



FAMILY

# DAILY READING NOTES: TERM 3 - 2018

## FAMILY

### Week Theme

1	God is Father
2	Church is Family
3	Immediate Family
4	God the Centre

## HOSEA: LOVE FOR THE LOVELESS

### Week Passage Theme

5	Hosea 1:1	Hosea's Context
6	Hosea 1:2-3:5	Children of the Living God
7	Hosea 4:1-6:3	Ignoring the Problem
8	Hosea 6:4-9:9	A Better Covenant
9	Hosea 9:10-11:11	God is not a Man
10	Hosea 11:12-14:9	History Lessons

### GIVING AT EV CHURCH

The New Testament teaches us to give generously, regularly and joyfully. Please join with us in bringing to the coast solid hope in Jesus.

**More info on giving and account details:**

**[www.evchurch.info/giving](http://www.evchurch.info/giving)**

## How to use this book:

### 1. PERSONAL READING

- Use this guide to help you read your Bible every day.
- Scribble down your thoughts and questions each day, and remember to pray and ask God to speak to you by His Spirit, through His Word.

### 2. GROWTH GROUPS

- Take this guide with you to your Growth Group each week so you can write down prayer points that come from the study that week and prayer requests from the members of your group.
- Let your group know who you are on mission to.

### 3. CHURCH

- Keep this guide with your Bible and bring it with you to church.
- Scribble down sermon notes in the space provided.

**We want to encourage each other to be on mission to our non-Christian friends, family and contacts.**

Who are you on mission to?

Make a list and start praying for them (and yourself).

**Pray for three friends, once a week, for one minute (3-1-1).**

List the names of your family and friends here:

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**SIGN UP FOR THESE NOTES AS A DAILY EMAIL AT:  
[www.evchurch.info/series](http://www.evchurch.info/series)**

# READ THE BIBLE IN TWO YEARS

Something you might like to use to extend your daily Bible reading.

The Bible is truly an extraordinary book, unique among all other books. It consists of 66 individual books, written by 40 different authors, in three different languages across 1,500 years of history. Yet for all of this diversity it contains a unified message that focuses on the coming of Jesus and the amazing salvation He offers through His death and resurrection!

The Bible contains words written by men in all the richness of literary types making it fun, challenging and enjoyable to dig into. Yet, at the same time, the Bible is also the very words of God given to us by His Spirit (1 Peter 1:21; 2 Timothy 3:16-17). These are not just words spoken in times past, but words that are alive for us to read today (Hebrews 4:12-13). The God of the universe actually addresses us today clearly in the pages of the Bible - amazing!

Jesus says the entire Bible points us to Him, that He is the focal point of it all. Listen to what He says, "He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." (Luke 24:44). Or, again Jesus says, "You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life." (John 5:39-40).

Knowing this is helpful in motivating us to read the Bible regularly, to keep building a bigger understanding of God's purposes and how they are being fulfilled in Jesus. To help with this, the Daily Reading Notes now include an extra challenge: to read the whole Bible in two years. It's totally optional, are you up for it?

There is a list of around 15 chapters of additional reading for each week of the term that will help you achieve this challenge. These readings can be done on whatever days work best and in whatever order you prefer to read them. At the end of each term you have a chance to catch up before the next term's suggested readings begin again. You can also track your readings across the two years right here. Enjoy!

## YEAR 1: TERM 1

Week 1	Genesis 1-5; Psalms 1-4; Genesis 5-10; Matthew 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2	Genesis 11-15; Psalms 5-7; Genesis 16-20; Matthew 3-4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 3	Genesis 21-25; Psalms 8-10; Genesis 26-30; Matthew 5-6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4	Genesis 31-35; Psalms 11-16; Genesis 36-40; Matthew 7-9	<input type="checkbox"/>



Week 5	Genesis 41-45; Psalms 17-19; Genesis 46-50; Matthew 10-11	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 6	Exodus 1-5; Psalms 20-24; Exodus 6-10; Matthew 12-13	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 7	Exodus 11-15; Psalms 25-27; Exodus 16-20; Matthew 14-15	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 8	Exodus 21-25; Psalms 28-31; Exodus 26-30; Matthew 16-17	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 9	Exodus 31-35; Psalms 32-34; Exodus 36-40; Matthew 18-19	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 10	Leviticus 1-5; Psalms 35-37; Leviticus 6-10; Matthew 20-21	<input type="checkbox"/>

## YEAR 1: TERM 2

Week 1	Leviticus 11-15; Psalms 38-41; Leviticus 16-20; Matthew 22-24	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2	Leviticus 21-27; Numbers 1-3; Proverbs 1-3; Matthew 25-26	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 3	Numbers 4-13; Proverbs 4-6; Matthew 27-28	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4	Numbers 14-23; Proverbs 7-9; Acts 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 5	Numbers 24-33; Psalms 42-44; Acts 3-4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 6	Numbers 34-36; Psalms 45-48; Acts 5-6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 7	Deuteronomy 1-7; Psalms 49-51; Acts 7-8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 8	Deuteronomy 8-17; Psalms 52-54; Acts 9-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 9	Deuteronomy 18-27; Psalms 55-57; Acts 11-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 10	Deuteronomy 28-34; Joshua 1-3; Psalms 58-61; Acts 13-14	<input type="checkbox"/>

## YEAR 1: TERM 3

Week 1	Joshua 4-13; Psalms 62-65; Acts 15-16	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2	Joshua 14-23; Psalms 66-68; Acts 17-18	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 3	Joshua 24; Judges 1-9; Psalms 69-71; Acts 19-20	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4	Judges 10-19; Psalms 72; Proverbs 10-11; Acts 21-22	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 5	Judges 20-21; Ruth 1-4; 1 Samuel 1-4; Proverbs 12-14; Acts 23-24	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 6	1 Samuel 5-14; Proverbs 15-17; Acts 25-26	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 7	1 Samuel 15-24; Proverbs 18-20; Acts 27-28	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 8	1 Samuel 25-31; 2 Samuel 1-3; Proverbs 21-22; Mark 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 9	2 Samuel 4-13; Psalms 73-75; Mark 3-4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 10	2 Samuel 14-24; Psalms 76-77; Mark 5-6	<input type="checkbox"/>

# READ THE BIBLE IN TWO YEARS

## YEAR 1: TERM 4

Week 1	1 Kings 1-5; Psalms 78-80; 1 Kings 6-10; Mark 7-8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2	1 Kings 11-15; Psalms 81-83; 1 Kings 16-20; Mark 9-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 3	1 Kings 21-22; 2 Kings 1-8; Psalms 84-86; Mark 11-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4	2 Kings 9-13; Psalms 87-89; 2 Kings 14-18; Mark 13-14	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 5	2 Kings 19-25; 1 Chronicles 1-3; Psalms 90-93; Mark 15-16	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 6	1 Chronicles 4-8; Psalms 94-96; 1 Chronicles 9-13; Romans 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 7	1 Chronicles 14-18; Psalms 97-101; 1 Chronicles 19-23; Romans 3-4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 8	1 Chronicles 24-29; Psalms 102-104; Romans 5-6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 9	2 Chronicles 1-5; Psalms 105-106; 2 Chronicles 6-10; Romans 7-8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 10	2 Chronicles 11-15; Proverbs 23-25; 2 Chronicles 16-20; Romans 9-10	<input type="checkbox"/>

## YEAR 2: TERM 1

Week 1	2 Chronicles 21-25; Proverbs 26-28; 2 Chronicles 26-30; Romans 11-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2	2 Chronicles 31-36; Ezra 1-4; Proverbs 29-31; Romans 13-14	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 3	Ezra 5-10; Nehemiah 1-4; Psalms 107-109; Romans 15-16	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4	Nehemiah 5-13; Psalms 110-113; 1 Corinthians 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 5	Esther 1-10; Psalms 114-117; 1 Corinthians 3-4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 6	Job 1-5; Psalms 118; Job 6-10; 1 Corinthians 5-6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 7	Job 11-15; Psalms 119:1-48; Job 16-20; 1 Corinthians 7-8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 8	Job 21-25; Psalms 119:49-96; Job 26-30; 1 Corinthians 9-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 9	Job 31-35; Psalms 119:97-144; Job 36-40; 1 Corinthians 11-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 10	Job 41-42; Ecclesiastes 1-8; Psalms 119:145-176; 1 Corinthians 13-14	<input type="checkbox"/>

