite previous verses if they best summarize both chapters.)

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2. Write the facts (events, directions, instructions) of chapters 11-12.

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3. Looking back at Parts A-B for Lesson 6, which correlating scripture (Bible verse not found in Hosea 11-12), spoke most to your mind and/or heart? Why?

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4. What do your answers to questions 2-3 reveal about the human heart? What do they reveal about God's character?

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5. How should the believer allow the Lord to shape her life (thoughts, emotions, words, actions) based on God's character as revealed in these chapters?

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## LESSON 7

**Part A** Read Hosea 13 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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**MAJOR MOMENT:** God's judgment revealed as a path to reconciliation.

2. Ephraim, one of Jacob's grandsons, had received a special blessing from Jacob (Genesis 48:20). How had Ephraim (his descendants) walked away from this blessing?

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3. God is eternal (13:2-5), but Israel changed. God reminds them of the time when Israel was aware of her need for Him. How does awareness of our need for Jesus keep us from sin?

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4. How does pride lead to forgetting God?

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5. "Even when Israel feels the sting of God's chastening hand, they can still find help from the LORD, if they will only turn to Him." - David Guzik

Why is God's judgment an expression of righteousness and mercy?

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How can it lead to reconciliation?

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**Personal Application** It can be difficult to picture our loving God as a lion, a leopard and a bear, but He is very specific in His comparisons as He deals with sin. Why should our hearts tremble when we realize God's intolerance for personal sin? Why should our hearts be comforted by the same realization?

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**Part B** Read Hosea 14 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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**MAJOR MOMENT:** Israel's repentance will bear fruit.

2. Israel is called to return from her iniquity. What is the first step of her repentance (14:2)? Why is confession an essential part of true repentance? (Romans 10:8-10)

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3. What is the second step of repentance (14:3,8)? Why is denouncing sinful ways so necessary to finding mercy—mercy that is there all along?

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**Personal Application** The imagery of restoration in verses 4-8 is truly moving. Here, God appeals to the senses to allow His people to picture themselves surrounded by Him, experiencing the fullness of restoration. How have you experienced His restoration? Write a prayer of praise.

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4. The final words of this book are a warning. How can the believer take these words to heart?

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5. Reflect on the life of Hosea. How did Hosea's experience with his wife illustrate the prophecies God entrusted him to share with Israel?

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**Part C** Read Hosea 13-14 again. Pray that He would reveal Himself to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading. (You may rewrite previous verses if they best summarize both chapters.)

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2. Write the facts (events, directions, instructions) of chapters 13-14.

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3. Looking back at Parts A-B for Lesson 7, which correlating scripture (Bible verse not found in Hosea 13-14), spoke most to your mind and/or heart? Why?

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4. What do your answers to questions 2-3 reveal about the human heart? What do they reveal about God's character?

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5. How should the believer allow the Lord to shape her life (thoughts, emotions, words, actions) based on God's character as revealed in these chapters?

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## LESSON 8

**Part A** Read Joel 1:1-10 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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MAJOR MOMENT: Joel prophesies of the plague of locust that came upon Israel.

2. What event does Joel point out to be God's judgement (1:1-4)? What past judgment should Israel have remembered (Exodus 10:1-20)?

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3. Joel specifically address the elders first then the inhabitants. Why are leaders held to high standard?

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4. Joel also specifically addresses the drunkards. What are they commanded to do? What warnings does Scripture contain for drunkenness?

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What is the contrasting behavior presented in 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Ephesians 5:18?

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**Part B** Read Joel 1: 11-20 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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MAJOR MOMENT: The people and the land face devastation.

2. Joel now begins to call the priest (1:13). What are the priest to do in response?

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3. What should make the priest mourn? What are they unable to do?

**Personal Application** The command “to mourn” as a response to sin is repeated in the Bible. Read James 4:4-10. How do you respond when sin is found in your life?

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Why does mourning over personal sin need to take place before healing and restoration? Write a prayer asking the Lord to make your heart mourn over the things that grieve Him. Remember Matthew 5:4, *Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.*

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4. Joel vividly describes a devastating drought. It affects everything in Judah, and wildfires ravage the dry land. How was this physical devastation an outward representation of the spiritual condition (inward)?

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**Part C** Read Joel 1 again. Pray that He would reveal Himself to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading. (You may rewrite previous verses if they best summarize both chapters.)

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2. Write the facts (events, directions, instructions) of chapter 1.

