



## Study Guide

### The Savior's Heart

Week 2: 3/3/24

Hosea 11:1-11

#### Announcements

**Parents Night Out: March 9.** Parents Night Out is open to families at Lake Springs, where the kids can be dropped off for a fun evening!

**Egg Hunt: March 16th 11am.** Egg hunt at Lake Springs, open to LS Kids families and families in the community. Invite your friends!

**Middle School Hangout: March 17th.** The middle schoolers will be heading to Partee Shack in Raleigh to play putt-putt golf

#### Icebreaker

Have you ever experienced an unexpected act of kindness or compassion from somebody?

#### Introduction

The story of God can best be described by the fact that we are rebellious and sinful and yet his love and mercy is more powerful than our sin. We see God's compassion played out in Hosea 11. For more context on the book of Hosea, see [this video](#) for a summary of the book.

The book of Hosea paints a vivid picture of Israel's continuous rebellion and God's relentless pursuit of reconciliation. The book is divided into 3 sections:

**The Story of Hosea and Gomer:** Hosea's personal life mirrors the relationship between God and Israel. Despite Gomer's unfaithfulness, Hosea faithfully pursues her, symbolizing God's enduring love for His wayward people.

**God's Complaint against Israel:** Chapters 4 through 10 depict God's lament over Israel's lack of true knowledge and intimacy with Him. It highlights the importance of relational knowledge over mere intellectual understanding.

**Hosea 11:** A Glimpse of God's Compassion:

**Read:** Hosea 11:1-11

Hosea 11 captures God's conflicting emotions of anger, sadness, and compassion towards His rebellious children. It showcases God's unwavering love, even in the face of Israel's unfaithfulness.

**Discussion:**

In what ways does Hosea 11 surprise you about God and his compassion and holiness?

God has unwavering love and compassion toward us, even when we are unfaithful. This can invoke two responses in us.

**We can be resentful**

**Read:** Jonah 4:1-3

God had compassion on the people of Nineveh and Jonah was resentful at God because of it. He didn't believe that the people deserved God's compassion. How does it make you feel when you see God offering compassion to somebody that you don't feel deserves it?

If we are being honest, many of us have felt this resentment toward God at some point. When have you felt resentful toward God because of his compassion on somebody?

**We can repent**

**Read:** 2 Peter 3:8-10

The day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. But if he hasn't come yet, there is still time to repent.

God doesn't wish that any of us would perish, but that we would repent. That we might know God in an experiential way. What does it look like to not just have knowledge of God, but to know God in an experiential way?

The invitation is twofold:

**Come home to the Father's love**

In your current walk with Christ, what does it practically look like to come home to the Father's love?

**Extend God's compassion, love, and faithfulness to others**

Who is somebody in your life that you have struggled to extend God's compassion toward? What can you do this week to extend God's compassion and love toward them?

Take time in prayer. Pray that we would not run from the Father, but that we would turn to him.