## YEAR 2: TERM 2

Week 1	Ecclesiastes 9-12; Song of Songs 1-5; Psalms 120-122; 1 Cor 15-16	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2	Songs of Songs 6-8; Isaiah 1-7; Psalms 123-125; Luke 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 3	Isaiah 8-12; Psalms 126-130; Isaiah 13-17; Luke 3-4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4	Isaiah 18-22; Psalms 131-135; Isaiah 23-27; Luke 5-6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 5	Isaiah 28-32; Psalms 136-138; Isaiah 33-37; Luke 7-8	<input type="checkbox"/>

Week 6	Isaiah 38-42; Psalms 139-142; Isaiah 43-47; Luke 9-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 7	Isaiah 48-52; Psalms 143-145; Isaiah 53-57; Luke 11-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 8	Isaiah 58-62; Psalms 146-147; Isaiah 63-66; Luke 13-14	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 9	Jeremiah 1-5; Psalms 148-150; Jeremiah 6-10; Luke 15-16	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 10	Jeremiah 11-15; Luke 17-21; Jeremiah 16-20	<input type="checkbox"/>

### YEAR 2: TERM 3

Week 1	Jeremiah 21-25; Luke 21-24; Jeremiah 26-30; 2 Corinthians 1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2	Jeremiah 31-35; 2 Corinthians 2-7; Jeremiah 36-40	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 3	Jeremiah 41-45; 2 Corinthians 8-13; Jeremiah 46-50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4	Jeremiah 51-52; Lamentations 1-5; Galatians 1-6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 5	Ezekiel 1-5; Ephesians 1-6; Ezekiel 6-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 6	Ezekiel 11-15; Philippians 1-4; Ezekiel 16-20	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 7	Ezekiel 21-25; Colossians 1-4; Ezekiel 26-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 8	Ezekiel 31-35; 1 Thessalonians 1-5; Ezekiel 36-40; 2 Thessalonians 1-3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 9	Ezekiel 41-48; 1 Timothy 1-6; 2 Timothy 1-4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 10	Daniel 1-10; Titus 1-3, Philemon	<input type="checkbox"/>

### YEAR 2: TERM 4

Week 1	Daniel 11-12; Hosea 1-8; Hebrews 1-7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2	Hosea 9-14; Joel 1-3; Hebrews 8-13	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 3	Amos 1-9; James 1-5; 1 Peter 1-5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4	Obadiah; Jonah 1-4; 2 Peter 1-3; 1 John 1-6; 2 John; 3 John	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 5	Micah 1-7; Nahum 1-3; Jude; Revelation 1-5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 6	Habakkuk 1-3; Revelation 6-19:10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 7	Zephaniah 1-3; Revelation 19:11-22:21	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 8	Haggai 1-2; John 1-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 9	Zechariah 1-14; John 13-17	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 10	Malachi 1-4; John 18-21	<input type="checkbox"/>

# INTRODUCTION

## FAMILY

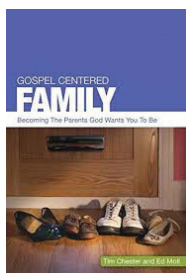
**Family is such an important part of our lives, and that's because God has created it to be that way. The Bible speaks a lot about family.**

What becomes obvious as we dig into the Word, is that family is a God-centred concept. Not only is God the Everlasting Father, but the very people He re-creates, the church, He makes into a family. And then there is the fact that we each fit into different family contexts, whatever that might look like, everyone starting as a kid. So it is well worth our time to consider what family is, the bigger truth it points to, and how we should live in light of that reality – and what it means for the kids in our church.



## Book Recommendations

Being a Christian parent is a hard, but incredibly worthwhile job. Here are a few resources to help you grow as a Christian parent, or you plan to be one in the future.



### GOSPEL CENTRED FAMILY

By Tim Chester, Ed Moll

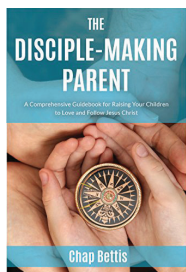
This is a great, short resource that helps families adopt gospel-centred principles. It asks helpful questions to encourage you to consider areas of family life that can be more about Jesus. It gives practical thoughts on making your family gospel-centred and each chapter is a quick enough read, so you can easily manage it in busy family life.



### BIG PICTURE PARENTS

By Harriet Connor

This book (written by a Coastie!) wonderfully approaches parenting from a gospel point of view. That is, it looks at the big gospel story, and how family life, and parenting in particular, ought to fit into that. It is very insightful in bringing the big truths in our day-to-day experience, and will help any parent to view things from a gospel perspective.



### THE DISCIPLE-MAKING PARENT

By Chap Bettis

This book is a bit more comprehensive and will raise your vision of your God-given role as a parent. It is full of wisdom for considering how to disciple your kids, but it is chunky, so strap yourself in for some good work. If you're keen to sit down and push yourself in your parenting, this book will be incredibly helpful and will help you to consider a whole range of things you've never thought deeply about before.

# WEEK 1: GOD IS FATHER

## DAY 1

### Paul's letters

Skim over the introductions to Paul's letters: Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:3; 2 Corinthians 1:2; Galatians 1:3; Ephesians 1:2; Philippians 1:2; Colossians 1:2; 1 Thessalonians 1:1; 2 Thessalonians 1:1; 1 Timothy 1:2; 2 Timothy 1:2; Titus 1:4; and Philemon 3.

1. Why does Paul start all of his letters by referring to God our Father, or God the Father?
2. Paul wants the recipients of his letters to have grace and peace from God our Father. How does God's fatherliness shape our expectations and thinking about that grace and peace?

**Prayer:** Thank your Father for the grace and peace He's already given you, and ask Him for more.

# DAY 2

## Read John 5:16-30

### BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Jeremiah 21-25; Luke 21-24;  
Jeremiah 26-30; 2 Corinthians 1

1. How does God the Father treat God the Son?
2. How does God the Son treat God the Father?
3. What seems normal about their Father-Son relationship?
4. What is unique about their Father-Son relationship?

**Prayer:** Thank your Father for His relationship with the Son: that it's one of rich mutual love, and that it means we have guaranteed eternal life if we hear the Son's words and believe them.

# WEEK 1: GOD IS FATHER

## DAY 3

### Read Romans 8:12-17

1. What is the difference between slaves and children in this passage?
2. The Spirit makes us God's children. What are our responsibilities as children of God?

**Prayer:** Thank your Father that we no longer have any need to fear, but we've been made His permanent adopted children by the Spirit. Ask your Father to lead you by His Spirit to obey His Word.



# DAY 4

## Read Galatians 3:23-4:7

1. Before Jesus came, the Jews were like slaves; they were underage heirs. How did their relationship with the Father change with the coming of Christ and the giving of the Spirit?
2. Adoption isn't just limited to Jewish people. According to this passage, how does someone become God's son (Hint: especially look at 3:26-29)?
3. In Christ, how is gender unimportant, and how is sonship special?

**Prayer:** Thank your Father that we're not like slaves, underage heirs, but through faith in Christ we can all be sons and heirs. Ask your Father to help you value your sonship and inheritance more and more.

# WEEK 1: GOD IS FATHER

## DAY 5

### Read Romans 8:28-39

1. God is working all things together for a particular goal. What's the connection between verses 28 and 29 that helps us to understand what God's particular goal is?
2. How secure is our relationship with our Father, especially in 8:30-39?
3. How could your security in your relationship with your Father help your enjoyment of that relationship to grow and grow?

**Prayer:** Thank your Father that He's making you like His Son, and that nothing can separate you from His love. Ask your Father to help you understand and enjoy His love for you every day.



## **NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS**

# WEEK 2: CHURCH IS FAMILY

## DAY 1

### Read:

- Matthew 12:46-50 and Mark 3:31-35
- Matthew 23:8-9
- Mark 10:29-30

1. How is church a family?

2. How should the familyness of Church affect the way we view one another?

**Prayer:** Thank your Father for the gift of many many brothers and sisters and mothers and children. Ask your Father to help you view and treat all Christians as your family.



