



SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY - 9 am.

We are at present studying the four Gospels. Johan is facilitating the class. Please join us during this time of learning God's Word.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY - 10 AM

All ladies are encouraged to attend the Wednesday Ladies Bible class. The ladies are busy studying the minor prophets of the Bible.

SUNDAY CHILDREN'S CLASS 9am

Please bring your children to the Children's Bible class. It is so important to bring a child up in God's Way, teaching them about God's Word and God's Love.

Song Leader: Braam Le Roux

Scripture Reading: Braam Le Roux

Opening Prayer: Carry Hagemann

Lord's Table: Rudi Le Roux

Closing Prayer: Chris du Preez

Attendance last Sunday: 40

Servers: Braam, Rudi, Carry & Chris

The Prophet Hosea – which means “Yahweh has rescued” or “salvation.”

Hosea was a prophet of God in the Bible. His book is the first of the twelve Minor Prophets in the Old Testament. Hosea ministered primarily to the northern kingdom of Israel in the eighth century BC, during the reigns of Kings Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah of Judah, and Jeroboam II of Israel (Hosea 1: 1). Such a lengthy ministry, 60 or 70 years, makes Hosea one of the longest-serving prophets in the Bible.

The central theme of Hosea's prophetic messages was Israel's unfaithfulness to God. Following the Lord's instruction, Hosea married a prostitute to symbolically and emotionally portray Israel's infidelity to Yahweh. When the Lord first began to speak to Israel through Hosea, God told the prophet, “Go and marry a prostitute, so that some of her children will be conceived in prostitution. This will illustrate how Israel has acted like a prostitute by turning against the Lord and worshiping other gods” (Hosea 1: 2).

Throughout Hosea's ministry, the prophet expounded on the adultery metaphor, calling Israel to account for its idolatry and apostasy, laying out God's charges against the people and foretelling judgment. Hosea's wife, Gomer, practiced unfaithfulness as a lifestyle. When she conceived and bore children, God told Hosea to give them prophetic names, symbolizing the Lord's judgment on Israel: *Jezreel* foretold of a great massacre that would happen in that valley, *Lo-Ammi* means “not my people,” signaling God's rejection of Israel and *Lo-Ruhamah* means “not favored,” a reversal of God's earlier description of Israel (Hosea 1: 4 - 2: 1). Hosea's message was clear - sin brings judgment. Hosea warned of painful consequences, invasion and slavery.

Not satisfied with her relationship with Hosea, Gomer sought other lovers, just as Israel had pursued other gods (Hosea 2: 2 - 5). As God promised to call Israel back, he told Hosea to redeem Gomer from slavery and welcome her home (Hosea 3: 1 - 5). While God's punishment was severe, His grace was far more extraordinary. Even while the people worshipped idols and descended into depravity, God never stopped loving them.

Hosea's bold-faced depiction of Israel as an adulterous wife reveals both the extent of God's anguish over the betrayal and His love for His people. More than anything, God longs for intimate fellowship with us, even when we repeatedly reject Him. The metaphor also reveals God's enduring faithfulness toward us. Ultimately, His goal is for us to return to a fulfilling life marked by dedication and devotion.

Yahweh's love is eternal. His enduring faithfulness is not like human love that can make a solemn vow and then break it. The definitive message of Hosea is the promise of God's enduring love. Even when we are unfaithful, God continues to love and cherish us and provide a way for our restoration (2 Timothy 2: 13).

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Mike Baisley - 083 500 7271

SUNDAY TIMES:

BIBLE STUDIES: 09H00

WORSHIP: 10H00 TO 11H00

02 NOVEMBER 2025

Preacher: Johan Smulders

Sermon Topic: “Soldiers for the Cross”

Scripture reading: Ephesians 6: 10 - 19

Text: Philippians 2: 25

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the members in our congregation who are in need of God's grace, healing and strength through difficult times. Please pray for Taida Marembo, Geraldine's mother, Petro, Chester, Ian, Kate and Landon, as they are going through a very difficult time.

We also need to thank God for prayers answered.

BIRTHDAYS

Lional Howse – 4 November

Tiaan Hollander – 7 November

We wish you all the best for the year and we hope you will be spoilt plenty!

WELCOME

We welcome all visitors to our worship this morning. We believe that you will be blessed as we worship God. Please feel free to ask any questions regarding our worship or about God's Word.

VERSES FOR THIS WEEK

Ephesians 4: 32. “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”

Colossians 3:12-13, “Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.”

1 Peter 3: 8 – 9, “Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. ⁹Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.”

THE DART TEST

A young lady named Sally relates an experience she had in a seminary class given by her teacher, Dr. Smith. She says that Dr. Smith was known for his elaborate object lessons.

One particular day, Sally walked into the seminary and knew they were in for a fun day. On the wall was a big target and on a nearby table were many darts. Dr. Smith told the students to draw a picture of someone that they disliked or someone who had made them angry, and he would allow them to throw darts at the person's picture.

Sally's friend drew a picture of a girl who had stolen her boyfriend. Another friend drew a picture of his little brother. Sally drew a picture of a former friend, putting a great deal of detail into her drawing, even drawing pimples on the face. Sally was pleased with the overall effect she had achieved.

The class lined up and began throwing darts. Some of the students threw their darts with such force that their targets were ripping apart. Sally looked forward to her turn, and was filled with disappointment when Dr. Smith, because of time limits, asked the students to return to their seats. As Sally sat thinking about how angry she was because she didn't have a chance to throw any darts at her target, Dr. Smith began removing the target from the wall.

Underneath the target was a picture of Jesus. A hush fell over the room as each student viewed the mangled picture of Jesus; holes and jagged marks covered His face, and His eyes were pierced.

Dr. Smith said only these words, "In as much as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto Me." Matthew 25: 40.

No other words were necessary; the tears filled eyes of the students focused only on the picture of Christ.