

A HARD ROAD

Faithfulness in all areas of life *from the book of Hosea*

Week 2

Key Scripture

Hosea 1:3-8

Open

1. Have you ever dealt with toddlers like Jeremy's where one wouldn't play nice until the other toddler would play nice - and so on? What was that like?
2. Have you had experiences in your past where you were a friend to someone but they weren't a friend back to you? What did that feel like?
3. Do you think that God feels like that sometimes with us or does He just expect it from us?

Dig

1. As a group, read through Hosea 1:3-8. Talk about what is happening here - why do these kids have such depressing names?

-if you are a little stuck, go to Gotquestions.org on your phone and search for "Who was lo-ammi in the Bible?" Gotquestions is a great resource for when you have Bible questions. As a group read through part of the answer here, then answer this question - why did God name these kids such depressing names?

2. Now read Hosea 1:10-11. Jeremy talked about the difference between the first child's name (Jezreel) and the second two. Jezreel has the idea of a seed - a planting of something new. So it seems like God is also attempting to do something new even though Israel will probably mess up again. What does this teach us about faithfulness?
3. Have you had an experience like that with God in which you had to get through the bad to get to the blessing? What was that like?

Take Further

1. Has there been or is this a time now when you felt like walking away from your job or friends or the person you are dating or married to? What stopped you?
2. Why didn't God just walk away from humans and start over?
3. How do you find the strength to dig in and be faithful when you don't want to?

Prayer

Share and pray about the areas where you are finding it hard to be faithful.