# DAY 2

## Read:

- Galatians 6:9-10
- 1 Timothy 3:4-5
- 1 Timothy 5:1-2
- 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12
- James 2:14-17

1. How is church a family?

2. How should the familyness of Church affect the way we relate to one another?

## BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Jeremiah 31-35; 2 Corinthians 2-7;  
Jeremiah 36-40

**Prayer:** Thank your Father for the blessing of other Christians, who care especially for us. Ask for wisdom to be able to appropriately care for and love other Christians depending on their circumstances.

# WEEK 2: CHURCH IS FAMILY

## DAY 3 Adoption

Read Galatians 4:1-7

1. Why do we need to be adopted in order to become God's children?
2. What are the blessings of being God's adopted children?
3. How should adoption shape the way you view your Christian brothers and sisters?

**Prayer:** Thank your Father for sending His only true Son to save us when we were enslaved to the world. Thank your Father for all of the blessings of being His adopted children. Ask that you would never take your place in His family for granted.

## DAY 4 Genuine Brotherly Love

### Read Romans 12:9-13

The NIV has simply translated the Greek word philadelphia as 'love', but the ESV does better here and shows that philadelphia means 'brotherly love' – just like the modern city.

1. What do you think brotherly love is in this passage?
2. In our society, and our church, what are some of the needs of the saints that you could contribute to? Does this passage give you some ideas?

**Prayer:** Ask your Father to give you devoted brotherly love for your church family. Ask Him to help you find ways to share with your Christian siblings who are in need.

# WEEK 2: CHURCH IS FAMILY

## DAY 5 Family Encouragement

### Read 1 Peter 5:8-9

1. Verse 9 gives the reason that we should obey verse 8. What is it?
2. How can we encourage one another to be alert and of sober mind, to resist the devil, and to stand firm in the faith?

**Prayer:** Thank your Father for the encouragement to stand firm that He gives us in one another, especially in the face of persecution for Christ. Ask your Father to use you to strengthen the faith of your brothers and sisters in Christ.





## **NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS**

# WEEK 3: IMMEDIATE FAMILY

## DAY 1 The Little Children

### Read Mark 10:13-16

1. How could someone hinder children in their immediate family from coming to Christ?
2. How could someone hinder children in their church family from coming to Christ?
3. How could someone work to see children come to Christ?

**Prayer:** Ask for your Father's forgiveness for times that you hinder children coming to Christ. Ask that your Father would use you to help many children come to Christ.

# DAY 2

## Read Deuteronomy 6:4-25

### BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Jeremiah 41-45; 2 Corinthians 8-13;  
Jeremiah 46-50

1. What was it that the Israelites were to teach their children, what does it mean?
2. How were the Israelites to teach these things to their children?
3. How should Christians teach the children in their immediate families the most important things of Christ?

**Prayer:** Thank your Father for bringing you to know the great truths about Him and His salvation. Ask that He would use Christian parents to teach those same truths to the children in their immediate families.

# WEEK 3: IMMEDIATE FAMILY

## DAY 3 The Colossian Household Code

### Read Colossians 3:18-21

1. What should the shape of family life be?
2. What is the limitation given in verse 18, and why is it important?
3. What is the reason given in verse 20, and why is it important?
4. How should this passage shape the life of someone who is not married, doesn't live with their parents, and has no children? Perhaps this is you.

**Prayer:** Thank your Father for giving a shape to immediate family life that can work so beautifully. Ask for forgiveness for the ways in which you've failed to play your part in your immediate family. Ask your Father for help to live within your immediate family in a way that pleases Him.

# DAY 4 The Ephesian Household Code

## Read Ephesians 5:21-6:4

1. What are the reasons given for this particular shape of immediate family life, and why are the reasons important?
2. Every earthly father is different. What are some different ways that a father could bring up his children in the training and instruction of the Lord? Think of as many as you can.

**Prayer:** Thank your Father for explaining to us how He's designed us to live together, instead of leaving us to figure it out for ourselves. Ask for help to forgive those who've sinned against you by living contrary to your Father's design. Ask for wisdom in living out your place in immediate family life in a way that honours your Heavenly Father.

# WEEK 3: IMMEDIATE FAMILY

## DAY 5 Peter's Household Code

### Read 1 Peter 3:1-7

1. How can the shape of immediate family life change when someone is married to someone who isn't part of their church family? This passage is specifically about a Christian woman married to a non-Christian man, but how might it also affect the way a Christian husband would relate to a non-Christian wife?
2. How should the fact that Christian wives and husbands are brothers and sisters impact on immediate family life?

**Prayer:** Ask your Father for help in navigating the more complex areas of immediate family life. Ask your Father to save all of those husbands and wives of Christians who don't yet know Christ themselves.

## NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

# WEEK 4: GOD THE CENTRE

## DAY 1 The Supremacy Of The Son

### Read Colossians 1:15-20

1. Why does everything exist? Why was everything created?
2. What must be true about God for this to be a good and right reason for everything's existence?

**Prayer:** Ask your Father to help you understand and love that everything exists for Jesus.



# DAY 2

## Salvation Isn't About Us

### Read Isaiah 48:8-11

#### BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Jeremiah 51-52; Lamentations 1-5;  
Galatians 1-6

1. Why didn't God utterly destroy Israel?
2. Why won't (and shouldn't) God give His glory to another?

**Prayer:** Praise your Father for His commitment to what is good, what is best. Ask that you'd see God as the centre of everything, and that you'd love it!

# WEEK 4: GOD THE CENTRE

## DAY 3 Who Wins?

### Read Ephesians 1:3-6

1. What do we get as a result of God's gracious choice?
2. What does God get as a result of His gracious choice?
3. If you love God, then when He's glorified you're overjoyed. Because God loves you, then when you're adopted and blessed, He's overjoyed. Who wins the most?

**Prayer:** Thank your Father for giving you every spiritual blessing in Christ. Thank Him for doing what brings Him pleasure and glory. Ask Him to be the centre of your joy.

## DAY 4 “You Only Need To Be Still”

**Read Exodus 14:13-18 and Romans 9:17**

1. What was the ultimate reason for God to harden the Egyptians' hearts?
2. Even the way that God saved Israel was orchestrated to bring Him maximum glory. He fought for them, they only needed to stand still. How is Christian salvation also shaped to bring God maximum glory?

**Prayer:** Praise God for His power and worldwide fame. Ask Him to use you for the same purpose, to bring Him glory.

# WEEK 4: GOD THE CENTRE

## DAY 5 The Glory Of The Cross

Read **John 12:23-28; 13:21-32; and 17:1-5**

1. How is the glory of the Son connected to the glory of the Father?
2. Who gets the most glory – the Father or the Son?
3. How should we be different to Jesus here, and how should we follow His example?

**Prayer:** Thank your Father for glorifying His Son in such a way that meant your salvation. Ask that you would live a life that draws attention to the glory of the Cross, so that the Father and the Son would be glorified.



## **NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS**

**We are kicking off our Summer Series across all EV Growth Groups this term. *Summer Series* is a sermon series run over four weeks in January where we look at topics that might interest our non-Christian friends and family. BUT its in Term 3 and 4 that we survey people we know to find out which topics to do.**

This year we are jumping back into a Summer Series theme we ran in 2011 –cause it was so good!

# TOP 4 QUESTIONS FOR GOD

Out of all the Summer Series topics we have done over the last few years this has been the stand out when it comes to a survey question. We had heaps of engagement and many EV people said it created great opportunity for discussion and invitations in January.

What's cool about this series is there is no wrong answer! We are going to get heaps of different ideas coming in and it will make for a very interesting series in January.

Asking people to think about a question for God should kick off lots of good conversations, will spark their interest in coming along and listening to one or more of the talks in January. It's also just a great way to start talking to people about church.

Find out more: [www.evchurch.info/summerseries](http://www.evchurch.info/summerseries)

## Here's how it works...

### WHAT TO SAY?

It might go something like this...

...my church is wanting to put on a really interesting series of talks this coming January. It's called "Top 4 Questions for God". So... we're asking as many people as we can, if they could ask God one question, what would it be? We're going to take the top four asked questions and they will be the topics we look at in church throughout January.



### WHO?

You could ask...



People in your household



Friends & Neighbours



School or Workmates



Sports team members

### HOW?

You could use any of these methods...



