

Major Words from Minor Prophets

Relentless –

- “Oppressively constant; incessant.”
- “showing or promising no abatement of severity, intensity, strength, or pace”
- God called a man named Hosea to be His prophet in part because Hosea would be relentless but mainly because God is relentless.
- Hosea 1:1 The word of the LORD which came to Hosea the son of Beerli, during the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz *and* Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and during the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel.

1. God’s _____ is relentless.

Hosea 1:2 When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, “Go, take to yourself a wife of harlotry and *have* children of harlotry; for the land commits flagrant harlotry, forsaking the LORD.”

- Hosea 1:4-5 And the LORD said to him, “Name him Jezreel; for yet a little while, and I will punish the house of Jehu for the bloodshed of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. 5 On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.”
- Jezreel means “God sows.”
- Hosea’s daughter’s name: Lo-ruhamah means “not loved.”
- Hosea 1:6 Then she conceived again and gave birth to a daughter. And the LORD said to him, “Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have compassion on the house of Israel, that I would ever forgive them.”
- Hosea’s son’s name: Lo-ammi means “not mine.”
- Hosea 1:9 And the LORD said, “Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not My people and I am not your God.”

Key Thought:

- God will use creativity to communicate with you.

2. God’s _____ is relentless.

Hosea 2:5 “For their mother has played the harlot; she who conceived them has acted shamefully.

Hosea 3:1-3 Then the LORD said to me, “Go again, love a woman *who* is loved by *her* husband, yet an adulteress, even as the LORD loves the sons of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love raisin cakes.” 2 So I bought her for myself for fifteen *shekels* of silver and a homer and a half of barley. 3 Then I said to her, “You shall stay with me for many days. You shall not play the harlot, nor shall you have a man; so I will also be toward you.”

- Consider this translation: “And the LORD said to me again, ‘Go, love a woman loved by another and committing adultery, just as the LORD loves the children of Israel even though they are turning to other gods and love raisin cakes.’”

- Psalm 86:15 But You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness and truth.
- 2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

Key Thought:

- God will not give up on you.

3. God's _____ is relentless.

Hosea 2:19-20 "I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me in righteousness and in justice, in lovingkindness and in compassion, 20 And I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness. Then you will know the LORD.

Ephesians 5:32 This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.

Hosea 2:23 "I will sow her for Myself in the land. I will also have compassion on her (Lo-ruhamah) who had not obtained compassion, And I will say to those who were not My people (Lo-ammi), 'You are My people!' And they will say, '*You are my God!*'"

Key Thought:

- God's love for you cannot be measured, and it will never diminish.

4. God's _____ is relentless.

- **A Message of _____**

Hosea 6:1-3 Come, let us return to the LORD. For He has torn *us*, but He will heal us; He has wounded *us*, but He will bandage us. 2 He will revive us after two days; He will raise us up on the third day, that we may live before Him. 3 So let us know, let us press on to know the LORD. His going forth is as certain as the dawn; and He will come to us like the rain, like the spring rain watering the earth."

- Sometimes our wounds come from the initiative of the Almighty, while other times it comes from the permission of the Almighty.

Philippians 3:8 More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ.

- **A Message of _____**

Hosea 6:6 For I delight in loyalty rather than sacrifice, and in the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

Key Thought:

- God will always delight in loyalty and long for intimacy.

Conclusion:

1 – God’s creativity is relentless. Where in your life is God working creatively to get your attention?

2 – God’s perseverance is relentless. God will not give up on you. Will you give in to Him?

3 – God’s love is relentless. God’s love for you cannot be measured, and it will never diminish. Will you love Him back?

4 – God’s message is relentless. God will always delight in loyalty and long for intimacy. Will you surrender to His Lordship and fall into His embrace?

Revelation 3:20 ‘Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.