

Message Series:

**God, You Want Me to Do ~~What~~?**  
**A Study on the Minor Prophets**  
**Jonah, Hosea, Micah, and Haggai**  
**Stepping Up and Going Out for God**  
**October 18, 2009**

Today's Message:

***Ridiculous Love***  
**Hosea 2:2-3:5**

Hosea 14:4-6

<sup>4</sup>The Lord says, "Then I will heal you of your faithlessness; my love will know no bounds, for my anger will be gone forever. <sup>5</sup>I will be to Israel like a refreshing dew from heaven. Israel will blossom like the lily; it will send roots deep into the soil like the cedars in Lebanon.

<sup>6</sup>Its branches will spread out like beautiful olive trees, as fragrant as the cedars of Lebanon.

**Today's Main Thought:** God's anger against Israel's spiritual infidelity, Hosea's loyal love for an unfaithful wife.

***God, the furious husband serves papers to Israel, an unfaithful wife, 2:2-13; Leviticus 20:10; Deuteronomy 22:22***

*Woman (Israel) I am so livid I want to...*

- Strip you naked, v. 3; Ezek 16:35-43
- Turn my back on your children, v. 4

*Israel you must change your ways*

- I will cut you off from your other loves, vv. 5-7
- I will cut you off from my blessings, vv. 8-13

***God passionately seeks restoration with Israel, 2:14-23***

*I cannot get you out of my mind so I will...*

- Take you on a retreat so I can woo you back to me, v. 14; Exodus 22:16; Judges 14:15; 16:5
- Never allow the relationship to be severed again, vv. 19-20; Jeremiah 31:31-34

**Ask Yourself...** *Do I long for a "second honeymoon" with the Lord? What do I need to do to prepare for that?*

***Hosea's ridiculous love for Gomer, 3:1-5; Luke 23:32-46***

Show off your ridiculous love for Gomer by reconciling with her, v. 1; Jeremiah 5:7

Be a spectacle; purchase Gomer off the slave auction block, v.2

*Necessary reforms for a committed relationship*

- Gomer you will live with me
- Gomer no more extracurricular activities, turn in your players card
- Gomer I will live with you

**Ask Yourself...** *What are the things in my life that are competing for the affections that rightly belong to God?*

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Next Week: Guest Speaker