Online: PC, Phone, Tablet

[www.evchurch.info](http://www.evchurch.info)



A printed Survey slip

### Who are the people who you could ask the survey question to?

Pray for these survey conversations and opportunities to invite them to the Summer Series talks in January 2019.

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## **Seth and Kate** **Buddhist Asia**

As the fourth largest religion in the world, Buddhism comprises 10% of the world's population. The Buddhistic 'Bonba' people are gospel-zero. No gospel. No Bible. No church. No chance to hear about Jesus. Humanly speaking, not a hope in hell. So pray for Seth and Kate as they seek to plant churches in gospel-zero Buddhist Asia.

## **Derek and Anna** **(OMF) Southeast Asia**

Derek and Anna (Liam, Jasmine and Juliet) are working in theological education and cross-cultural worker mobilisation in Southeast Asia. Pray for Derek as he continues with his classes in a local Bible college and is starting to train people to reach out to minority ethnic groups where there is no church. They are also trying to reach out to their local community, developing friendships and reading the Bible with those interested.



## **Craig and Samantha McCorkindale** **(CMS) Cambodia**

Craig and Samatha (Hannah, Clare and Joel) are into their second year in Cambodia. They continue with more independent language learning in the community and Craig will be preparing lessons to teach in Khmer at the Phnom Peng Bible School later in 2018. Pray for continued relationships in their community as they share the love of Jesus there.



## **The Geneva Push** **Australia**

Geneva Push is an Australian Church Planting Network aiming to inspire, equip and unleash a new generation of church planters dedicated to evangelising churches into existence. Pray for the assessment process, provision of ongoing support and training through coaching, mentoring, and conferences to ensure the biggest impact as church planters.



## **Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches** **Australia**

These churches are committed to praying for one another and continuing to promote planting of evangelical churches throughout Australia. Their pastors seek to provide support and encouragement to one another. FIEC is aiming, with God's help, to plant 100 churches across Australia during the next 15 years.





Find out more: [www.evchurch.info/missionpartners](http://www.evchurch.info/missionpartners)



**Jono and Grace Wright**  
**(AIM) Cross cultural ministry in Australia**

Jono and Grace Wright, with their kids, have been working amongst Aboriginals in Camooweal for the last 13 years. They are currently on a year's sabbatical undertaking some further Biblical study and being refreshed for future ministry. Pray for the ministries continuing back in Camooweal, including the Sunday meetings, weekly Bible study groups and prayer meetings, Sunday School, Scripture in the local primary school, and weekend Bible schools.



**Kirstin Nepal**

Kirstin has worked in Nepal as an Occupational Therapist for the last 7 years. She ministers in a Christian Hospital and has regular opportunities to share her faith and pray for patients. Thank God for the growing church in Nepal and pray for leadership development. Please continue to pray for Kirstin in this context, as she disciples women in her local church, and for her and Binay after their recent marriage.



**Martin and Jen Shadwick**  
**(AFES) Newcastle University**

Martin and Jen (with their 3 children) work with AFES discipling and training Christian students. Martin continues to work with both local and overseas students. Pray for wisdom in balancing ministry and family life, and for new partners to help them continue in this important ministry.



**Nicole Berlach**  
**Tuggerah Lakes Scripture Board (TLSB)**

Nicole works with the TLSB teaching Year 11-12 Scripture. 3 days at The Entrance Campus. She also meets with students one-to-one and helps organise the FUSE camp for Christian students. Pray for Nicole and the team (also at Tumby and Berkley Vale High Schools) as they share Jesus with young people who may not have heard.



**Colin and Jill Bakon**  
**(SIM) Church and Missionary Mobilisation**

Colin's two roles are in church mobilisation in Latin America where he is raising up national teams to run Kairos, with special focus this year on Ecuador and Peru. And he is working with a task force to mobilise for new initiatives within SIM to see work happening in areas where there is no church.

# INTRODUCTION

## HOSEA : LOVE FOR THE LOVELESS

Hosea is an amazing book. You can see this just by reading the first and last verses of Hosea. Hosea 1:1 shows you that this is a book deeply connected to the events surrounding the Northern Kingdom of Israel in the 8th Century BC. Hosea 14:9 shows you that this is a book for all who want to be wise, discerning and righteous. It's for all who want to stop rebelling against God.

The journey from 1:1 to 14:9, from understanding the people, places and events of Hosea's context to understanding ourselves, our God, and one another, is rich and deep. These Daily Reading Notes aim to be a helpful guide as you venture on that journey.

Every time a specific person, place or event is referenced in Hosea, these Daily Reading Notes will provide you with information to help you understand those references. This means that you will have work to do along the way, but hopefully you will never feel like you're completely lost. The first week will be the most extreme example, where we will spend five days looking at only one verse of Hosea, understanding the context of his prophecies. After the first week, you'll have either refreshed your understanding of so much of Israel's history after the split between the northern and southern kingdoms, or you'll have learned it for the first time. And each time those people, places and events turn up again in Hosea, you'll have a helpful footnote to remind you of what you've already read.

There is also a very useful map on the next page. You won't find this map in your Bible. It's a Hosea-specific map, featuring every place mentioned in Hosea. Much of the time you'll simply need to work out whether a place is in the northern kingdom (very bad), the southern kingdom (not quite as bad), or along the boundary between the two (somewhere between very bad and not quite as bad). **If you need more information you'll find it in the *Daily Hosea Glossary*.**

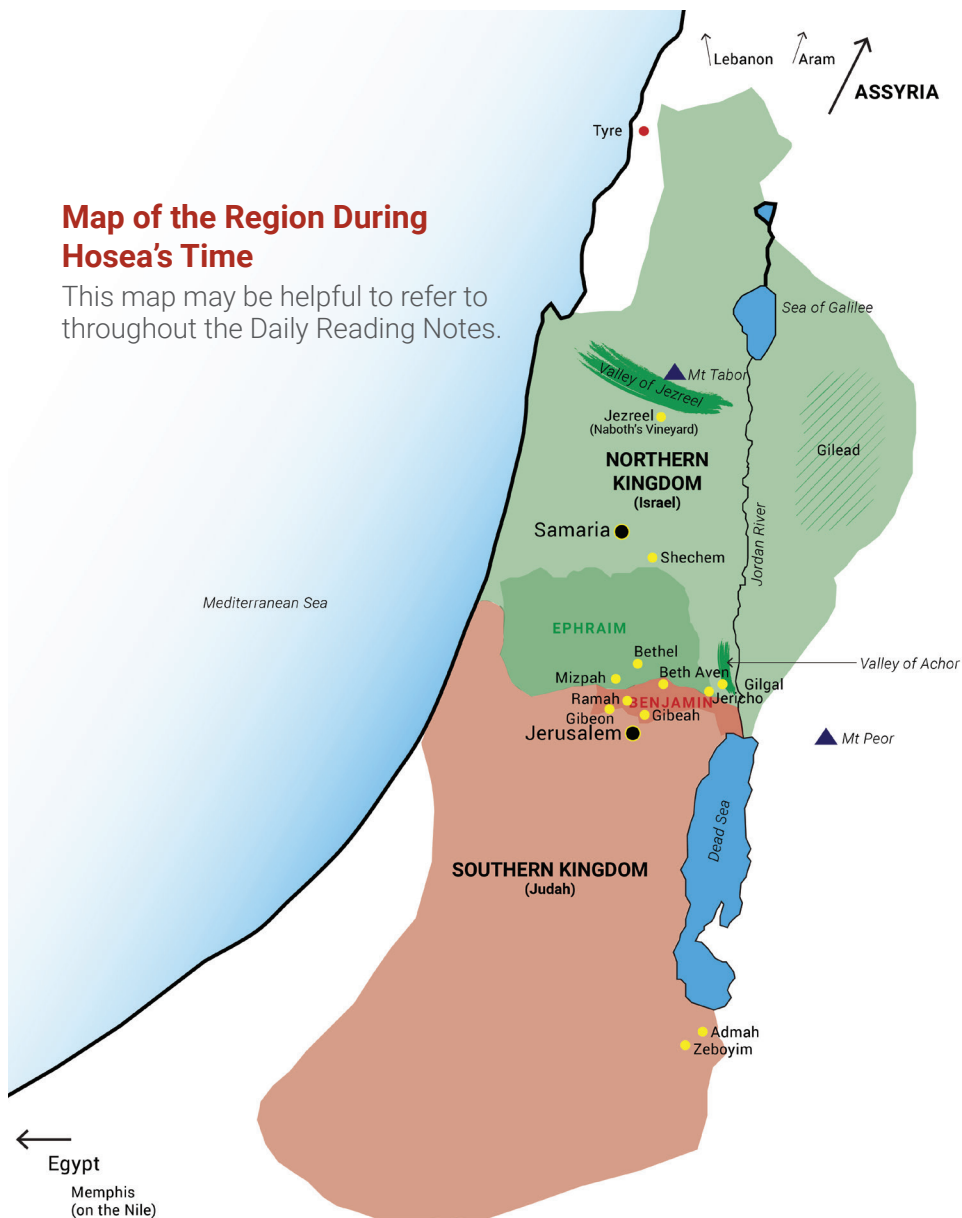
May God use your time in Hosea to expand your knowledge of Him, and of His love for the loveless.

