

Hosea

Chapters 1 – 3

God said to Hosea

"Marry a prostitute and have children by her,
for my people have abandoned me and become unfaithful."

The Lord's people are like his wife,
but they have abandoned him.

Hosea's wife was unfaithful to him and left him.
But the Lord told Hosea to take her back.

This was to show how God welcomes people back,
even though they have been unfaithful to him.

Lord, please help us to be faithful to you

Chapter 4

People of Israel, listen to the word of the Lord:

there is no fidelity, no tenderness,
no knowledge of God in the country,
only perjury and lies, slaughter, theft,
adultery, violence and murder.

This is why the country is in mourning.
This is why you have experienced so much disaster.

My people, says the Lord, perish for want of knowledge.

Lord, please help us lead good lives,
and so help our country experience blessing