



**PRESCHOOL
LARGE GROUP**

April 10-11, 2021 **Hosea, Prophet to Israel**

Bible Passage: Hosea 1–14

Main Point: God loves people when they do not deserve it.

Bible Verse: Return to the LORD your God. He is gracious. He is tender and kind.
He is slow to get angry. He is full of love. Joel 2:13

 **PLAY** Opening Video & Countdown

 **PLAY** Worship Songs

Worship leaders sing two songs with the children and collect the offering.

 **SAY LEADER** Script: Opening

Welcome boys and girls! Today we are going to be talking about the story of Hosea (hoh ZAY uh) and Gomer (GOH muhr). Hosea accepted the difficult challenge of loving someone who didn't love him back. This is just like God's love for us. Just like every Bible story we have heard, today's story points to God's great love for us and His plan to save and rescue us from our sins.

If a friend asked you what God is like, how would you answer? [Allow kids to answer] God is so many things, but today we are going to focus on just a few of His qualities. Listen closely to the story of Hosea to discover how God is slow to get angry, kind, and loving.

 **PLAY** Big Idea Video

 **SAY LEADER** Script: Recap *Big Idea*

Preschool Recap:

God used Hosea's life to show people what He is like. God loves people even when they do not love Him back. Gomer did not love Hosea like a wife should. We do not love God like we should. We hurt Him when we do not obey His Word, but God keeps loving us!

Let's see if you were paying attention during the video... Give me a thumbs up or a thumbs down to these questions...

1. Was Gomer a good wife to Hosea? Yes (thumbs up) or No (thumbs down)?
2. Did Hosea forgive her? Yes (thumbs up) or No (thumbs down)?
3. Did Hosea let Gomer go? Yes (thumbs up) or No, he kept bringing her back (thumbs down)?
4. Does God always love us, even when we do bad things? Yes (thumbs up) or No (thumbs down)?

We sometimes do bad things and do not love God with all our hearts. We treat God like Gomer treated Hosea! We do things that make God sad, but God still loves us. He showed us His love by sending Jesus to save us.

 **PLAY** *Bible Verse* Video

Bible Verse: Return to the LORD your God. He is gracious. He is tender and kind.
He is slow to get angry. He is full of love. Joel 2:13

 **SAY LEADER** Script: Prayer and dismiss to small group

[Invite kids to pray before dismissing to small groups.]

So we know that God is slow to get angry, kind, and loving. Let's pray to Him.

"God, thank You for Your love. Thank You that it never stops. You never give up on us and love us even though we sin against You. Thank You that Jesus died so we could have eternal life. Help us to live our lives in ways that glorify You."



**PRESCHOOL
SMALL GROUP**

April 10-11, 2021
Hosea, Prophet to Israel

Bible Passage: Hosea 1-14

Main Point: God loves people when they do not deserve it.

Bible Verse: Return to the LORD your God. He is gracious. He is tender and kind. He is slow to get angry. He is full of love. Joel 2:13

Welcome: Welcome children and set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

Activity Page:

Materials Needed: Activity page, Markers, Pencils

Invite preschoolers to complete the maze to help Hosea get his wife, Gomer, to bring her home.

SAY • In our Bible story today, a man named Hosea married a woman named Gomer. But Gomer did not love him with her whole heart. Gomer ran away from home. Hosea loved his wife, so he went after her. Hosea found Gomer and brought her back home.

Transition to Large Group / Transition back to Small Group

Activity: Run a Heart Relay Race

Materials Needed: construction paper, scissors, marker

Before the session, cut one heart shape from construction paper for each preschooler. Write Gomer on each heart. Separate the hearts into two equal sets. Then cut each heart in two by cutting unique lines down the middle (squiggly, zig-zag, straight, diagonal, wavy).

Form two teams lined up single file on one side of the room. Give each preschooler a heart half. Place the matching heart halves for each team on a table across the room. Explain to preschoolers that the first person in line on each team must go to her team's table, find the other half of her heart, and then go to the back of her team's line while the next preschooler goes. The first team to have all its members find their heart match wins.

SAY • You went to find the other half of your heart. When Gomer ran away, Hosea went to find her. Hosea loved Gomer. He found Gomer and brought her back home. God is like that. God's people ran away from God, but He kept loving them. God loves people who do not love Him back. God loves His people with a love that never gives up. God had a plan to get His people back no matter what.

Pray

Remind preschoolers that God loves people who do not love Him back. Pray for the children.

Say • God, Your love is amazing. You love people who hurt You and disobey You. Thank You for loving us even though we are sinners and hurt You. Thank You for sending Jesus to be our Savior. Help us to love other people like You do. Amen.