### **Daily Hosea Glossary**

Use the *Daily Hosea Glossary* to learn as much as you can about the context of the prophet, Hosea's ministry.

## Map of the Region During Hosea's Time

This map may be helpful to refer to throughout the Daily Reading Notes.



# WEEK 5: HOSEA 1:1

**Hosea begins with a verse about the context of his ministry. As with any piece of writing, Hosea is deeply connected to the people, places and events surrounding him. This week's notes will help us to get the familiarity we need with these people, places and events so that we can understand Hosea well enough to grasp the depth of God's love for the loveless.**

## DAY 1

### Read Hosea 1:1 The Prophet

1. How have things been going for God's people up until this point?
2. What sort of things are you expecting God might have to say to His people through Hosea?

**Prayer:** Ask for God's help to understand the state of His people in Hosea's time, so you can understand what He has to say to them throughout Hosea.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Hosea** was a prophet of God in the 8th Century BC. Two hundred years before Hosea, at the end of Solomon's life, Israel split into two kingdoms. The Southern Kingdom was called Judah, and was led by the rightful but domineering king of Israel, Rehoboam. The Northern Kingdom was called Israel (and sometimes called Ephraim). It was led by the first Jeroboam, a rebellious servant of Solomon (1 Kings 12). During Hosea's ministry, the Northern Kingdom, Israel, would come to its end at the hand of the Assyrians (722 BC), and the Assyrians would turn their attention to invading the Southern Kingdom, Judah (2 Kings 17). There is no direct explanation about where Hosea prophesied. The majority of the book is addressed to the Northern Kingdom, so perhaps Hosea prophesied there.

The name Hosea means 'to save', and although they're translated differently in our English Bibles, the name is identical to that of the last king of the Northern Kingdom of Israel, Hoshea (2 Kings 17:1), and almost the same as the name Joshua, which also means 'to save'.

**Beer**i is not mentioned anywhere else in the Bible.

# Hosea's Context

## DAY 2

### Read Hosea 1:1 Uzziah and Jotham

#### BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Ezekiel 1-5; Ephesians 1-6; Ezekiel 6-10

1. What did you learn about the state of the kings of the Southern Kingdom?
2. What sort of things are you expecting God might have to say to His people through Hosea?

**Prayer:** Ask for God's help to understand the state of His people in Hosea's time, so you can understand what He has to say to them throughout Hosea.

#### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Uzziah** was a mixed good/bad king in Judah, the Southern Kingdom of Israel, from 792-740 BC. Later in his reign he proudly burned incense in the temple, which no-one was allowed to do except the priests, the sons of Aaron. God punished him by giving him leprosy until the day he died, which meant he had to live apart from everyone in a separate house. You can read about Uzziah in 2 Kings 14 (where he is confusingly known as Azariah) and 2 Chronicles 26.

**Jotham** was a mixed good/bad king in Judah, the Southern Kingdom of Israel, 750-735 BC. You can read about Jotham in 2 Kings 15:32-38 and 2 Chronicles 27.

# WEEK 5: HOSEA 1:1

## DAY 3

### Hosea 1:1 Ahaz

1. What did you learn about the state of the kings of the Southern Kingdom?
2. What sort of things are you expecting God might have to say to His people through Hosea?

**Prayer:** Ask for God's help to understand the state of His people in Hosea's time, so you can understand what He has to say to them throughout Hosea.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Ahaz** was a bad king in Judah, the Southern Kingdom of Israel, 735-715 BC. Instead of trusting God, he paid to form an allegiance with Tiglath-pileser the king of Assyria, and requested that Assyria would protect Judah from Syria and the Northern Kingdom of Israel (ultimately leading to the Northern Kingdom's destruction under a later Assyrian king). He also replaced God's altar in the temple with a copy of an altar from Damascus. You can read about Ahaz in 2 Kings 16 and 2 Chronicles 28.

# Hosea's Context

## DAY 4

### Hosea 1:1 Hezekiah

1. What did you learn about the state of the kings of the Southern Kingdom?
2. What sort of things are you expecting God might have to say to His people through Hosea?

**Prayer:** Ask for God's help to understand the state of His people in Hosea's time, so you can understand what He has to say to them throughout Hosea.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Hezekiah** was a relatively good king in Judah, the Southern Kingdom of Israel, 715-686 BC. He lapsed significantly by paying off Sennacherib, king of Assyria, using the silver from the king's house and the gold from the doors of the temple of the LORD. Isaiah helped Hezekiah to trust God, who defeated Sennacherib and brought an end to Assyria's aggression against Judah. Later in Hezekiah's life, after God had just healed him from sickness, he foolishly showed off all the treasure of Jerusalem to a Babylonian prince. God promised Hezekiah that after he died, Babylon would take all of Judah's treasure. You can read about Hezekiah in 2 Kings 18-20 and 2 Chronicles 29-32.

# WEEK 5: HOSEA 1:1

## DAY 5

### Hosea 1:1 Jeroboam II

1. What did you learn about the state of the kings of the Northern Kingdom?
2. If Hosea was prophesying in the Northern Kingdom, what could be a reason that only one Northern King is named while four Southern Kings are named in verse 1?
3. What sort of things are you expecting God might have to say to His people through Hosea?

**Prayer:** Ask for God's help to understand the state of His people in Hosea's time, so you can understand what He has to say to them throughout Hosea.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Jeroboam II**, like Jeroboam I, was a bad king in the Northern Kingdom of Israel, 793-753 BC. You can read about Jeroboam II in 2 Kings 14:23-29.

**Jehoash** was a bad king in the Northern Kingdom of Israel, 798-782 BC. You can read about Jehoash in 2 Kings 13:10-13.



# Hosea's Context

## NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

# WEEK 6: HOSEA 1:2–3:5

Use Daily Hosea Glossary to help you understand the passage, along with the map. Some passages don't require a glossary, so you won't find it on those days. Some items come up almost every day, you'll soon recognise them and be able to skip reading their glossary entry.

## DAY 1

### Hosea 1:2-13

Today we'll start looking at the marriage illustration, which spans Hosea 1-3.

1. Why might God use the images of marriage and family here?
2. How do verses 10 and 11 fit with the rest of this passage?

**Prayer:** Ask that God would use Hosea's prophecy to reveal His character to you.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Gomer** and **Diblaim** are not mentioned anywhere else in the Bible.

**Israel** usually refers only to the Northern Kingdom in Hosea, not the entire nation of Israel before their division.

**Jehu** was a commander of the armies of the Northern Kingdom. God told Elisha to "anoint Jehu king, then open the door and flee immediately." Wisely, Elisha delegated this task to a younger, faster man. As Jehu was being anointed, God commanded him to destroy the house of Ahab. Ahab was king of the Northern Kingdom of Israel who had profited from the evil committed by his wife Jezebel (Jezebel had Naboth the Jezreelite killed in the land of **Jezreel** in order to steal his family-vineyard to use as a →

# Children of the Living God

## DAY 2

### Hosea 2:1-5

#### BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Ezekiel 11-15; Philippians 1-4;  
Ezekiel 16-20

1. Why might God use the images of marriage and family here?
2. What does the image of marriage provide here that an image of love doesn't necessarily provide?