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3. Looking back at Parts A-B for Lesson 8, which correlating scripture (Bible verse not found in Joel 1), spoke most to your mind and/or heart? Why?

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4. What do your answers to questions 2-3 reveal about the human heart? What do they reveal about God's character?

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5. How should the believer allow the Lord to shape her life (thoughts, emotions, words, actions) based on God's character as revealed in these chapters?

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## LESSON 9

**Part A** Read Joel 2:1-17 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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MAJOR MOMENT: God calls His people to come to Him with true repentance.

2. The sounding of a trumpet can serve as a warning. According to Ezekiel 33:1-6, what is the responsibility of the watchmen (prophets)? What is the responsibility of the people?

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3. How does Joel describe the Day of the Lord? Why would the Holy Spirit want the reader to have this wording in understanding “the Day of the Lord”?

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4. Joel 2:13 reveals God’s desire when His people repent. What does He desire? \_\_\_\_\_

In times of mourning, Israelites would tear their clothing as a sign of distress. Why is this outward sign not enough?

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**Part B** Read Joel 1: 18-32 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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**MAJOR MOMENT:** The Lord will restore, and will pour out His Spirit.

2. God's love and His anger work for His glory. How does seeing His wrath develop a deeper understanding of His grace and compassion?

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3. Joel 1 speaks of devastating fire and drought. What does the Lord promise for physical restoration? How does it represent spiritual restoration (2:23)?

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4. Being baptized with the Holy Spirit, as prophesied by Joel, was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost. Read Acts 2:1-39. Notice the call to repentance in Joel 2 and Acts 2. Why is repentance an important sign of being filled with the Holy Spirit?

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**Personal Application** Have you ever asked the Lord to fill you with His Holy Spirit? Spend time in His presence. Pray and yield to Him. Ask Him to fill you anew.

**Part C** Read Joel 2 again. Pray that He would reveal Himself to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading. (You may rewrite previous verses if they best summarize both chapters.)

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2. Write the facts (events, directions, instructions) of chapter 2.

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3. Looking back at Parts A-B for Lesson 9, which correlating scripture (Bible verse not found in Joel 2), spoke most to your mind and/or heart? Why?

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4. What do your answers to questions 2-3 reveal about the human heart? What do they reveal about God's character?

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5. How should the believer allow the Lord to shape her life (thoughts, emotions, words, actions) based on God's character as revealed in these chapters?

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## LESSON 10

**Part A** Read Joel 3:1-14 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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MAJOR MOMENT: All nations will be judged.

2. The Day of the Lord will be a day of judgment and restoration. Who will be restored? Who will be judged? (Joel 3:1-8)?

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3. Why are Israel's enemies judged?

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4. Notice God deals with His own people (Joel 1 and 2) before He judges the other nations. Why does God's righteousness express His judgments in this order (Israel first, then the enemy nations)?

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5. God challenges the nations to prepare for war against Him. They will do this exact thing during the Battle of Armageddon. Read Revelation 16:16, 17:12-14, and 19:19. Why are the enemies of God foolishness enough to wage war against Him? How is this foolishness evident in today's society?

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**Part B** Read Joel 3: 14-21 and pray that the Lord would speak to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading.

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MAJOR MOMENT: God will be reunited with His people on the Day of the Lord.

2. This prophecy had immediate and eternal implications for the Jews. There would be partial restoration of the Jews to their land after their exile to Babylon (immediate), but there is also hope of a final and permanent reconciliation (eternal). (Revelation 21:1-8) What does a two-fold restored life look like for a believer in Jesus Christ?

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3. Read Joel 3:18. What a mighty refuge we have in God! As people grafted into the family of God, we are privileged to all that goes with being a child of God. Write a prayer of thanks for God's safe refuge.

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4. How do you see God's mercy in His giving of the prophets to Israel?

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**Personal Application** How does learning more of God's judgment and work of restoration stir your heart to return to Him?

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**Part C** Read Joel 2 again. Pray that He would reveal Himself to you.

1. Write a verse that summarizes the reading. (You may rewrite previous verses if they best summarize both chapters.)

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2. Write the facts (events, directions, instructions) of chapter 3.

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3. Looking back at Parts A-B for Lesson 10, which correlating scripture (Bible verse not found in Joel 2), spoke most to your mind and/or heart? Why?

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4. What do your answers to questions 2-3 reveal about the human heart? What do they reveal about God's character?

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5. How should the believer allow the Lord to shape her life (thoughts, emotions, words, actions) based on God's character as revealed in these chapters?

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