**Prayer:** Ask for God's help in being able to fathom the horror of the Northern Kingdom's adultery, so that you'd be able to better understand His love when He promises to save.

veggie patch for the king Ahab - see 1 Kings 21). Ahab is described as doing "more evil in the eyes of the LORD than any of those before him...". Ahab ended up being killed somewhat unintentionally in a battle years before Jehu was anointed king. Once anointed, Jehu swiftly killed Ahab's son Joram and son-in-law Ahaziah, who were kings of Israel and Judah. Immediately afterwards, he killed Ahab's widow Jezebel. You can read about Ahab, Jezebel and Naboth in 1 Kings 17-22 and about Jehu and Jezreel in 2 Kings 9-10.

**Judah** was the Southern Kingdom of Israel, which is where the southern half of Jerusalem was located.

# WEEK 6: HOSEA 1:2–3:5

## DAY 3

### Hosea 2:6-13

1. Why might God use the images of marriage and family here?
2. This is the first time that the image of adultery has been explained in Hosea. What does adultery point to in Hosea's imagery?

**Prayer:** Ask God to reveal any of your own idolatry to you.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

The **Baals** were the most prominent false gods of the Canaanites.

**New Moon** feasts were regular offerings given to God at the appearing of each new moon.

**Sabbath days** were days of rest given to Israel by God to remind them of their dependence on God.

There were many **appointed feasts** in Israel, used as reminders of the many times God had saved them in the past.

# Children of the Living God

## DAY 4

### Hosea 2:14-23

1. Why might God use images of marriage and family here?
2. Use the map and the *Hosea Daily Glossary* to work out what verse 15 could mean.
3. How is this second covenant or marriage different to the first?

**Prayer:** Thank God for the amazing promises of this covenant. Ask God to change you like He promised in this passage.

#### Daily Hosea Glossary

The **Valley of Achor** is near Jericho in the Northern Kingdom. 'Achor' means 'trouble'.

**Egypt** is located to the south-west of Israel. God had rescued Israel from slavery in Egypt; however, various kings of Judah and Israel paid tribute to Egypt for protection. You can read about Israel's relationship with Egypt in 2 Kings 17-18.

**Jezreel** is where Naboth's vineyard was located, and where Jehu killed the leaders of Judah and Israel. You can read about Naboth's vineyard in 1 Kings 21 and Jehu and Jezreel in 2 Kings 9-10.

# WEEK 6: HOSEA 1:2–3:5

## DAY 5

### Hosea 3:1-5

1. Why might God use images of marriage and family here?
2. This is the end of the narrative section of Hosea.
  - a. How has the Northern Kingdom treated God in the past and present?
  - b. What is God promising their near future will hold?
  - c. What is God promising their distant future will hold?
3. Check out John 4:1-26. How will Hosea 3:5 ultimately be fulfilled?

**Prayer:** Ask God to help you to understand how He can promise to bless Israel given their adulterous idolatry.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Israel** refers only to the Northern Kingdom.

**Raisin cakes** were a type of celebratory food. You can read more about raisin cakes in 2 Samuel 6:19, 1 Chronicles 12:40 and Isaiah 16:7.

An **Ephod** was part of the priestly garment, which God commanded Israel's priests to use in passages like Exodus 28.

**David** was the greatest king of Israel, 1010-970 BC. He was the father of Solomon. You can read about David from 1 Samuel 16:1 –1 Kings 2:12. →

# Children of the Living God

## NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

**Sacred stones** were used by other nations in their worship of foreign gods. The Israelites were forbidden to use them in passages like Deuteronomy 12:3.

**Fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley** is probably equal to the cost of a male or female slave (Exodus 21:32). Therefore, it would equal the cost to pay Gomer's indebtedness.

**Household gods** were idols that people kept in their homes to worship foreign gods, like those Rachel stole in Genesis 31.

# WEEK 7: HOSEA 4:1-6:3

## DAY 1

### Hosea 4:1-10

Today we'll take our first look into the details of the Northern Kingdom's sin, God's punishment and God's healing, which span Hosea 4:1-6:3.

1. What are the problems with the Northern Kingdom?
2. What are some examples of their sin in 1 Kings 12:25-33.
3. What could be the fundamental cause of the Northern Kingdom's sin?

**Prayer:** Ask God to help you understand where your own sin comes from, and help you to cut it off at its source.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Israel** usually refers only to the Northern Kingdom in Hosea, not the entire nation of Israel before their division.



# Ignoring the Problem

## DAY 2

### Hosea 4:12-18

#### BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Ezekiel 21-25; Colossians 1-4;  
Ezekiel 26-30

1. Use the map and *Daily Hosea Glossary* to understand the references to Gilgal, Beth Aven and Ephraim.
2. What do you think about this statement: "all sin comes from the same source as the Northern Kingdom's sin"?

**Prayer:** Ask God to help you understand where your own sin comes from, and help you to cut it off at its source.

#### Daily Hosea Glossary

A **diviner's rod** was used to seek understanding about the future. Israel were forbidden to practice divination in passages like Leviticus 19:26.

**Judah** was the Southern Kingdom of Israel, which is where the southern half of Jerusalem was located.

**Gilgal** is near Jericho, at the southern end of the Northern Kingdom. You can read about Saul's failures as king in Gilgal in 1 Samuel 13:1-15 and 1 Samuel 15:1-35.

**Beth Aven** is a city of the tribe of Benjamin, which is located at the northern end of the Southern Kingdom.

**Ephraim** is located at the most southern point of the more-faithless Northern Kingdom, which means people from Ephraim lived close enough to the Southern Kingdom to risk further corrupting them. Ephraim is sometimes used to refer to the whole of the Northern Kingdom.

# WEEK 7: HOSEA 4:1–6:3

## DAY 3

### Hosea 5:1-17

1. Use the map and *Daily Hosea Glossary* to understand verse 1. What does it mean?
2. What are the different aspects to the sin of God's people? Are they connected?

**Prayer:** Ask God to help you understand the many aspects of your own sin, and how they're connected, so that you can better fight it.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Israel** usually refers only to the Northern Kingdom in Hosea, not the entire nation of Israel before their division.

**Mizpah** is located in the very southern end of the Northern Kingdom.

**Tabor** is located in Zebulun, in the northern end of the Northern Kingdom, north of Samaria.

**Ephraim** is located at the most southern point of the more-faithless Northern Kingdom, which means people from Ephraim lived close enough to the Southern Kingdom to risk further corrupting them. Ephraim is sometimes used to refer to the whole of the Northern Kingdom.

**Judah** was the Southern Kingdom of Israel, which is where Jerusalem and God's temple were located.

**New Moon** feasts were regular offerings given to God at the appearing of each new moon.

# Ignoring the Problem

## DAY 4

### Hosea 5:8-15

1. Use the map and *Daily Hosea Glossary* to understand verse 8. What does it mean?
2. This is the first mention of Assyria in Hosea. You might remember Assyria from some of the 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles passages about the kings mentioned in Hosea 1:1. When Hosea mentions wind and whirlwinds (Hosea 4:19, 8:7, 12:1, 13:15), those are more references to Assyria. See what else you can learn about Assyria from the *Daily Hosea Glossary*. What is verse 13 saying?

**Prayer:** Ask God to help you, whenever you're "sick" or "sore", not to run away from him, but to earnestly seek Him. "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28).

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Gibeah** is a town in Benjamin, in the northern end of the Southern Kingdom. You can read about the horrible events in Gibeah in Judges 19-21.

**Ramah** is a town in northern Benjamin, which is in the northern end of the Southern Kingdom.

**Beth Aven** is a city of the tribe of Benjamin, which is located at the northern end of the Southern Kingdom.

**Benjamin** is located at the most northern point of the Southern Kingdom. The northern part of Jerusalem is in Benjamin.

**Assyria** were the hostile super-power of Hosea's time. They ended up defeating the Northern Kingdom, and repopulating the capital Samaria with a mixed people from other nations. You can read about Assyria in 2 Kings 16-19.

# WEEK 7: HOSEA 4:1–6:3

## DAY 5

### Hosea 6:1-3

1. What could “return to the LORD” mean and how do you do it?
2. What is the first promise for the Northern Kingdom if they return to the LORD?
3. What is the ultimate promise if they return to the LORD?

**Prayer:** Praise God for His mercy to His unfaithful, idolatrous, sexually immoral, ignorant people. Ask that God would help you to be always returning to Him, always knowing Him, and that you’d be able to always live in his presence.

# Ignoring the Problem

## NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

# WEEK 8: HOSEA 6:4–9:9

## DAY 1

### Read Hosea 6:4-11

1. Use the map and *Daily Hosea Glossary* to understand the references to Gilead and Shechem in verses 8 and 9. What do they mean?
2. How have Israel broken a covenant?
3. What is God expressing in this passage?

**Prayer:** Thank God that He doesn't give up on us even though we are inclined towards giving up on Him.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Judah** was the Southern Kingdom of Israel, which is where the southern half of Jerusalem was located.

**Gilead** is located east of the Jordan river, in the Northern Kingdom. You can read about the covenant made at Gilead between Jacob and Laban in Genesis 31:22-54. Despite this peaceful history, the region was taken over by Assyria after a campaign in 733-732 BC.

**Shechem** is a city of refuge in Ephraim. Abimelech became tribal king of Israel through violence at Shechem. Rehoboam and Jeroboam were both anointed king at Shechem and split the nation of Israel into two kingdoms. You can read more about these events in Judges 9 and 1 Kings 12.

# A Better Covenant

## DAY 2

### Read Hosea 6:11b-7:7

#### BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Ezekiel 31-35; 1 Thessalonians 1-5;  
Ezekiel 36-40; 2 Thessalonians 1-3

1. Use the map and *Daily Hosea Glossary* to learn what you can about Samaria.
2. Verse 2 seems to be important in this section. How does it fit with the rest of the verses in today's passage?
3. What's the pattern of God's relationship with Israel?

**Prayer:** Ask God to help you to respond to His healing quickly and willingly, knowing that He sees everything.

#### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Israel** usually refers only to the Northern Kingdom in Hosea, not the entire nation of Israel before their division.

**Ephraim** is located at the most southern point of the more-faithless Northern Kingdom, which means people from Ephraim lived close enough to the Southern Kingdom to risk further corrupting them. Ephraim is sometimes used to refer to the whole of the Northern Kingdom.

**Samaria** was the capital city of the Northern Kingdom. The surrounding region also went by the name Samaria. You can read about Samaria in 2 Kings 17:24-41.

# WEEK 8: HOSEA 6:4–9:9

## DAY 3

### Read Hosea 7:8-16

1. Use the *Daily Hosea Glossary* to learn what you can about Egypt and Assyria. What's wrong with Israel mixing with these nations?
2. What is God going to do about it?
3. What could the New Testament version of 'mixing with the nations' be?

**Prayer:** Ask God to protect you from following Israel's pattern of disobedience and rejection of God. Ask God to keep you always returning and always searching for Him.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Ephraim** is located at the most southern point of the more-faithless Northern Kingdom, which means people from Ephraim lived close enough to the Southern Kingdom to risk further corrupting them. Ephraim is sometimes used to refer to the whole of the Northern Kingdom.

**Israel** usually refers only to the Northern Kingdom in Hosea, not the entire nation of Israel before their division.

**Egypt** is located to the south-west of Israel. God had rescued Israel from slavery in Egypt; however, various kings of Judah and Israel paid tribute to Egypt for protection. You can read about Israel's relationship with Egypt in 2 Kings 17-18.



# A Better Covenant

## DAY 4

### Read Hosea 8:1-14

1. The references to eagles and the calf-idol of Samaria are quite interesting. Use the map and *Daily Hosea Glossary* to understand them.
2. What is God going to do about the pattern of Israel's relationship with Him?
3. Can you remember what wind and whirlwinds are a reference to in Hosea (hint: see week 3, day 4)? What does verse 7 mean?
4. Why doesn't God treat Christians like this when we sin?

**Prayer:** Apologise to God for your sin, and acknowledge what you deserve from Him. Ask for God's help in seeing the differences between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Eagles** are mentioned a few times in the Bible. Two examples are Deuteronomy 28:47-52 and 32:10-12.

**Samaria** was the capital city of the Northern Kingdom, and extended as a region up to the Jezreel valley.

**Calf-idol** harks back to the first idol Israel ever made back in Exodus 32:1-4 and the idols made by Jeroboam I in 1 Kings 12:25-33.

**Assyria** were the hostile super-power of Hosea's time. They ended up defeating the Northern Kingdom, and repopulating the capital Samaria with a mixed people from other nations. You can read about Assyria in 2 Kings 16-19.

**Judah** was the Southern Kingdom of Israel, which is where the southern half of Jerusalem was located.

# WEEK 8: HOSEA 6:4-9:9

## DAY 5

### Read Hosea 9:1-9

1. What is God promising to do here?
2. Eighty years after the Northern Kingdom had been defeated, Jeremiah prophesied. Read Jeremiah 31:31-34. What is God promising to do here?
3. A covenant is really a formal relationship that doesn't exist by nature, like marriage. What are some differences between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant?

**Prayer:** Ask God to help you understand our relationship with Him today with great clarity.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Israel** usually refers only to the Northern Kingdom in Hosea, not the entire nation of Israel before their division.

**Ephraim** is located at the most southern point of the more-faithless Northern Kingdom, which means people from Ephraim lived close enough to the Southern Kingdom to risk further corrupting them. Ephraim is sometimes used to refer to the whole of the Northern Kingdom.

**Egypt** is located to the south-west of Israel. God had rescued Israel from slavery in Egypt, however various kings of Judah and Israel paid tribute to Egypt for protection. You can read about Israel's relationship with Egypt in 2 Kings 17-18.



# A Better Covenant

## NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

**Assyria** were the hostile super-power of Hosea's time. They ended up defeating the Northern Kingdom, and repopulating the capital Samaria with a mixed people from other nations. You can read about Assyria in 2 Kings 16-19.

**Various feasts** were given to Israel to celebrate particular saving acts of God. You can read about some of these feasts in Exodus 23:14-19.

**Memphis** is an Egyptian city, about 24 km south of Cairo.

**Gibeah** is a town in Benjamin, in the northern end of the Southern Kingdom. You can read about the horrible events in Gibeah in Judges 19-21.

# WEEK 9: HOSEA 9:10–11:11

## DAY 1

### Read Hosea 9:10-17

1. Use the map and *Daily Hosea Glossary* to understand the references in this passage. How far back does Israel's problem go?
2. Israel's history is one of good starts gone bad. Why does it make sense for God to punish them by cutting off their offspring?

**Prayer:** Ask for God's help in making the most of your start in the faith. Ask that it would be a faith passed down through generations.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Israel** usually refers only to the Northern Kingdom in Hosea, not the entire nation of Israel before their division.

**Baal Peor** was the false God of the Moabites. The Israelites indulged in sexual immorality with Moabite women, and offered sacrifices to Baal Peor, incurring God's righteous wrath against them. You can read about the time Israel yoked themselves to Baal Peor in Numbers 25.

**Ephraim** is located at the most southern point of the more-faithless Northern Kingdom, which means people from Ephraim lived close enough to the Southern Kingdom to risk further corrupting them. Ephraim is sometimes used to refer to the whole of the Northern Kingdom.

**Tyre** is a region within Lebanon, to the north of Israel. You can read about Israel's early relationship with Tyre and Lebanon in 1 Kings 5.

**Gilgal** is near Jericho, at the southern end of the Northern Kingdom. You can read about Saul's failures as king in Gilgal in 1 Sam 13:1-15 and 1 Samuel 15:1-35.

# God Is Not A Man

## DAY 2

### Read Hosea 10:1-8

#### BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Ezekiel 41-48; 1 Timothy 1-6;  
2 Timothy 1-4

1. Use the map and *Daily Hosea Glossary* to understand the references in this passage. What happened to Israel's good start?
2. What is God promising will happen to them?

**Prayer:** Ask for God's help to keep you revering Him rather than idols.

#### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Sacred stones** were used by other nations in their worship of foreign gods. The Israelites were forbidden to use them in passages like Deuteronomy 12:3.

**Samaria** was the capital city of the Northern Kingdom, and extended as a region up to the Jezreel valley.

**Calf-idol** harks back to the first idol Israel ever made back in Exodus 32:1-4 and the idols made by Jeroboam I in 1 Kings 12:25-33.

**Beth Aven** is a city of the tribe of Benjamin, which is located at the northern end of the Southern Kingdom.

**Assyria** were the hostile super-power of Hosea's time. They ended up defeating the Northern Kingdom, and repopulating the capital Samaria with a mixed people from other nations. You can read about Assyria in 2 Kings 16-19.

# WEEK 9: HOSEA 9:10–11:11

## DAY 3

### Read Hosea 10:9-15

1. Use the map and *Daily Hosea Glossary* to understand the references in this passage.
2. How far back does Israel's sin go?
3. How has God treated them this whole time, how do you see it in this passage?

**Prayer:** Ask God to protect you from growing cold to His love, or exploiting His ongoing kindness.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Gibeah** is a town in Ephraim, which is in the southern end of the Northern Kingdom. You can read about the horrible events in Gibeah in Judges 19-21.

**Jacob** is the father of the twelve tribes of Israel. He wrestled with a man representing God, which earned him the name Israel (which probably means he struggles with God). Jacob also inherited the promises given to Abraham. You can read more about the renaming of Jacob to Israel in Genesis 32:22-32 and 35:1-15.

**Shalman and Beth Arbel** are not mentioned anywhere else in the Bible, however, Shalman probably refers to Shalmaneezer III, who was King of Assyria at the time of the first Assyrian invasion of Israel (2 Kings 10:32-33).

**Bethel** was named by Jacob after he had a dream where God promised to keep his promises to Abraham through Jacob. It means house (Beth) of God (el) and is located north of Jerusalem in the very southern end of the Northern Kingdom. You can read about Jacob's experience of Bethel in Genesis 28:10-22 and Jeroboam I's placing of a golden calf in Bethel in

# God Is Not A Man

## DAY 4

### Read Hosea 11:1-7

1. What is the dynamic in the relationship between God and Israel?
2. How is God like a parent to Israel?

**Prayer:** Ask God to help you see and understand how He is like the perfect parent, or even better, how a perfect parent is like God.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Israel** usually refers only to the Northern Kingdom in Hosea, not the entire nation of Israel before their division.

**Egypt** is located to the south-west of Israel. God had rescued Israel from slavery in Egypt, however, various kings of Judah and Israel paid tribute to Egypt for protection. You can read about Israel's relationship with Egypt in 2 Kings 17-18.

**The Baals** were the most prominent false gods of the Canaanites.

**Ephraim** is located at the most southern point of the more-faithless Northern Kingdom, which means people from Ephraim lived close enough to the Southern Kingdom to risk further corrupting them. Ephraim is sometimes used to refer to the whole of the Northern Kingdom.

**Assyria** were the hostile super-power of Hosea's time. They ended up defeating the Northern Kingdom, and repopulating the capital Samaria with a mixed people from other nations. You can read about Assyria in 2 Kings 16-19.

# WEEK 9: HOSEA 9:10–11:11

## DAY 5

### Read Hosea 11:8-11

1. God is no human parent. How does this passage fit with the passages that have come before?
2. Why has God's heart changed and why has His compassion been aroused?
3. Why is it important that God is holy rather than human? (You might remember the time in Gilgal where a similar statement was made, 1 Samuel 15:29.)

**Prayer:** Ask for God's help to know Him, even though He's holy and different from everything else we know. Praise God for being holy rather than human.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Ephraim** is located at the most southern point of the more-faithless Northern Kingdom, which means people from Ephraim lived close enough to the Southern Kingdom to risk further corrupting them. Ephraim is sometimes used to refer to the whole of the Northern Kingdom.

**Israel** usually refers only to the Northern Kingdom in Hosea, not the entire nation of Israel before their division.

**Admah and Zeboyim** were two of the wicked cities destroyed along with Sodom and Gomorrah. You can read about Sodom and Gomorrah in Genesis 19:1-29, and Admah and Zeboyim in Deuteronomy 29:23. →



# God Is Not A Man

## NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

**Egypt** is located to the south-west of Israel. God had rescued Israel from slavery in Egypt, however, various kings of Judah and Israel paid tribute to Egypt for protection. You can read about Israel's relationship with Egypt in 2 Kings 17-18.

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# WEEK 10: HOSEA 11:12–14:9

## DAY 1

### Read Hosea 11:12–12:14

1. Can you remember what wind refers to in Hosea (hint: see Week 3, Day 4)? What does 12:1 mean?
2. What do the references to Jacob mean?
3. How does this lesson help us understand God's history with the Northern Kingdom?

**Prayer:** Ask that God would use your understanding of Israel's history to deepen your understanding of Him.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Jacob** (see previous) In addition, Jacob was born grasping his brother's heel (Genesis 25:26). This turned out to be a metaphor for the entirety of Jacob and Esau's relationship.

**Bethel** was named by Jacob after he had a dream where God promised to keep his promises to Abraham through Jacob. It means house (Beth) of God (el) and is located north of Jerusalem in the very southern end of the Northern Kingdom. You can read about Jacob's experience of Bethel in Genesis 28:10-22 and Jeroboam I's placing of a golden calf in Bethel in 1 Kings 12:25-33.

**Gilead** is located east of the Jordan river, in the Northern Kingdom. You can read about the covenant made at Gilead between Jacob and Laban in Genesis 31:22-54. Despite this peaceful history, the region was taken over by Assyria after a campaign in 733-732 BC.

**Gilgal** is near Jericho, at the southern end of the Northern Kingdom. You can read about Saul's failures as king in Gilgal in 1 Samuel 13:1-15 and 1 Samuel 15:1-35.

**Aram** was a region in southern Syria, north of Israel, occupied by the descendents of Aram the son of Shem, the son of Noah. Aram's capital was Damascus. You can read about the time Jacob served in Aram for his

# History Lessons

## DAY 2

### Read Hosea 12:1-11

#### BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Daniel 1-10; Titus 1-3, Philemon

1. How does this lesson help us understand God's history with the Northern Kingdom?
2. What was so offensive to God about the Northern Kingdom's idolatry?
3. How has idolatry changed now? How is it the same?

**Prayer:** Ask for God to help you acknowledge no God but Him, no saviour but Him, and no king but Him.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

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# WEEK 10: HOSEA 11:12–14:9

## DAY 3

### Read Hosea 13:12-16

1. What does the image of childbirth mean here?
2. Who can't deliver this baby, and who can?
3. How can God promise both verse 14 and verse 16 together? Hint, 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 might help.

**Prayer:** Thank God for our future resurrection, where we will live even though we've died. Thank God that Old Testament believers and New Testament believers will share that blessing together.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

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**Samaria** was the capital city of the Northern Kingdom, and extended as a region up to the Jezreel valley.

# History Lessons

## DAY 4

### Read Hosea 14:1-8

1. What do people need to do to return to the LORD?
2. What will God do if His people return to Him?
3. It would be great to take some extra time (either now, or later in your day or week) to see what happened to the Northern Kingdom. Read:
  - 2 Kings 17
  - John 4:1-42
  - Acts 1:1-8; Acts 8; Acts 9:31

**Prayer:** Thank God for His long-suffering love for the Northern Kingdom. Thank God for sending Jesus to save them, and all sinners. Ask God to help you appreciate the glory of His love for the loveless.

### Daily Hosea Glossary

**Israel** usually refers only to the Northern Kingdom in Hosea, not the entire nation of Israel before their division.

**Assyria** were the hostile super-power of Hosea's time. They ended up defeating the Northern Kingdom, and repopulating the capital Samaria with a mixed people from other nations. You can read about Assyria in 2 Kings 16-19.

**Lebanon** is a region north of Israel and south of Syria. Lebanon's cedar trees were used by Solomon to build the Temple. You can read about Lebanon in 1 Kings 5.

**Juniper wood** from Lebanon was used, along with cedar, to build the Temple in Jerusalem.

# WEEK 10: HOSEA 11:12–14:9

## DAY 5

### Read Hosea 14:9

Today we'll simply look at the final verse of Hosea.

1. How have you seen that Hosea is relevant for people outside of 8<sup>th</sup> Century BC Northern Israel?
2. What have you learned about your own sin?
3. What have you learned about God's character?
4. What does the book of Hosea make you want to ask God for?

**Prayer:** Bring your answer to Question 4 to God in prayer.

# History Lessons

## NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

The background of the entire image is a dark blue gradient with numerous out-of-focus, colorful circles in shades of yellow, orange, red, and purple, creating a bokeh effect.

# LOVE

FOR THE

# LOVELESS

# HOSEA